For discussion on 22 January 2018

# **Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs**

#### **Community Care Fund**

# **Purpose**

This paper briefs Members on the work progress of the Community Care Fund (CCF) and seeks Members' views in this regard.

## **Background**

- 2. The CCF is a trust fund established in early 2011 under the Secretary for Home Affairs Incorporation Ordinance (Cap. 1044) with the Secretary for Home Affairs Incorporated as its trustee. Its main objective is to provide assistance to people with financial difficulties, in particular those who fall outside the social safety net or those within the safety net but still have some special circumstances that are not covered. In addition, the CCF may also consider introducing programmes on a pilot basis to help the Government identify those measures that can be considered for incorporation into its regular assistance and service programmes.
- 3. The CCF has since 2013 been integrated into the work of the Commission on Poverty (CoP). The CCF Task Force, set up under the CoP as chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration, is responsible for advising the CoP on CCF's various arrangements (including investment, finance and administrative operations), as well as the formulation of assistance programmes, the co-ordination and overseeing of the implementation of assistance programmes and the evaluation of their effectiveness. The CCF Task Force also liaises closely with other CoP Task Forces and provides mutual support in drawing up programmes to provide assistance to the underprivileged.
- 4. The Finance Committee (FC) of the Legislative Council (LegCo) approved the injection of \$5 billion into the CCF in May 2011, and approved in

July the same year an additional injection of \$1.5 billion to implement a programme to provide an allowance for new arrivals<sup>1</sup>. The FC also approved in June 2013 an additional injection of \$15 billion into the CCF to strengthen the poverty alleviation efforts.

#### **Work Progress**

## **Assistance Programmes**

- 5. Since its establishment, the CCF has launched 45 assistance programmes covering the medical, education, welfare and home affairs areas for various target beneficiary groups including children, elderly persons, persons with disabilities, patients, new arrivals and ethnic minorities. total commitment has exceeded \$8 billion. Its aim is to identify those who cannot benefit from the existing social safety net and to provide them with assistance. The CCF has rolled out 44 programmes benefiting about 1.56 million cases<sup>2</sup> and has disbursed around \$5.702 billion<sup>3</sup> to implementing agencies as at the end of December 2017. The CCF also implemented measures on a pilot basis to help the Government identify those initiatives that have been proven effective for incorporation into the regular assistance programmes. The Government so far has incorporated 12 pilot programmes under the CCF into its regular assistance programmes and plans to incorporate the Dementia community support scheme into its regular assistance programmes after the pilot period. Besides, eight programmes were The latest progress of the programmes is set out at Annex. completed.
- 6. This Panel was briefed on the work progress of the CCF in June 2017, and the CCF has since rolled out eight assistance programmes as set out below:

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The FC approved on 18 July 2011 an additional injection of \$1.5 billion into the CCF to implement the programme. The FC also agreed that the CCF should handle the above injection separately from the existing funds of the CCF. Unused funds (including interest), if any, will be returned in full to the Government upon completion of the programme. As at now, an amount of \$301 million has been returned to the Government.

Excluding about 200 000 people who have benefited from the programme of providing an allowance to new arrivals.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Including the disbursement to beneficiaries and the staffing and administrative expenses of implementing agencies.

- (1) Subsidy for eligible patients to purchase ultra-expensive drugs: This programme provides subsidy for needy patients of Hospital Authority (HA) who are in financial difficulty and who meet specific clinical criteria to purchase ultra-expensive drugs (including those for treating uncommon disorders) for early treatment. The programme was rolled out in August 2017 and the prescribing indications for the drug covered by the programme were relaxed in late November 2017. The first budget will cover 20 months with a total funding provision of around \$117 million. It is expected to benefit about 11 to 19 patients in the first 12 months.
- Subsidy for eligible patients of Hospital Authority to purchase specified implantable medical devices for interventional procedures: This programme provides subsidy for needy HA patients who are in financial difficulty and who meet specific clinical criteria to purchase specified implantable medical devices for interventional procedures so that they can use these expensive devices as early as possible. The programme was rolled out in August 2017. The first budget will cover 20 months with a total funding provision of around \$17 million. It is expected to benefit about 42 patients in the first 12 months.
- (3) <u>Subsidy for persons holding non-local qualifications to conduct qualifications assessment</u>: Needy persons holding non-local qualifications are subsidised to apply for qualifications assessment for general purpose conducted by the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications. The three-year programme was rolled out in September 2017 with a total funding provision of around \$9 million. It is expected to benefit about 3 000 persons.
- (4) Pilot scheme on providing special subsidy for persons with permanent stoma from low-income families for purchasing medical consumables: A special subsidy will be provided for persons with permanent stoma from low-income families to purchase medical consumables in order to relieve their financial burden. An eligible person will, according to the results of the means test on his/her household assets and

income, receive a full subsidy of \$1,000, a 3/4 subsidy of \$750 or a half subsidy of \$500 per month. The three-year pilot scheme was rolled out in September 2017 with a total funding provision of around \$51 million. It is expected to benefit about 1 500 persons.

- (5) Pilot scheme on relaxing the household income limit of the Fee-waiving Subsidy Scheme under the After School Care Programme for low-income families and increasing fee-waiving subsidy places: The household income limit of the Fee-waiving Subsidy Scheme under the After School Care Programme for low-income families will be relaxed and fee-waiving subsidy places be increased in order to enhance support to those families. The three-year pilot scheme was rolled out in October 2017 with a total funding provision of around \$52 million. It is expected to benefit about 3 000 persons.
- (6) Pilot scheme on subsidised cervical cancer screening and preventive education for eligible low-income women: Subsidised cervical cancer screening and preventive education are provided to eligible low-income women through three non-governmental organisations. The three-year pilot scheme was rolled out in December 2017 with a total funding provision of around \$79 million. It is expected to benefit about 67 000 women.
- (7) Pilot scheme on home care and support for elderly persons with mild impairment: Elderly persons with mild impairment will be provided with home care and support services to cater for their service needs. Service providers will also formulate individualised care plans for eligible elderly persons and arrange them to receive services for preventing functional deterioration so that they can continue ageing in place. The three-year pilot scheme was rolled out in December 2017 with a total funding provision of around \$383 million. It is expected that about 4 000 places will be provided.
- (8) <u>Pilot scheme on relocation allowance for beneficiaries of the "Community Housing Movement"</u>: To provide subsidy for low-income households under the "Community Housing Movement" to pay for relocation expenses. The three-year pilot scheme was

rolled out in December 2017 with a total funding provision of around \$7 million. It is expected to benefit about 1 000 households.

- 7. Furthermore, the CCF will roll out the Pilot scheme on support for elderly persons discharged from public hospitals after treatment in the first quarter of 2018. Through medical-social collaboration, eligible elderly persons discharged from hospitals who have difficulty in taking care of themselves during rehabilitation will be provided with appropriate transitional residential care and/or community care and support services to prevent their premature long-term institutionalisation in residential care homes for the elderly. The three-year pilot scheme with a total funding provision of around \$226 million, is expected to benefit at least 3 200 elderly persons.
- 8. In addition, through continuous review of existing programmes, the CCF can also identify individual programmes that need to be revised or extended in a timely manner so that the assistance being provided can be more appropriate and effective. In this connection, the CCF has re-launched the programme of Subsidy for Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients living in rented private housing for two years with adjustments to the mechanism for calculating and disbursing subsidy to provide better support to eligible CSSA households. The CCF also extended the programme of Relocation allowance for residents of illegal domestic premises in industrial buildings who have to move out as a result of the Buildings Department's enforcement action, and improved the eligibility criteria and mechanism to adjust the subsidy level to bring more well-suited assistance to the needy who are eligible for the subsidy. In addition, the CoP has agreed to expand the coverage of the Free cervical cancer vaccination pilot scheme starting from April 2018 to include teenage girls, aged 9 to 18, from households benefiting from the Low-income Working Family Allowance Scheme / Working Family Allowance Scheme; and female students, aged 9 or above, who receive a half grant under the School Textbook Assistance Scheme. The pilot scheme will also be renamed as the Cervical cancer vaccination pilot scheme.

#### **Financial Position**

9. A total of \$15 billion has been placed with the Hong Kong Monetary

Authority<sup>4</sup> (HKMA) to earn investment returns linked to the performance of the Hong Kong Exchange Fund. The rest of the CCF has been placed with banks as Hong Kong dollar time deposit, so as to generate interest income and meet the cash flow requirements of the assistance programmes and other liquidity needs.

10. As at the end of December 2017, the balance of the CCF stood at around \$19.838 billion, consisting mainly of the placement of \$18.499 billion at the HKMA and bank deposits of around \$1.339 billion, with an overall gross investment return of around \$3.721 billion.

## Consultation and Monitoring

- 11. On consultation work, the CCF is planning to conduct a total of four public consultation sessions in the first half of this year in Hong Kong Island, Kowloon, New Territories East and New Territories West to collect views on the formulation of new assistance programmes and the work of the CCF from the community and stakeholders, with a view to introducing more appropriate assistance programmes. The CCF always welcomes members of the public or stakeholders to provide ideas or suggestions through various channels, including the CCF webpage, letters, facsimiles, emails and telephone hotlines. The ideas and suggestions received will be circulated to the CCF Task Force for reference.
- 12. The CoP and its CCF Task Force will continue to monitor the implementation of various assistance programmes. Government departments and other organisations entrusted to implement the programmes will submit progress and financial reports regularly to the CCF Task Force for a review of the programmes. Before launching any brand-new pilot programmes with an estimated funding provision of over \$100 million, the Government will consult the relevant LegCo Panels. We will continue to report regularly on the financial position of the CCF and the implementation progress of its programmes to this Panel every six months. We will also provide this Panel with evaluation reports of the programmes. Relevant information will be uploaded to the CCF webpage for easy reference by the public.

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The CCF has placed \$5 billion and \$10 billion with the HKMA in June 2011 and July 2013 respectively for an investment period of 6 years. The CCF has already made an arrangement to renew the first principal money of \$5 billion placed for investment for another term on maturity of the deposit in June 2017.

# **Advice Sought**

13. Members are invited to note this paper and give their views.

Home Affairs Bureau January 2018

### **Annex**

# Assistance Programmes under the Community Care Fund in Progress/to be Rolled Out<sup>1</sup>

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
(1) Subsidy for patients of Hospital Authority (HA) for specified self-financed cancer drugs which have not yet been brought into the Samaritan Fund (SF) safety net but have been rapidly accumulating medical scientific evidence and with	August 2011 (current funding provision for seven years of operation up to March 2019)	885.89 <sup>2</sup>	• The prevailing SF financial assessment mechanism and its sliding scale are adopted as the financial assessment criteria.	9 046 person-times <sup>3</sup>	Around 636.38 <sup>4</sup>	The programme initially covered six specified self-financed cancer drugs and was subsequently expanded to nine, 10 and 13 drugs respectively on 1 August 2013, 1 August 2015 and 1 August 2016; and further expanded to 16 drugs starting

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Since the establishment of the Community Care Fund (CCF) in 2011, 12 programmes under the CCF had been incorporated into the government's regular assistance programmes, and eight programmes were completed. A list of the relevant programmes is at the <u>Appendix</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Including the administrative and audit expenses of this programme and programme (A)(1) in the <u>Appendix</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This refers to the number of applications approved as at 31 December 2017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This refers to the subsidy for drug costs approved for beneficiaries as at 31 December 2017.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
relatively higher efficacy						from 1 August 2017.
(To subsidise the drug costs borne by patient beneficiaries for the relevant drug treatment)						The evaluation results were reported to the former Steering Committee on the Community Care Fund (CCF) in May 2012.  All patients whose applications were approved in the first four years of
						operation (i.e. from August 2011 to July 2015) have completed treatment.
(2) Subsidy for the severely disabled persons aged below	September 2011 (extension of implementation	341.76	<ul> <li>Aged below 60 and receiving Higher Disability</li> </ul>	11 661 person-times	Around 256.25	The evaluation results were reported to the

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
60 who are non-CSSA (Comprehensive Social Security Assistance) recipients requiring constant attendance and living in the community  (According to the monthly household income of the applicants, the monthly subsidy is disbursed in "full grant" (\$2,000); "three-quarters grant" (\$1,500) or "half grant" (\$1,000))	in November 2012, November 2013, November 2014, November 2015 and November 2016 respectively)		Allowance (HDA) under the Social Security Allowance (SSA) Scheme as at 31 July 2016; and living in the community and having household income not exceeding 150% of the relevant Median Monthly Domestic Household Income (MMDHI).			Commission on Poverty (CoP) in May 2013.  The CoP approved in September 2016 to extend again the implementation of the programme to provide a maximum of 24 months of subsidy.  The evaluation results of the extended programme will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.
(3) Subsidy for CSSA recipients living in rented private housing and paying	The programme was first launched in October 2011	33.671	<ul> <li>CSSA households living in rented private housing paying actual rents</li> </ul>	22 605 households	Around 32.09	First launch of the programme was completed in 2012.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
a rent exceeding the maximum rent allowance (MRA) under the CSSA Scheme			which exceed the MRA under the CSSA Scheme as at 1 July 2011.			
(First launch: a subsidy of \$1,000 for one-person household; and \$2,000 for two-or-more-person household)  (Second to fourth launch and extension in 2016: a subsidy of \$2,000 for one-person household; and \$4,000 for two-or-more-person	The programme was launched for the second time in September 2013	53.77	• CSSA households living in rented private housing paying actual rents which exceed the MRA under the CSSA Scheme as at 1 July 2013.	17 767 households	Around 51.3	Second launch of the programme was completed in September 2014.  The evaluation results were reported to the CoP in August 2014 which approved to launch the programme for the third time.
household)  (Relaunch in 2017: calculation of the amount of subsidy will base on the reported	The programme was launched for the third time in September 2014	46.83	• CSSA households living in rented private housing paying actual rents which exceed the MRA under the	14 991 households	Around 44.58	Third launch of the programme was completed in September 2015.  The evaluation

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
rental records, the monthly subsidy will be either 50% of the portion of the rental amount exceeding the applicable MRA or 15% of the applicable MRA, whichever is the less.			CSSA Scheme as at 1 July 2014.			results were reported to the CoP in July 2015 which approved to launch the programme for the fourth time.
The monthly-calculated subsidy will be provided yearly on a one-off basis)	The programme was launched for the fourth time in September 2015 (extension of implementation in September 2016)	96.52	• CSSA households living in rented private housing paying actual rents which exceed the MRA under the CSSA Scheme as at 1 July 2016.	14 938 households (fourth launch)  15 458 households (extension of implementation in 2016)	Around 91.89	The evaluation results were reported to the CoP in September 2016 which approved to extend the programme in 2016.  Fourth launch and extension of implementation in September 2016 were completed in September 2017.  The CoP approved at its meeting on 17

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
						November 2017 the relaunch of the programme for a period of two years by adjusting the approach in calculating and disbursing subsidy.  The Social Welfare Department (SWD) is currently evaluating the effectiveness of the extension of implementation in 2016 and will report to the CCF Task Force soon.
	The programme was relaunched in November 2017 (a two-year	119.3	• CSSA households living in rented private housing paying actual rents which exceed the	Programme has just been relaunched, data is not yet available	Programme has just been relaunched and data is not yet available	The programme has been relaunched since 30 November 2017, and the subsidy for the first

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
	programme)		MRA under the CSSA Scheme as at the respective specified date (the specified date for the first year is 31 July 2017, the specified date for the second year will be announced later).			year will be disbursed from late January 2018 onwards.  The evaluation results of the relaunched programme will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.
(4) Relocation allowance for residents of illegal domestic premises in industrial buildings who have to move out as a result of the Buildings Department (BD)'s enforcement action	December 2011	4.43	• Persons who have passed the family/ household-based means test establishing eligibility for CSSA Scheme, student financial assistance schemes, HA Medical Fee Waiving Mechanism or Work Incentive	161 households (247 persons)	Around 0.47	BD has inspected 137 target industrial buildings, and has so far identified premises of illegal domestic use in 36 of them. BD has taken enforcement action against these cases and enforcement actions have been

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
(An allowance of \$3,076 for one-person household, \$7,028 for two-to-three-person household; and \$9,263 for four-or-more-person household)			Transport Subsidy (WITS); or  ● household income not exceeding 100% of the MMDHI for one-person households; and not exceeding 75% of the MMDHI for two-or-more-person households.			completed in 24 buildings. BD will continue to follow up the enforcement action for other target industrial buildings.  At the meeting on 17 November 2017, the CoP took note of the evaluation report on the programme and endorsed two recommendations of enhancement, namely to expand the coverage of the programme to allow Hong Kong residents under 18, who are holders of a Hong Kong identity card or birth
						certificate, to apply

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
						for and receive the relocation
						allowance; and to
						introduce a
						mechanism to
						automatically adjust
						the allowance on an
						annual basis. The
						programme was
						also renamed as the "Relocation
						allowance for
						residents of illegal
						domestic premises
						in industrial
						buildings who have
						to move out as a
						result of the BD's
						enforcement action"
						to better reflect the
						target beneficiaries
						of the programme.
						The evaluation
						results of the
						enhanced

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
						programme will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.
(5) Elderly dental assistance programme	September 2012	817.11 <sup>5</sup> (including the provision	• Aged 60 or above, being users of the "Integrated Home Care Services	23 053 persons	Around 230.07	The interim evaluation results were reported to the
(Based on the level of subsidy of CSSA dental		required for the	(IHCS)" or the "Enhanced Home			CoP in September 2013.
grant, a maximum subsidy of \$14,700 for		Expanded Programme	and Community Care Services" or			The programme was expanded by phases
dental services for each beneficiary (including \$9,835 for dentures,		in the first three years (i.e. from	the "Home Help Service" subvented by the SWD and			(Expanded Programme) in September 2015,
\$4,805 for denture-related dental		2015 to 2018))	paying level 1 or level 2 fee charge			October 2016 and July 2017 to cover
care and \$60 for registration and dental			of the said services, and not receiving			elders who are OALA recipients
check-up), a referral fee of \$50 for each referral by NGOs, and an			CSSA; or aged 70 or above and receiving Old Age			aged 80 or above, aged 75 or above and aged 70 or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The original allocation of the programme was \$100 million. Starting from 1 January 2015, the unspent balance of the original allocation has been pooled together with the allocation for the Expanded Programme.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
accompanying service fee of \$70 per hour based on the actual duration of accompanying service provided to applicants who are users of the home care / home help services under the programme (if applicable))			Living Allowance (OALA) <sup>6</sup> ; and • have not benefited from this programme or the Outreach Dental Care Programme for the Elderly under the Department of Health.			above respectively. As at end of December 2017, around 35 500 applications from elders were received and around 23 050 elders have completed their required treatment (including around 21 600 denture cases) and the remaining 12 450 elders are receiving dental treatment at various stages.
(6) Subsidy for owners' corporations of old buildings	October 2012 (a three-year enhanced scheme was launched in	67.2	• Residential or composite buildings aged 30 years or above with owners'	2 438 owners' corporations	Around 26.05	The evaluation results of the scheme were reported and the proposal for

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The CoP authorised at its meeting held on 31 August 2016 the Food and Health Bureau and the Hong Kong Dental Association to further expand the target beneficiaries if no additional funding be required.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
(Eligible owners' corporations can be granted a subsidy with the total amount capped at \$20,000 for relevant expenditure items on an accountable basis)	October 2015)		corporations; and • average rateable value of the residential units does not exceed \$120,000 for urban area and \$92,000 for New Territories.			enhancement of the scheme for three years was submitted to the CoP in September 2015. The CoP noted the evaluation results and approved the implementation of the enhanced scheme.  The interim evaluation results of the enhanced scheme were reported to the CoP in August 2017. The final evaluation results of the enhanced scheme will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
(7) Incentive scheme to further encourage CSSA recipents of the Integrated Employment Assistance Programme for Self-reliance (IEAPS) to secure employment	April 2014 (a three-year scheme)	226.62	CSSA recipients of the IEAPS.	2 050 <sup>7</sup> persons	Around 23.27	The working group set up under the CCF Task Force held a meeting on 19 January 2017 to follow up on the progress of implementing the scheme and the related evaluation study.  The related evaluation study is underway. The evaluation results will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.

This is the number of CSSA recipients randomly selected from IEAPS cases who agree to participate in the incentive scheme, which is also the target number of beneficiaries of the incentive scheme. As at 31 December 2017, 24 participants accumulated the target amount of incentive payment, 13 participants accumulated 75% or above of the target amount of incentive payment at the end of the implementation period and 60 participants took up employment with income equal to/exceeding their CSSA recognized needs, subsequent to which they left the CSSA net. The accumulated incentive payment was disbursed to them by SWD.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
(8) Pilot scheme on living allowance for carers of elderly persons from low-income families  (A monthly allowance of \$2,000 would be given to each eligible carer who takes care of one elderly person and a maximum of \$4,000 each for those who take care of more than one elderly person at the same time)	June 2014 (Phase I of the pilot scheme was completed in September 2016. Phase II of the pilot scheme, which lasts for two years, started in October 2016)	314.76	An eligible carer of the elderly person(s) under Phase II of the pilot scheme should meet all of the following circumstances/criteria:  • the elderly person(s) being taken care of must be living in Hong Kong and has/have been assessed under SWD's Standardised Care Need Assessment Mechanism for Elderly Services to be of moderate or severe level of impairment, and has/have been on the Central Waiting List for subsidised long-term care	3 961 carers	Around 180.32	The application period of Phase II of the pilot scheme closed on 31 August 2016 and SWD has completed the vetting process.  SWD has authorised 43 NGOs that operate District Elderly Community Centres (DECCs) and/or Neighbourhood Elderly Centres (NECs) as approved service providers (ASPs) <sup>8</sup> of Phase II of the pilot scheme to assist in providing support services to the carers.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> The 43 ASPs operate 143 DECCs and NECs in total across the territory.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
			services (i.e.			The evaluation
			residential care			study of Phase I of
			services (RCS)			the pilot scheme has
			and/or community			been completed.
			care services) on or			SWD has
			before 29 February			commissioned a
			2016;			study centre to start
			• the elderly			the evaluation study
			person(s) being			of Phase II of the
			taken care of must			pilot scheme which
			be living in the			is conducted
			community without			together with that of
			using any RCS or			the pilot scheme on
			undergoing			living allowance for
			long-term			low-income carers
			hospitalisation			of persons with
			during the			disabilities. The
			application period			evaluation results
			and while receiving			will be reported to
			the allowance;			the CCF Task Force
			• the carer must be			in future.
			capable of taking			
			up the care-giving			
			role, and provide at			
			least 80 hours of			
			care-giving work			

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
			per month (or not			
			less than 120 hours			
			per month for			
			taking care of more			
			than one elderly			
			person who meets			
			the			
			above-mentioned			
			criteria at the same			
			time);			
			• the carer must be a			
			Hong Kong			
			resident living in			
			Hong Kong and has			
			not engaged in any form of			
			employment			
			relationship with			
			the elderly			
			person(s) under			
			his/her care;			
			• the carer must not			
			be a recipient of			
			CSSA or OALA;			
			and			
			• the monthly			

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
			household income of the carer must not exceed 75% of the relevant MMDHI.			
(9) Providing hostel subsidy for needy undergraduate students	2014/15 school year (a three-school year programme and was extended for two school years from 2017/18 school year onwards)	194.7	<ul> <li>Full-time undergraduates of publicly-funded or self-financing locally-accredited programmes at degree level;</li> <li>● eligible applicants of the Tertiary Student Finance Scheme − Publicly-funded Programmes (TSFS) or the Financial Assistance Scheme for Post-secondary Students (FASP) and passed the</li> </ul>	17 660 person-times	Around 103.78	The evaluation results were reported to the CoP in April 2017 which approved to extend the programme for two more years to 2018/19 school year.  The evaluation results of the extended programme will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
			means test of the Student Finance Office (SFO) under the Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency; • resided in student hostels provided by their institutions; and • confirmed by their institutions to have resided in student hostels in the semesters of the implementation period.			
(10) Increasing the academic expenses grant under the Financial Assistance Scheme for Post-secondary	2014/15 school year (a three-school year programme and was extended for two	176.95	• Full-time students pursuing locally-accredited self-financing programmes at sub-degree or	78 226 person-times	Around 122.98	The evaluation results were reported to the CoP in April 2017 which approved to extend the programme for

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
Students	school years from 2017/18 school year onwards)		degree level; and eligible applicants of FASP who have passed the means test of SFO.			two more years to 2018/19 school year.  The evaluation results of the extended programme will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.
(11) Enhancing the academic expenses grant for students with special educational needs (SEN) and financial needs pursuing post-secondary programmes	2015/16 school year (a three-school year programme)	12.46	● Students meeting the eligibility criteria of the TSFS or the FASP and passed the means test of the SFO; and ● must be identified with at least one type of SEN including specific learning difficulties, intellectual disability, autism	364 person-times	Around 2.68	The evaluation results will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
			spectrum disorders, attention deficit/hyperactivity disorders, physical disability, visual impairment, hearing impairment, speech and language impairment, and mental illness starting from 2017/18 school year.			
(12) Free cervical cancer vaccination pilot scheme	October 2016 (a three-year pilot scheme)	98.75	<ul> <li>Girls aged nine to 18 who are receiving CSSA; or</li> <li>female students aged nine or above who are receiving full grant under the School Textbook Assistance Scheme (STAS).</li> </ul>	11 384 persons	Around 23.8	As at end-December 2017, the Family Planning Association of Hong Kong (i.e. the implementing agency of the pilot scheme) has arranged appointments for around 11 500 teenage girls to

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
						attend first
						consultation,
						including 11 384
						teenage girls who
						have received
						cervical cancer
						vaccination service.
						The CoP approved
						at its meeting on 17
						November 2017 the
						expansion of the
						coverage of the
						pilot scheme
						starting from April
						2018 to include
						teenage girls, aged
						nine to 18, from
						households
						benefiting from the
						Low-income
						Working Family
						Allowance Scheme
						(LIFA) / Working
						Family Allowance
						Scheme; and female

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
						students, aged nine or above, who receive a half grant under the STAS. The pilot scheme will also be renamed as the "Cervical cancer vaccination pilot scheme".  The evaluation
						results will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.
(13) Pilot scheme on raising the maximum level of disregarded earnings for recipients with disabilities under the Comprehensive	October 2016 (a three-year pilot scheme)	47.25	<ul> <li>Receiving CSSA and is medically certified to be disabled or in ill-health;</li> <li>engaging in paid employment and entitling to the</li> </ul>	4 974 persons	Around 12.58	The evaluation results will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
Social Security Assistance Scheme			disregarded earnings (DE) arrangement under the CSSA Scheme; and • being medically certified to be disabled or in ill-health continuously while enjoying the raised DE under the pilot scheme.			
(14) Pilot scheme on providing subsidy for Higher Disability Allowance recipients in paid employment to hire carers	October 2016 (a three-year pilot scheme)	18.9	<ul> <li>Receiving HDA         <ul> <li>(persons being medically certified as "unfit for making a statement" excluded);</li> <li>having secured paid employment (not applicable to persons engaged in self-employment or</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	30 persons	Around 1.77	The CoP approved at its meeting on 31 August 2017 the extension of the application period of the pilot scheme for six months until 31 March 2018 and in the event that employment contracts between

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
			working at home)			an eligible person
			with a monthly			and a carer be
			income of not less			signed within the
			than \$7,500 and not			implementation
			exceeding \$30,000;			period of the pilot
			and			scheme (i.e. on or
			<ul><li>being gainfully</li></ul>			before 30
			employed but his/her			September 2019)
			relatives or friends			and remains valid,
			are unable to provide			SWD will continue
			care, and is hiring a			to provide the
			full-time carer			subsidy to the
			(mainly foreign			eligible persons
			domestic helper) to			concerned beyond
			assist in travelling			the period of the
			between home and			pilot scheme until
			office (not			the employment
			applicable to			contracts approved
			work-at-home jobs)			during the pilot
			and/or taking care of			scheme come to an
			activities at the			end.
			workplace			
			(including providing			The evaluation
			care for daily living).			results will be
						reported to the CCF
						Task Force in

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
						future.
(15) Pilot scheme on living allowance for low-income carers of persons with disabilities	October 2016 (a two-year pilot scheme)	125.58	Carer of the person with disabilities should meet the following eligibility criteria:  • the person(s) with disabilities being taken care of must be living in Hong Kong, and have been on the waiting list for any one of the specified rehabilitation services subsidised by SWD or special school with boarding placement under the Education Bureau or infirmary service of HA on or before a specified date;	1 509 persons	Around 39.66	The application deadline for the second batch application was due on 1 August 2017, vetting of applications is underway by SWD.  SWD has commissioned a study centre to start the evaluation study of the pilot scheme which is conducted together with that of Phase II of the pilot scheme on living allowance for carers of elderly persons from low-income families, and the evaluation results

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
			• the person(s) with			will be reported to
			disabilities being			the CCF Task Force
			taken care of must			in future.
			be living in the			
			community without			
			using any			
			residential care			
			services or			
			undergoing			
			long-term			
			hospitalisation			
			during the			
			application period			
			and while receiving			
			the allowance;			
			• the carer must be			
			capable of taking			
			up the care-giving			
			role, and is			
			required to provide			
			at least 80 hours of			
			care-giving work			
			per month (or not			
			less than 120 hours			
			per month for			
			taking care of more			

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
			than one person			
			with disabilities			
			who meets the			
			above-mentioned			
			criteria at the same			
			time);			
			• the carer must be a			
			Hong Kong			
			resident living in			
			Hong Kong and has			
			not engaged in any			
			form of			
			employment			
			relationship with			
			the person(s) with			
			disabilities under			
			his/her care;			
			• the carer must not			
			be a recipient of			
			CSSA, OALA, or			
			allowance in			
			respect of taking			
			care of the same			
			person with			
			disabilities under			
			the Pilot scheme on			

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
			living allowance for carers of elderly persons from low-income families; and • the monthly household income of the carer must not exceed 75% of the relevant MMDHI.			
(16) Dementia community support scheme  (A scheme which adopts a medical-social collaboration model to provide dementia community support services for elderly persons)	February 2017 (a two-year scheme)	98.88	<ul> <li>Elderly persons who are aged 60 or above; and</li> <li>patients diagnosed of having mild or moderate dementia and referred by Geriatric/Psychogeriatric Teams of HA; or members of DECCs suspected of suffering from early dementia.</li> </ul>	1 079 persons	Around 40.1	DECCs started providing support services and training to service users in April 2017.  The Government plans to incorporate the scheme into its regular assistance programmes after the pilot period. The evaluation results will be

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
						reported to the CCF Task Force in due course.
(17) Subsidy for eligible patients to purchase ultra-expensive drugs (including those for treating uncommon disorders)	August 2017	117.35	<ul> <li>HA patients who meet specific clinical criteria and pass means test conducted by Medical Social Workers; and</li> <li>permanent resident of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.</li> </ul>	8 person-times <sup>9</sup>	Around 31.4 <sup>10</sup>	The CoP approved at its meeting on 17 November 2017 to relax the clinical indiation of the existing drug.  The evaluation results will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.
(18) Subsidy for eligible patients of Hospital	August 2017	17.33	• HA patients who meet specific clinical	20 person-times 11	Around 5.44 <sup>12</sup>	The evaluation results will be

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> This refers to the number of applications approved as at 31December 2017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> This refers to the subsidy for drug costs approved for beneficiaries as at 31 December 2017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> This refers to the number of applications approved as at 31 December 2017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> This refers to the subsidy for specified implantable medical devices approved for beneficiaries as at 31 December 2017.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
Authority to purchase specified implantable medical devices for interventional procedures			criteria and pass means test conducted by Medical Social Workers.			reported to the CCF Task Force in future.
(19) Subsidy for persons holding non-local qualifications to conduct qualifications assessment	September 2017 (a three-year programme)	8.67	Persons and/or their spouses who have passed the means-test establishing eligibility for assistance under the specified assistance schemes provided below and receiving financial assistance:  • CSSA Scheme; or • LIFA Scheme; or • WITS Scheme; or • STAS (full grant only); or	15 persons	Around 0.01 <sup>13</sup>	The evaluation results will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.

Eligible beneficiaries are not required to pay the assessment fees when submitting applications for qualifications assessment. Payment to the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications is made on a quarterly basis and the amount of disbursement is possibly not commensurate with the number of beneficiaries.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
			• Kindergarten and Child Care Centre Fee Remission (KCFR) Scheme (full and 3/4 fee remission only).			
(20) Pilot scheme on providing special subsidy for persons with permanent stoma from low-income families for purchasing medical consumables  (According to the family asset and monthly household income of the eligible applicant, the monthly subsidy is disbursed in "full grant" \$1,000; "three-quarters grant"	September 2017 (a three-year pilot scheme)	50.64	● Confirmed to have permanent stoma (excretory stoma) by Medical Officer/Nurse of a public hospital/clinic/ Surgical Specialist on the Specialist Register of the Medical Council of Hong Kong (only applicable to applicant not receiving surgical treatment in public hospital/clinic); ● must not be a	Pilot scheme has just commenced, data is not yet available	Pilot scheme has just commenced, data is not yet available	The pilot scheme has been implemented since 29 September 2017. The invitation letters have been delivered through Hong Kong Stoma Association/self-help group of stoma patient of North District Hospital/Tuen Mun Hospital to those who may fulfil the eligibility criteria to participate in the pilot scheme. The

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
\$750 or "half grant" \$500)			recipient of CSSA;  the monthly household income must not exceed 150% of the relevant MMDHI;  the family's asset must not exceed the asset limit for public rental housing application under the Housing Authority;  without receiving any relevant subsidy for purchasing medical consumables for the stoma from other funding sources; and living in the community, residential care homes or boarding schools; or being hospitalized but with a concrete discharge			application has been closed and vetting of applications by SWD is underway.  The evaluation results will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
			plan.			
(21) Pilot scheme on relaxing the household income limit of the Fee-waiving Subsidy Scheme under the After School Care Programme for low-income families and increasing Fee-waiving Subsidy places  (According to the monthly household income of the families, eligible children will be granted full-fee waiving, half-fee reduction or 1/3-fee reduction subsidy)	October 2017 (a three-year pilot scheme)	52	<ul> <li>Children aged six to         12 who receive After         School Care         Programme;</li> <li>their parents are         unable to provide         proper care for them         during after-school         hours owing to         work, job-searching,         attending         vocational/job         training or other         reasons; and</li> <li>the monthly         household income         of the families         must not exceed         100% of the         relevant MMDHI.</li> </ul>	Pilot scheme has just commenced, data is not yet available	Pilot scheme has just commenced, data is not yet available	The pilot scheme has been implemented since 3 October 2017. The parent/guardian of an eligible child may approach an After School Care Programme Centre of an approved service provider for application during the implementation period of the pilot scheme.  The evaluation results will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
(22) Pilot scheme on subsidised cervical cancer screening and preventive education for eligible low-income women	December 2017 (a three-year pilot scheme)	78.61	<ul> <li>■ Women aged 25 to 64<sup>14</sup> or women aged 65 or above who have never had cervical cancer screening; and</li> <li>● receiving CSSA/holding Level 0 voucher of the Pilot Scheme on Residential Care Service Voucher for the Elderly; or</li> <li>● receiving waiver of medical charges under the medical fee waiving mechanism of public hospitals and clinics; or</li> <li>● receiving OALA; or</li> <li>● be granted LIFA or WITS for any of the past 12 months; or</li> </ul>	Pilot scheme has just commenced, data is not yet available	Pilot scheme has just commenced, data is not yet available	The pilot scheme has been implemented since 13 December 2017. Eligible women may apply to designated service providers for joining the pilot scheme.  The evaluation results will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.

Department of Health recommends women aged 25 to 64 who ever had sex to receive regular cervical cancer screening.

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Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
			• having household member(s) granted subsidy/remission under the STAS or the KCFR Scheme.			
(23) Pilot scheme on home care and support for elderly persons with mild impairment  (The pilot scheme adopts five co-payment categories on a sliding scale according to the monthly household income of the elderly persons)	December 2017 (a three-year pilot scheme)	383.34	<ul> <li>Aged 60 or above and living in the community;</li> <li>assessed to be of mild impairment by the designated assessment tool of this pilot scheme;</li> <li>currently on the waiting list for the IHCS (Ordinary Cases); and</li> <li>the monthly household income must not be higher than a specified percentage of the MMDHI (i.e. not exceeding 175% for</li> </ul>	Pilot scheme has just commenced, data is not yet available	Pilot scheme has just commenced, data is not yet available	The pilot scheme has been implemented since 28 December 2017. SWD will issue letters to invite applications from the elderly persons, who are on the waiting list for the IHCS (Ordinary Case), through the IHCS Teams/Home Help Teams participating in the pilot scheme.  The evaluation results will be

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
			one-person households and not exceeding 150% for two-or-more-person households).			reported to the CCF Task Force in future.
(24) Pilot scheme on relocation allowance for beneficiaries of the "Community Housing Movement"  (Eligible households will be granted an one-off relocation allowance: \$3,076 for one-person households, \$7,028 for two-to-three-person households, and \$9,263 for four-or-more-person households)	December 2017 (a three-year pilot scheme)	7.22	<ul> <li>◆ Applicant and household member(s) residing with him/her shall be a beneficiary household under the "Community Housing Movement" (CHM);</li> <li>◆ monthly personal/household income must not exceed the income limit for public rental housing applications under the Hong Kong Housing Authority.</li> </ul>	Pilot scheme has just commenced, data is not yet available	Pilot scheme has just commenced, data is not yet available	The pilot scheme has been implemented since 28 December 2017. Eligible households may obtain the brief and application form through the service operators of the CHM to apply for the relocation allowance in the course of the pilot scheme.  The evaluation results will be reported to the CCF Task Force in

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 December 2017)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 December 2017)	Progress and evaluation
						future.
(25) Pilot scheme on support for elderly persons discharged from public hospitals after treatment  (The pilot scheme adopts six co-payment categories on a sliding scale according to the monthly household income of the elderly persons)	1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2018 (a three-year pilot scheme)	225.9	<ul> <li>Aged 60 or above; and</li> <li>assessed by medical staff of HA to have temporary loss of self-care ability due to illness and in need of transitional care and support (i.e. in need of temporary residential care and/or community care and support services) and are not covered under the existing Integrated Discharge Support Programme for Elderly Patients.</li> </ul>	Pilot scheme not yet implemented	Pilot scheme not yet implemented	The evaluation results will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.

# (A) Assistance programmes incorporated into the government's regular assistance programmes

Assis	tance programmes	Date of being incorporated into the government's regular assistance programmes
(1)	Subsidy for needy patients of Hospital Authority (HA) who marginally fall outside the Samaritan Fund (SF) safety net for the use of SF subsidised drugs	September 2012 <sup>15</sup>
(2)	Financial assistance for non-school-attending ethnic minorities and new arrivals from the Mainland for taking language-related international public examinations	September 2013
(3)	Subsidy for non-school-attending ethnic minorities and new arrivals from the Mainland participating in language courses	September 2013
(4)	Subsidy for Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients who are owners of Tenants Purchase Scheme flats for five years or above and not eligible for rent allowance under the CSSA Scheme	April 2014
(5)	Subsidy to meet lunch expenses at whole-day primary schools for students from low-income families	September 2014
(6)	Enhancement of the flat rate grant under the School Textbook Assistance Scheme	September 2014
(7)	Enhancement of the financial assistance for needy students pursuing programmes below sub-degree level	September 2014
(8)	Training subsidy for children from low-income families who are on the waiting list for subvented pre-school rehabilitation services	October 2014
(9)	Special subsidy to persons with severe physical disabilities for renting respiratory support medical equipment	November 2014
(10)	Special subsidy to persons with severe physical disabilities for purchasing medical consumables related to respiratory support medical equipment	November 2014
(11)	Extra travel subsidy for needy special school students	September 2015
(12)	Provision of funding for ordinary schools to arrange special educational needs coordinators pilot scheme	September 2017

The programme has been incorporated into the regular mechanism of the SF of HA.

# (B) <u>Assistance programmes completed</u>

Assis	stance programmes	Date of completion
(1)	Subsidy for low-income elderly tenants in private housing	April 2013
(2)	Setting up the School-based Fund (Cross-boundary Learning Activities) to subsidise primary and secondary school students from low-income families to participate in cross boundary learning activities and competitions	June 2014
(3)	Subsidy for low-income persons who are inadequately housed	July 2014
(4)	Subsidy for elders aged 65 or above from low-income families who are on the waiting list for Integrated Home Care Service (Ordinary Cases) for household cleaning service and escorting services for medical consultations	December 2014
(5)	After-school care pilot scheme	July 2016
(6)	Provision of a one-off special subsidy for students on full grant under the School Textbook Assistance Scheme before the launch of the Low-income Working Family Allowance Scheme	July 2016
(7)	One-off living subsidy for low-income households not living in public housing and not receiving CSSA (launched for three times)	Completed in December 2014, December 2015 and December 2016 respectively
(8)	Provision of a one-off grant for school-related expenses to kindergarten students	August 2017