For discussion on 25 June 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. 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

- Since its establishment, the CCF has launched 46 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 \$8.5 billion. Its aim is to identify those who cannot benefit from the existing social safety net and to provide them with The CCF has rolled out 45 programmes benefiting about 1.59 assistance. million cases and has disbursed around \$6.026 billion to implementing agencies as at the end of May 2018. 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 Besides, eight programmes were completed. pilot period. The latest progress of the programmes is set out at the Annex.
- 6. This Panel was briefed on the work progress of the CCF in January 2018. The progress of new assistance programmes is as follows
 - (a) The CoP has endorsed to implement a three-school-year programme of the Provision of subsidy to needy primary and secondary students for purchasing mobile computer devices to facilitate the practice of e-learning (the Programme) starting from the 2018/19 school year. Target beneficiaries are students of public sector primary and secondary schools, and receiving the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance or full or half grant under the School Textbook Assistance

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¹ Including the disbursement to beneficiaries and the staffing and administrative expenses of implementing agencies.

- Scheme. Their schools and classes should be implementing e-learning and adopting "Bring Your Own Device". The Programme's total funding provision is \$415.54 million and is expected to benefit about 102 000 students.
- (b) The CCF Task Force discussed on 1 June 2018 and supported the implementation of the Subsidy to purchase and construct modular housing as a pilot scheme (the Pilot Scheme) to facilitate the Hong Kong Council of Social Service (HKCSS) to implement their Modular Social Housing Scheme Nam Cheong Street (Modular Social Housing Scheme). The HKCSS will purchase and construct modular housing through assembly of synthetic building technology which must meet the safety requirements for housing under the existing law and regulations. The Modular Social Housing Scheme will last for two years (after the completion of the modular housing). The Pilot Scheme's total funding provision is \$35.74 million and is expected to benefit about 90 households. The proposal will be submitted to CoP for consideration.
- 7. Furthermore, the CCF rolled out the Pilot scheme on support for elderly persons discharged from public hospitals after treatment in February 2018. Through medical-social collaboration, the pilot scheme supports eligible elderly persons discharged from hospitals who have difficulty in taking care of themselves during rehabilitation, by providing them 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 Task Force will recommend the CoP to consider the endorsement of new drugs of the First phase programme of medical assistance programmes and the programme of Subsidy for eligible patients to purchase ultra-expensive drugs (including those for treating uncommon disorders). For the First phase programme of medical assistance programmes, it is proposed to introduce new drugs Nivolumab for treating skin cancer and Obinutuzumab for treating chronic lymphocytic

leukaemia. For the programme of Subsidy for eligible patients to purchase ultra-expensive drugs (including those for treating uncommon disorders), it is proposed to introduce a new drug Nusinersen for treating spinal muscular atrophy. In addition, the CCF Task Force also recommended the CoP to consider the endorsement of additional medical devices (i.e. subcutaneous implantable cardioverter defibrillator and percutaneous pulmonary valve implantation) and the revision of the funding provision for the programme of Subsidy for eligible patients of Hospital Authority to purchase specified implantable medical devices for interventional procedures; and the extension of five programmes, including the Elderly dental assistance programme, the Pilot scheme on living allowance for carers of elderly persons from low-income families, the Pilot scheme on living allowance for low-income carers of persons with disabilities, the programme of Enhancing the academic expenses grant for students with special educational needs and financial needs pursuing post-secondary programmes and the Subsidy for owners' corporations of old buildings.

Financial Position

- 9. A total of \$15 billion has been placed with the Hong Kong Monetary Authority² (HKMA) to earn investment returns linked to the performance of the Hong Kong Exchange Fund. The remaining funds 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 May 2018, the balance of the CCF stood at around \$19.521 billion, consisting mainly of the placement of \$18.499 billion at the HKMA and bank deposits of around \$1.021 billion, total investment return being \$3.727 billion.

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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 renewed the first placement with principal of \$5 billion with the HKMA upon its maturity in June 2017. As it is expected that the existing bank balances can only meet the cashflow requirement for assistance programmes being implemented until December 2018, the CCF will withdraw investment return amounted to \$1.5 billion from the HKMA in July 2018 to cope with the cashflow requirement for possible new assistance programme.

Consultation and Monitoring

- 11. On consultation work, in addition to the four public consultation sessions conducted from March to May of this year in Hong Kong Island, Kowloon, New Territories East and New Territories West, the CCF will continue to conduct consultation sessions next year 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.

Advice Sought

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

Home Affairs Bureau June 2018

Annex

Assistance Programmes under the Community Care Fund in Progress/to be Rolled Out¹

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	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 relatively higher	August 2011 (current funding provision for seven years of operation up to March 2019)	885.89 ²	• The prevailing SF financial assessment mechanism and its sliding scale are adopted as the financial assessment criteria.	9 940 person-times ³	Around 696.09 ⁴	The programme initially covered six specified self-financed cancer drugs and was subsequently expanded by phases to 16 drugs starting from 1 August 2017. The CCF Task Force, at its meeting on 1 June 2018, discussed the

¹ Since the establishment of the Community Care Fund (CCF) in 2011, 12 programmes under the CCF have 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>.

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

³ This refers to the number of applications approved as at 31 May 2018.

⁴ This refers to the subsidy for drug costs approved for beneficiaries as at 31 May 2018.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
efficacy (To subsidise the drug costs borne by patient beneficiaries for the relevant drug treatment)						proposal of adding new drugs under the programme and supported submission of proposal to the Commission on Poverty (CoP) for consideration. 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 five years of operation (i.e. from August 2011 to July 2016) have completed

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
						treatment.
(2) Subsidy for the severely disabled persons aged below 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))	September 2011 (extension of implementation in November 2012, November 2013, November 2014, November 2015 and November 2016 respectively)	341.76	 Aged below 60 and receiving Higher Disability 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). 	11 664 person-times	Around 279.85	The evaluation results were reported to the 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	The programme was first launched in	33.671	 CSSA households living in rented private housing 	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 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
housing and paying a rent exceeding the maximum rent allowance (MRA) under the CSSA Scheme	October 2011		paying actual rents which exceed the MRA under the CSSA Scheme as at 1 July 2011.			
Scheme (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 rental records, the	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 CSSA Scheme as at	14 991 households	Around 44.58	Third launch of the programme was completed in September 2015. The evaluation results were

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
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.			1 July 2014.			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 for the fourth launch of the programme 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 November 2017 the relaunch of the

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
						programme for a period of two years by adjusting the approach in calculating and disbursing subsidy. The evaluation results of the extension of implementation in 2016 were reported to the CoP in April 2018.
	The programme was relaunched in November 2017 (a two-year programme)	119.3	• CSSA households living in rented private housing paying actual rents which exceed the MRA under the CSSA Scheme as at the respective specified date (the specified date for the first year is 31 July 2017, the	15 039 households	Around 55.51	The programme has been relaunched since 30 November 2017, and the subsidy for the first year has been disbursed from late January 2018 onwards. The evaluation results of the

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
			specified date for the second year will be announced later).			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 (An allowance of \$3,219 for one-person household, \$7,203 for two-to-three-person household; and \$9,454 for four-or-more-person household)	December 2011 (a three-year enhanced programme was launched in November 2017)	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 Transport Subsidy (WITS); or household income not exceeding 100% of the MMDHI for one-person households; and not exceeding 75% of the MMDHI for 	161 households (247 persons)	Around 0.47	BD has inspected 142 target industrial buildings, and has so far identified premises of illegal domestic use in 42 of them. BD has taken enforcement action against these cases and enforcement actions have been completed in 28 buildings. BD will continue to follow up the enforcement action for other target industrial buildings. At the meeting on

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
			two-or-more-person households.			17 November 2017, the CoP took note of the evaluation report on the programme and endorsed recommendations of enhancement. The evaluation results of the enhanced programme will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.
(5) Elderly dental assistance programme	September 2012	817.11 ⁵ (including the provision	 Aged 60 or above, being users of the "Integrated Home Care Services 	29 891 persons	Around 304.04	The interim evaluation results were reported to the CoP in September
(Based on the level of subsidy of CSSA dental		required for the	(IHCS)" or the "Enhanced Home			2013.

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 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
grant, a maximum		Expanded	and Community			The programme was
subsidy of \$15,025 for		Programme	Care Services" or			expanded by phases
dental services for each		in the first	the "Home Help			(Expanded
beneficiary (including		three years	Service" subvented			Programme) in
\$10,050 for dentures,		(i.e. from	by the Social			September 2015,
\$4,915 for		2015 to	Welfare			October 2016 and
denture-related dental		2018))	Department (SWD)			July 2017 to cover
care and \$60 for			and paying level 1			elders who are
registration and dental			or level 2 fee			OALA recipients
check-up), a referral fee			charge of the said			aged 80 or above,
of \$50 for each referral			services, and not			aged 75 or above
by NGOs, and an			receiving CSSA; or			and aged 70 or
accompanying service			aged 70 or above			above respectively.
fee of \$70 per hour			and receiving			As at end of May
based on the actual			Normal or Higher			2018, around
duration of			Old Age Living			41 200 applications
accompanying service			Allowance			from elders were
provided to applicants			$(OALA)^6$; and			received and around
who are users of the			have not benefited			29 900 elders have
home care / home help			from this			completed their
services under the			programme or the			required treatment
programme (if			Outreach Dental			(including around
applicable))			Care Programme			28 200 denture
			for the Elderly			cases) and the

⁶ The CoP authorised at its meeting held on 31 August 2016 the Food and Health Bureau (FHB) 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 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
			under the Department of Health.			remaining 11 300 elders are receiving dental treatment at various stages. The CCF Task Force, at its meeting on 1 June 2018, discussed the proposal of extending the implementation of the programme and supported submission of the proposal to the CoP for consideration.
(6) Subsidy for owners' corporations of old buildings (Eligible owners' corporations can be granted a subsidy with the total amount capped	October 2012 (a three-year enhanced scheme was launched in October 2015)	67.2	 Residential or composite buildings aged 30 years or above with owners' corporations; and average rateable value of the residential units 	2 502 owners' corporations	Around 27.98	The evaluation results of the scheme were reported and the proposal for enhancement of the scheme for three years was submitted to the CoP in

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
at \$20,000 for relevant expenditure items on an accountable basis)			does not exceed \$120,000 for urban area and \$92,000 for New Territories.			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 CCF Task Force, at its meeting on 1 June 2018, noted the evaluation results of the enhanced scheme and discussed the proposal for the implementation of the third phase of the scheme, and supported

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
						submission of the proposal to the CoP for consideration.
(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 ⁷ persons	Around 23.57	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

⁷ 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 May 2018, 24 participants accumulated the target amount of incentive payment, 16 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 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
						in future.
(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	3 966 carers	Around 205.53	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) ⁸ of Phase II of the pilot scheme
			has/have been on the Central Waiting List for subsidised			to assist in providing support services to the

⁸ 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 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
			long-term care services (i.e. residential care services (RCS) and/or community care services) on or before 29 February 2016; • the elderly person(s) being taken care of must be living in the community without using any RCS 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 provide at least 80 hours of			The evaluation study of Phase I of the pilot scheme has been completed. SWD has commissioned a study centre to start the evaluation study of Phase II of the pilot scheme which is conducted together with that of the pilot scheme on living allowance for low-income carers of persons with disabilities. The evaluation results will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future. Phase II of the pilot scheme will end in
			care-giving work			September 2018.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	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 household income			The CCF Task Force, at its meeting on 1 June 2018, discussed the proposal on the implementation of Phase III of the pilot scheme and supported submission of the proposal to the CoP for consideration.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
			of the carer must not exceed 75% of the relevant MMDHI.			
(9) Providing hostel subsidy for needy undergraduate students (The maximum level of subsidy is adjusted annually according to the movement of the Consumer Price Index (A) (CPI (A)). Each eligible student can receive up to \$9,040 in 2017/18 school year)	2014/15 school year (a three-school year programme and was extended for two school years from 2017/18 school year onwards)	194.7	 ▶ Full-time undergraduates of publicly-funded or self-financing locally-accredited programmes at degree level; ♠ 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 means test of the Student Finance Office (SFO) under 	22 340 person-times	Around 120.86	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 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
			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 Students (The maximum level of subsidy is adjusted annually according to	2014/15 school year (a three-school year programme and was extended for two school years from 2017/18 school year onwards)	176.95	● Full-time students pursuing locally-accredited self-financing programmes at sub-degree or degree level; and ● eligible applicants of FASP who have passed the means test of SFO.	82 739 person-times	Around 140.28	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

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
the movement of CPI (A). Each eligible student can receive up to \$2,250 in 2017/18 school year)						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 (The maximum level of subsidy is adjusted annually according to the movement of CPI (A). Each eligible student can receive up to \$8,550 in 2017/18 school year)	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 spectrum disorders, attention deficit/hyperactivity disorders, physical disability, visual impairment, hearing impairment, speech 	437 person-times	Around 3.25	The CCF Task Force, at its meeting on 1 June 2018, noted the evaluation results of the programme and discussed the proposal for extending the programme, and supported submission of the proposal to the CoP for consideration.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
			and language impairment, and mental illness starting from 2017/18 school year.			
(12) Cervical cancer vaccination pilot scheme	October 2016 (a three-year pilot scheme)	98.75	 ● Girls aged nine to 18 who are receiving CSSA; ● female students aged nine or above who are receiving full grant under the School Textbook Assistance Scheme (STAS); ● girls aged nine to 18 who are from households benefiting from the Working Family Allowance (WFA) Scheme; or ● female students aged nine or above who are receiving half grant under the 	13 924 persons	Around 29.59	As at end-May 2018, the Family Planning Association of Hong Kong (i.e. the implementing agency of the pilot scheme) has arranged appointments for around 14 100 teenage girls to attend first consultation, including 13 924 teenage girls who have received cervical cancer vaccination service.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
			STAS.			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 Social Security Assistance Scheme	October 2016 (a three-year pilot scheme)	47.25	 Receiving CSSA and is medically certified to be disabled or in ill-health; engaging in paid employment and entitling to the 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. 	5 522 persons	Around 15.72	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 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
(14) Pilot scheme on providing subsidy for Higher Disability Allowance recipients in paid employment to hire carers (A monthly allowance of \$5,000 would be given to each eligible person)	October 2016 (a three-year pilot scheme)	18.9	 Receiving HDA (persons being medically certified as "unfit for making a statement" excluded); having secured paid employment (not applicable to persons engaged in self-employment or working at home) with a monthly income of not less than \$7,500 and not exceeding \$30,000; and being gainfully employed but his/her relatives or friends are unable to provide care, and is hiring a full-time carer (mainly foreign domestic helper) to assist in travelling between home and 	39 persons	Around 2.9	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 an eligible person and a carer be signed within the implementation period of the pilot scheme (i.e. on or before 30 September 2019) and remains valid, SWD will continue to provide the subsidy to the eligible persons concerned beyond the period of the pilot scheme until

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
			office (not applicable to work-at-home jobs) and/or taking care of activities at the workplace (including providing care for daily living).			the employment contracts approved during the pilot scheme come to an end. The application period of the pilot scheme closed on 31 March 2018. Vetting is under processing by SWD. The evaluation results will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.
(15) Pilot scheme on living allowance	October 2016 (a two-year pilot	125.58	Carer of the person with disabilities	1 520 persons	Around 56.59	The application deadline for the
for low-income	scheme)		should meet the	Persons	20.02	second batch
carers of persons with disabilities			following eligibility criteria:			application was closed on 1 August
with disabilities			• the person(s) with			2017 and SWD has
(A monthly allowance			disabilities being			completed the

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
of \$2,000 would be given to each eligible carer who takes care of one person with disabilities and a maximum of \$4,000 each for those who take care of more than one person of disabilities at the same time)			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; • the person(s) with disabilities being taken care of must be living in the community without using any residential care services or undergoing			vetting process. SWD has authorised 24 NGOs that operate District Support Centres for Persons with Disabilities (DSCs), Parents/Relatives Resource Centres (PRCs) or Integrated Community Centres for Mental Wellness (ICCMWs) as approved service providers (ASPs) ⁹ of the pilot scheme to assist in providing support services to the carers. SWD has commissioned a

⁹ The 24 ASPs operate 46 DSCs, PRCs and ICCMWs in total across the territory.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
			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 than one person with disabilities			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 will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future. The pilot scheme will end in September 2018.
			who meets the above-mentioned criteria at the same time); • the carer must be a Hong Kong resident living in Hong Kong and has			The CCF Task Force, at its meeting on 1 June 2018, discussed the proposal on the implementation of Phase II of the pilot scheme and

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
			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 or OALA; and • the monthly household income of the carer must not exceed 75% of the relevant MMDHI.			supported submission of the proposal to the CoP for consideration.
(16) Dementia community support scheme (A scheme which adopts a medical-social collaboration model to provide dementia community support services for elderly	February 2017 (a two-year scheme)	98.88	 Elderly persons who are aged 60 or above; and patients diagnosed of having mild or moderate dementia and referred by Geriatric/Psychogeriatric Teams of HA; or members of 	1 580 persons	Around 59.91	DECCs started providing support services and training to service users in April 2017. The Government plans to incorporate the scheme into its regular assistance

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
persons)			DECCs suspected of suffering from early dementia.			programmes after the pilot period. The CCF Task Force, at its meeting on 1 June 2018, noted the interim evaluation results of the scheme. The evaluation results will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.
(17) Subsidy for eligible patients to purchase ultra-expensive drugs (including those for treating uncommon disorders)	August 2017	117.35	 HA patients who meet specific clinical criteria and pass means test conducted by Medical Social Workers; and 	9 person-times 10	Around 32.94 ¹¹	The CoP approved at its meeting on 17 November 2017 to relax the clinical indiation of the existing drug.

This refers to the number of applications approved as at 31 May 2018.

 $^{^{11}\,}$ This refers to the subsidy for drug costs approved for beneficiaries as at 31 May 2018.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
			• permanent resident of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.			The CCF Task Force, at its meeting on 1 June 2018, discussed the proposal of adding new drug under the programme and supported submission of the proposal to the CoP for consideration. The evaluation results will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.
(18) Subsidy for eligible patients of Hospital Authority to purchase specified implantable	August 2017	17.33	 HA patients who meet specific clinical criteria and pass means test conducted by 	32 person-times 12	Around 8.56 ¹³	The CCF Task Force, at its meeting on 1 June 2018, discussed the proposal of adding

This refers to the number of applications approved as at 31 May 2018.

¹³ This refers to the subsidy for specified implantable medical devices approved for beneficiaries as at 31 May 2018.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
medical devices for interventional procedures			Medical Social Workers.			new medical devices and the revised budget of the programme and supported submission of the proposal to the CoP for consideration. The evaluation results will be 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	36 persons	Around 0.07 ¹⁴	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 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
			financial assistance:			
(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	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	266 persons	Around 1.55	SWD has delivered the second batch of invitation letters through Hong Kong Stoma Association and self-help groups of stoma patient again in April 2018 to those who may fulfil the eligibility criteria to participate in the pilot scheme;

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
income of the eligible applicant, the monthly subsidy is disbursed in "full grant" \$1,000; "three-quarters grant" \$750 or "half grant" \$500)			applicant not receiving surgical treatment in public hospital/clinic); must not be a 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			eligible persons may also obtain application forms from the CCF Team of SWD, Medical Social Services Units of public hospitals with Specialist Out-patient Clinics (Surgery), Stoma and Wound Care Clinics under the HA, etc. The application deadline for the second batch application is 2 April 2019. 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 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
			homes or boarding schools; or being hospitalized but with a concrete discharge 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	October 2017 (a three-year pilot scheme)	52	 Children aged six to 12 who receive After School Care Programme; 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 the monthly household income of the families must not exceed 100% of the relevant MMDHI. 	291 persons	Around 0.79	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 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
reduction or 1/3-fee reduction subsidy)						
(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	 Women aged 25 to 64¹⁵ or women aged 65 or above who have not received routine screening in the past 10 years; and receiving CSSA/holding Level 0 voucher of the Pilot Scheme on Residential Care Service Voucher for the Elderly; or receiving waiver of medical charges under the medical fee waiving mechanism of public hospitals and clinics; or receiving Normal or 	224 persons	Around 0.13	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.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
			Higher OALA; or • be granted LIFA/WFA or WITS for any of the past 12 months; or • 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	 Aged 60 or above and living in the community; assessed to be of mild impairment by the designated assessment tool of this pilot scheme; currently on the waiting list for the IHCS (Ordinary Cases); and the monthly household income must not be higher than a specified 	93 persons	Around 6.17	The pilot scheme has been implemented since 28 December 2017. SWD has issued 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

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
			percentage of the MMDHI (i.e. not exceeding 175% for one-person households and not exceeding 150% for two-or-more-person households).			IHCS Teams/Home Help Teams have also started to conduct assessments and arrange support services for eligible elderly persons. The evaluation results will be 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	December 2017 (a three-year pilot scheme)	7.22	 Applicant and household member(s) residing with him/her shall be a beneficiary household under the "Community Housing Movement" (CHM); monthly personal/household 	40 households	Around 0.28	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

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
one-person households, \$7,028 for two-to-three-person households, and \$9,263 for four-or-more-person households)			income must not exceed the income limit for public rental housing applications under the Hong Kong Housing Authority.			course of the pilot scheme. The evaluation results will be reported to the CCF Task Force in 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)	February 2018 (a three-year pilot scheme)	225.9	 Aged 60 or above; and 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 	Data are not yet available	Data are not yet available	The pilot scheme has been implemented since 26 February 2018. Medical staff of the hospitals participating in the pilot scheme have started referring eligible elderly persons to join 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 May 2018)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2018)	Progress and evaluation
			Elderly Patients.			
(26) Provision of subsidy to needy primary and secondary students for purchasing mobile computer devices to facilitate the practice of e-learning (The maximum level of subsidy is adjusted annually according to the movement of the Composite CPI. In 2018/19 school year, the subsidy is up to \$4,500 for students receiving CSSA/full grant and \$2,250 for students receiving half grant)	2018/19 school year (a three-school year programme)	415.54	 Students studying in public sector primary or secondary schools and receiving CSSA or full/half grant under the STAS; and studying in schools and classes implementing e-learning and adopting "Bring Your Own Device". 	Programme not yet implemented	Programme 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

		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 ¹⁶
(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

¹⁶ The programme has been incorporated into the regular mechanism of the SF of HA.

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

Assistance 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