立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)916/17-18 (These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

Ref: CB2/PL/WS

Panel on Welfare Services

Minutes of special meeting held on Thursday, 21 December 2017, at 4:30 pm in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex

Members: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (Chairman)

present Hon KWONG Chun-yu (Deputy Chairman)

Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP

Hon CHAN Chi-chuen Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki

Hon KWOK Wai-keung, JP

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung

Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH

Hon Alvin YEUNG

Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin

Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH

Dr Hon Pierre CHAN Hon LUK Chung-hung

Members : Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung

absent Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP

Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP

Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan

Hon CHU Hoi-dick

Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP

Hon YUNG Hoi-yan

Public Officers: <u>Item I</u>

attending

Dr LAW Chi-kwong, GBS, JP Secretary for Labour and Welfare Labour and Welfare Bureau

Miss Stella CHANG

Principal Assistant Secretary for Labour and

Welfare (Welfare) 3

Labour and Welfare Bureau

Mr LAM Ka-tai, JP

Deputy Director of Social Welfare (Services)

Social Welfare Department

Ms PANG Kit-ling

Assistant Director (Elderly) Social Welfare Department

Attendance by invitation : Item I

Session One

Concerning Home Care Service Alliance

Mr KWONG Wing-tai

代表

Miss Alice ISHIGAMI LEE Fung-king

Mrs FUNG Miu-ha

Mr TSANG Hoi-pang

Mr SZE Ying-lun

葵涌邨長者權益關注組

Mrs LO Lai-ping

代表

Miss SO Sim-yan

New People's Party

Mr HA Kim-kwan 代表

Ms Judy CHAN Ka-pui, Member of Southern District Council

Democracy Groundwork

Dr LAU Siu-lai Representative

<u>Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress</u> of Hong Kong

Miss LAI Ka-man Deputy Spokesperson

Grassroots Development Centre

Mr NG Kin-wing Member

Chinese Grey Power

Mr CHEUNG Kai-bing Chairman

青年退保關注組

Miss TAI Yuet-ching Member

安老服務使用者權益關注組

Ms LO Siu-lan Member

Alliance for Universal Pension

Ms Florence CHEUNG Man-wai Member

Ms KWONG Shun-yee

Forced into Market Aging Concern Group

Mr FUNG Ka-tak Member

Miss NG ka-yan

Unpeaceful Aging Concern Group

Miss LI Yan-yin Member

Hong Kong Federation of the Blind

Mr CHEUNG Kai-fu Member

北區就業問題關注組

Mr TAM Nai-chung Member

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Social Concern <u>Ministry</u>

Mr CHU Ping-kuen Member

Cleaning Service Industry Workers Union

Ms CHUNG Bik-mui Member

照顧者關注組

Ms CHU Moon-chun Member

Mr CHAN Chau-shing 委員

Session Two

<u>馮明東先生</u>

Community Care and Nursing Home Workers General Union

Mr CHENG Ching-fat Secretary

改善買位計劃專責小組

吳煒毅先生 召集人

<u>The Federation of Hong Kong & Kowloon Labour</u> Unions

Mr LAW Man-fai Senior Secretary

Liberal Party

Mrs TSANG Cheuk-yi Member

非買位院舍專責小組

樂高揚先生 召集人

資訊科技專責小組

鄒錚女士 召集人

長者長期護理服務關注組

Miss CHEUNG Cho-yu 組員

Mr WONG Cho-ki

Our Hong Kong Foundation

Dr Pamela TIN Researcher

香港安老服務協會

李輝女士 主席

Roundtable

Mr WONG Chi-chun Community Officer

Democratic Party

Mr MOK Kin-shing

安老政策研究顧問

葉麗德女士 院舍安老政策研究顧問

Mr TANG Wai-keung

The Civic Party

Mr Klins AU YEUNG Ngan-hong District Developer of the New Territories West

Carer Union

Miss LAI Yung-chun Education Officer

United Muslim Association of Hong Kong

Ms Luisa CASTRO Honorary Treasurer

Hong Kong Christian Service Un Chau Neighbourhood Elderly Centre

Mr CHAN Po-yin Un Chau District Elderly Council Member

中西區護老關注組

Mr FUNG Ka-leung 召集人

Clerk in attendance

: Mr Colin CHUI

Chief Council Secretary (2) 4

Staff in attendance

: Mr Roger CHUNG

Council Secretary (2) 4

Miss Alison HUI

Legislative Assistant (2) 4

I. Elderly Services Programme Plan

[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)1825/16-17(01), (03) and CB(2)537/17-18(01)]

At the invitation of the Chairman, <u>Secretary for Labour and Welfare</u> ("SLW") briefed members on the findings and recommendations of the Elderly Services Programme Plan ("ESPP") formulated by the Elderly Commission ("EC").

2. <u>The Chairman</u> invited the deputations/individuals to present their views. A total of 46 deputations/individuals expressed their views which were summarized in the **Appendix**.

The Administration's response to deputations' views

- 3. Responding to the views expressed by the deputations/individuals, <u>SLW</u> made the following points:
 - (a) as the rapidly ageing population was expected to bring about challenges to the provision of long-term care ("LTC") services, there was a pressing need for the Administration to enhance its medium and long-term planning for elderly services. In the light of this, the Administration tasked EC in 2014 to formulate ESPP. ESPP had taken into account and responded to comments received during the public engagement exercise;
 - (b) in order to seize each and every opportunity to improve elderly services before completion of ESPP, the Administration had already started to take forward some priority initiatives in strengthening community care services ("CCS") which were widely supported by stakeholders throughout the formulation process of ESPP. For example, pilot schemes were launched to strengthen the support provided to elderly persons discharged from public hospitals after treatment, elderly persons with mild impairment and elderly persons with dementia;
 - (c) the 2017-2018 Budget had earmarked \$30 billion for implementing programmes to strengthen elderly services and rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities. For instance, as announced in the Chief Executive's 2017 Policy Address in October 2017, the Administration would earmark

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- \$1 billion for setting up a fund to subsidize elderly and rehabilitation service units to try and procure/rent technology products with a view to enhancing the effectiveness and quality of care;
- (d) on manpower needs, ESPP put forth a host of measures to facilitate staff recruitment and retention, such as enriching the jobs of care workers, expanding the career path of workers in the elderly service sector, better use of technology and electro-mechanical equipment, strengthening training of staff and promotion of the image of the elderly care industry. ESPP also recommended that more flexible importation of labour for care workers could be explored at least as a transitional or interim measure. Besides, as proposed in the 2017 Policy Agenda in October 2017, the Social Welfare Department ("SWD") would provide additional resources for subsidized elderly service units to increase the salaries of frontline care workers so as to recruit and retain staff more effectively;
- (e) ESPP had recommended reinstating the population-based planning ratios for elderly services in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines. The Labour and Welfare Bureau and SWD would discuss with the Development Bureau and the Planning Department to consider how to implement the recommendation. In view of the ageing population and the high demand for subsidized residential care services ("RCS") places, SWD had been making strenuous efforts to increase their provision. However, the anticipated increase in demand would be so significant that additional services places from new residential care homes for the elderly ("RCHEs") being planned by SWD alone would not be adequate. The Administration had to improve the planning for the provision of RCHEs;
- (f) the 1% projected reduction in the needs for LTC services referred to the decrease in the demand rate of LTC services for different five-year age cohorts (i.e. only a reduction in the percentage of elderly persons requiring services in each cohort), due to factors such as education attainment and improved health conditions. Despite these mitigating factors (and the estimated 1% reduction mentioned above), the rapid increase in the size of the elderly population would bring

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about a significant increase in demand for LTC services. Notwithstanding the above, the Administration would take measures to promote healthy lifestyle, enable health management, strengthen early identification, etc. with a view to reducing the needs for LTC services;

- (g) the ratio of the projected demand for RCS places to CCS places would be improved from the existing ratio of around 3:1 to 1.5:1 gradually because of continuous strengthening of CCS and trended towards 1:1 in the medium-to-long term. While strengthening CCS and support for family members and engaging foreign domestic helpers ("FDHs") could help lessen the pressure on subsidized elderly services as suggested by some participants at the meeting, the shift in the ratio of RCS to CCS was expected to take place only gradually; and
- (h) regarding the support for carers of elderly persons, the Administration had allocated additional resources in recent years to District Elderly Community Centres, Neighbourhood Elderly Centres and home care services teams to strengthen community support and care services for elderly persons and their carers. The Administration would study the matter to identify scope for further improvement.

Discussion

- 4. <u>Dr Fernando CHEUNG</u> considered that the Administration should take into consideration current deficiencies of and future demand for elderly services in order to have a comprehensive planning for such services. He enquired about the justifications for making an assumption that the overall needs for LTC services would decrease by 1% each year. Noting that ESPP recommended a higher planning ratio for RCS than CCS, <u>Dr CHEUNG</u> said that such a basis for projection countered the Administration's policy of "ageing-in-place". He considered that the Administration should put emphasis on CCS in terms of future development of LTC services. Given the long waiting time for RCS and CCS, <u>Dr CHEUNG</u> called on the Administration to provide specific details for implementing its policy objective of "ageing-in-place" and achieving the target of zero waiting time for CCS for elderly persons.
- 5. <u>SLW</u> responded that although the service usage rate of elderly persons was estimated to decrease by 1% annually, the overall demand for

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LTC services would increase rapidly in the long-run given that the size of the elderly population would increase significantly in the future. Dr Fernando CHEUNG opined that the needs for LTC services could only be delayed but the needs for different five-year age cohorts would not decrease gradually in the light of the ageing population.

- 6. <u>SLW</u> further advised that it was hoped that the demand ratio for RCS and CCS could ultimately be improved to 1:1 through strengthening CCS as explained in paragraph 3(g) above. While care and support for elderly persons living in the community was often provided by family members and FDHs, subsidized CCS served as support to these elderly persons and their carers. Meanwhile, the Administration would continue to increase the provision of subsidized RCS to support frail elderly persons. The Administration would endeavor to reduce the needs for LTC services through prevention and early identification.
- 7. Noting that an RCHE would be established in On Tai Estate, the Chairman sought information on the provision of elderly services in new public rental housing ("PRH") estates from 2017 to 2019. <u>SLW</u> advised that in recent years, SWD had been making strenuous efforts to explore with relevant government departments the possibility of reserving sites in new PRH developments for welfare uses to meet the service needs. However, the provision of elderly services in those new PRH estates might still fall short of the expected provision. <u>SLW</u> undertook to provide the information requested by the Chairman.

(*Post-meeting note:* The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(2)744/17-18(01) on 19 January 2018.)

(The Deputy Chairman took the chair at this juncture in the absence of the Chairman.)

8. Noting that some deputations suggested setting up a database about carers of elderly persons in order to facilitate planning of relevant support services, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen expressed concern about the Administration's effort in promoting information technology service related to elderly services. He expressed disappointment that it was difficult to access the Elderly Information Website while photographs and warning records of RCHEs were not uploaded to the Website. Referring to conviction records of RCHEs available in the Website, Mr CHAN opined that manpower shortage problem in RCHEs was serious as the majority of those convicted RCHEs failed to meet the statutory staffing

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requirement. To his understanding, services delivered by some RCHEs might be affected as they were facing manpower shortage.

- 9. <u>Deputy Director of Social Welfare (Services)</u> responded that service information about RCHEs would be uploaded to the Website by phases. For example, warning records would be uploaded in the first half of 2018 while photographs had yet to be provided by some elderly homes. SWD would continue to keep in view the usage of the Website and explore whether there was room for improvement.
- 10. Noting that one care worker was required between 10:00 pm and 7:00 am for every 60 residents of a care and attention home according to the Residential Care Homes (Elderly Persons) Regulation (Cap. 459A), Dr Fernando CHEUNG considered that the manpower requirement was not adequate in providing care and support for elderly residents in RCHEs during night time. Given that the minimum area of floor space for each resident was only 6.5 m² under the Regulation, he suggested that the minimum area of floor space should be increased to at least 14 m² with reference to the requirement under the Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses. Dr CHEUNG expressed concern that the Administration would rely on importation of labour and FDHs to take care of elderly persons. He enquired about the Administration's plan on the ratio of elderly persons using subsidized elderly services to elderly persons being taken care of by foreign labour and FDHs in the future.
- SLW responded that ESPP had recommended exploring the 11. feasibility of providing subsidies to families with limited financial capability for hiring FDHs to provide care support to their frail elderly persons at home. That said, the Administration had no plans at this stage to tackle the manpower issue in the elderly services sector through engaging more FDHs, as the Administration would first take measures under a multi-pronged approach to facilitate recruitment and retention of local staff in the sector. In other words, while there were currently around 360 000 FDHs working in Hong Kong, with some of them already responsible for taking care of elderly persons, and there had been estimations that the overall demand for FDHs in the future would increase to around 600 000, the Administration had no plan to import a large number of FDHs. The Administration would take into consideration the effectiveness of different measures in deciding the way forward for addressing the manpower problem of RCHEs.

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II. Any other business

12. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 8:21 pm.

Council Business Division 2 <u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u> 21 February 2018

Panel on Welfare Services

Special meeting on Thursday, 21 December 2017, at 4:30 pm

Elderly Services Programme Plan

Summary of views and concerns expressed by deputations/individuals

No.	Name of deputation / individual	Views	
Ses	Session One		
1.	Concerning Home Care Service Alliance	[LC Paper No. CB(2)563/17-18(02)]	
2.	Miss Alice ISHIGAMI LEE Fung-king	 The Administration should put emphasis on the Integrated Home Care Services (Ordinary Cases) and consider the needs of elderly persons with mild impairment in the provision of long-term care ("LTC") services. The assumption in the Elderly Services Programme Plan ("ESPP") that the overall needs for LTC services would decrease by 1% each year was wrong. The Administration should establish a mechanism for reviewing the overall need for LTC services. 	
3.	Mrs FUNG Miu-ha	 The Administration should consider the needs of both elderly persons and persons with disabilities in the provision of LTC services. As the provision of LTC services was based on age, persons with disabilities aged below 65 could not be provided with the subsidized services. The Administration should enhance support services for ageing persons with disabilities. 	
4.	Mr TSANG Hoi-pang	• Given that there were around 9 000 applicants being waitlisted for various types of community care services ("CCS"), the Administration should use the \$30 billion earmarked in the 2017-2018 Budget to strengthen the provision of such services.	
5.	Mr SZE Ying-lun	The Administration should allocate more resources to increase the provision of CCS	

No.	Name of deputation / individual	Views
		instead of marketizing these services by implementing various voucher schemes, e.g. the Pilot Scheme on Community Care Service Voucher for the Elderly ("the CCSV Pilot Scheme"), the Pilot Scheme on Residential Care Service Voucher for the Elderly ("the RCSV Pilot Scheme"), the Pilot Scheme on Home Care and Support for Elderly Persons with Mild Impairment and the Pilot Scheme on Support for Elderly Persons Discharged from Public Hospitals After Treatment. Limited services were provided for elderly persons under the voucher schemes and the needs of elderly persons could not be addressed.
6.	葵涌邨長者權益關注組	 Objected to the introduction of means and asset tests as well as co-payment arrangement for CCS and home care services. The Administration should increase the provision of CCS and home care services instead of marketizing these services by implementing various voucher schemes or providing these services through subvention from the Community Care Fund.
7.	Miss SO Sim-yan	 Expressed dissatisfaction about the Administration's preconceived position on formulating recommendations of ESPP. Raised concern on whether the Administration had conscientiously conducted adequate public consultation on ESPP. The Administration should establish a regular consultation mechanism for collecting views of frontline social workers, service users, stakeholders and self-help organizations.
8.	New People's Party	 Given the inadequate provision and long waiting time for home care services, the Administration should allocate more resources to increase the provision of such services and communicate with stakeholders for a comprehensive planning for elderly services. In face of the rapidly changing society and

No.	Name of deputation / individual	Views
		 the frequent use of information technology in daily life, elderly persons did not know how to seek help when they had difficulties. The lack of basic health knowledge among elderly persons exerted pressure on public medical services.
9.	Ms Judy CHAN Ka-pui, Member of Southern District Council	[LC Paper No. CB(2)634/17-18(01)]
10.	Democracy Groundwork	 The Administration should allocate more resources to increase the provision of elderly services instead of marketizing these services by implementing various voucher schemes which provided limited services for elderly persons. Given that the salary level of care workers was low, the Navigation Scheme for Young Persons in Care Services ("the Navigation Scheme") failed to encourage young people to join the care service sector. The Administration should make reference to financing arrangements of other countries in providing elderly services with tripartite contributions.
11.	Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong	 The Administration should draw up specific details, a financial plan and a timetable for implementing the recommendations of ESPP. The Administration should adopt measures (e.g. strengthening training, expanding career path, improving remuneration and better use of technology) to attract young people to join the elderly care sector.
12.	Grassroots Development Centre	[LC Paper No. CB(2)575/17-18(01)]
13.	Chinese Grey Power	 Provision of subsidized residential care homes for the elderly ("RCHEs") should be included in new public rental housing estates. To facilitate the implementation of its policy objective of "ageing-in-place", the Administration should increase the provision of CCS and home care services. The Administration should implement universal retirement protection instead of introducing means and asset tests as well as

No.	Name of deputation / individual	Views
		co-payment arrangement for elderly services.
14.	青年退保關注組	 In the light of the poor image of the elderly care industry, the Administration's measures (e.g. the Navigation Scheme) failed to encourage young people to join the care service sector. Objected to the introduction of means and asset tests for elderly services, including the Pilot Scheme on Living Allowance for Carers of Elderly Persons from Low Income Families ("the Carer Allowance Scheme") and various voucher schemes. Given that young people would be overburdened by reverse mortgage, the Administration should implement universal retirement protection.
15.	安老服務使用者權益關注組	 The Administration should implement universal retirement protection as soon as possible. Elderly services should be provided on a non-means-tested basis.
16.	Alliance for Universal Pension	[LC Paper No. CB(2)563/17-18(03)]
17.	Miss KWONG Shun-yee	 Given the long waiting time for elderly services, the right of choice of elderly persons was seriously undermined. The Administration failed to address the needs of elderly persons from a wider perspective and provide suitable services accordingly. The Administration should take measures to support carers of elderly persons, e.g. organizing activities for these carers to exchange views.
18.	Forced into Market Aging Concern Group	 Expressed concern about the challenges to the provision of elderly services in the light of the rapidly ageing population. The Administration did not have a plan for achieving the target of zero waiting time for CCS. Given the heavy workload of District Elderly Community Centres, the manpower of these centres was not sufficient in providing services for elderly persons.

No.	Name of deputation / individual	Views
19.	Miss NG Ka-yan	 Many families encountered the following problems in having foreign domestic helpers ("FDHs") to take care of their elderly members: (a) FDHs did not know how to take care of elderly persons with special needs; (b) many families could not afford to employ FDHs; and (c) many families did not have a living environment that would accommodate FDHs. To allow more carers to benefit from the Carer Allowance Scheme, the Administration should enhance its promotion, provide additional places, increase the level of allowance and regularize the Scheme. The Administration should increase the provision of subsidized residential care service ("RCS") places.
20.	Unpeaceful Aging Concern Group	 Expressed dissatisfaction that the Administration did not provide adequate RCS and CCS while it had a strong fiscal reserve and spent substantial amount of resources on other areas like education. Objected to the introduction of means and asset tests for elderly services, including service voucher pilot schemes.
21.	Hong Kong Federation of the Blind	 Provision of medical services, dental care and subsidized RCS places for elderly persons was inadequate. The Administration should strengthen the support services for elderly persons who had mobility inconvenience. The Administration should provide elderly services on a non-means-tested basis and implement universal retirement protection as soon as possible.
22.	北區就業問題關注組	 The Administration had privatized RCS and CCS by implementing various means-tested voucher schemes, e.g. the RCSV Pilot Scheme and the CCSV Pilot Scheme. Given that carers of elderly persons encountered financial difficulties and mental stress, the Administration should increase the level of allowance for the Carer Allowance Scheme. Given the long waiting time for RCS, the

No.	Name of deputation / individual	Views
		Administration should increase the provision of subsidized RCS places in every district.
23.	Immaculate Heart of Mary Church Social Concern Ministry	[LC Paper No. CB(2)634/17-18(02)]
24.	Cleaning Service Industry Workers Union	 The Administration did not have a long-term plan to train care workers for RCHEs. Urgent needs of elderly persons could not be addressed due to manpower shortage of care workers. Waiting time for subsidized RCS places was too long and elderly persons could not afford private RCHEs.
25.	照顧者關注組	 Given that many elderly persons discharged from hospitals had to be admitted to substandard and expensive private RCHEs, the Administration should increase the provision of respite service for elderly persons. Carers of elderly persons were reluctant to apply for the RCSV Pilot Scheme, the CCSV Pilot Scheme and the Carer Allowance Scheme as the schemes were provided on a means-tested basis. The Administration should implement universal retirement protection as soon as possible.
26.	天主教勞工牧民中心 - 九龍單幢大廈保安護衛關注組	 The Administration should make reference to elderly policy of other countries so as to enhance future provision of elderly services. The Administration should use vacant buildings in various districts to increase the provision of subsidized RCS places as well as improve the monitoring of and inspection to RCHEs. Low salary level, poor working environment as well as lack of training and career path were the major reasons for the manpower shortage of frontline care staff.

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27.	馮明東先生	[LC Paper No. CB(2)563/17-18(01)]
28.	Community Care and Nursing Home Workers General Union	[LC Paper No. CB(2)537/17-18(02)] ■ The Administration should communicate with stakeholders holding different views about the provision of elderly services.
29.	改善買位計劃專責小組	 The Administration should regularize the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme to shorten the waiting time for subsidized RCS places. The Administration should increase the ratio of higher quality EA1 places from 50% to 70% under the Scheme.
30.	The Federation of Hong Kong & Kowloon Labour Unions	 Objected to the importation of labour for RCHEs. Given that the Navigation Scheme could not encourage young people to join the care service sector, the Administration should adopt other measures, e.g. expanding the career path and improving remuneration of care workers.
31.	Liberal Party	 The Administration should allocate more resources to increase the provision of elderly services with a view to ensuring the right of choice of elderly persons. To address the manpower shortage problem of RCHEs, the Administration should import labour for RCHEs in the short term and attract local people to join the elderly care sector. The assumption in ESPP that the overall needs for LTC services would decrease by 1% each year was wrong.
32.	非買位院舍專責小組	 The Administration should enhance the provision of outreaching medical services to RCHEs and propose target time for provision of such services.
33.	資訊科技專責小組	 Many RCHEs had difficulty applying for the Technology Voucher Programme given the high threshold. As the Administration had earmarked \$1 billion to subsidize elderly service units to procure technology products, the Administration should expand the scope of beneficiaries to cover non-subsidized

		RCHEs or individual elderly persons. The Administration should consult stakeholders and service users in planning for the development of gerontechnology.
34.	長者長期護理服務關注組	 The Administration should regularize the Carer Allowance Scheme and relax the eligibility criteria, e.g. covering carers of elderly persons not waiting for subsidized LTC services, recipients of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA"), Old Age Living Allowance ("OALA") and Disability Allowance. The Administration should add a lower tier of assistance under the Carer Allowance Scheme to support carers of elderly persons with mild impairment. The Administration should set up a database about carers of elderly persons in order to facilitate planning of relevant support services and further communication with these carers.
35.	Mr WONG Cho-ki	 The Administration's policy of "ageing-in-place" led the planning for LTC services to a wrong direction as the support network at neighbourhood level was not functioning. The Administration should implement universal retirement protection as soon as possible.
36.	Our Hong Kong Foundation	[LC Paper No. CB(2)537/17-18(03)]
37.	香港安老服務協會	[LC Paper No. CB(2)575/17-18(03)]
38.	Roundtable	[LC Paper No. CB(2)538/17-18(01)]
39.	Democratic Party	 Given the long waiting time for CCS, the Administration should allocate more resources to support elderly persons and their carers, especially those carers who were elderly persons. The Administration should allow recipients of CSSA, OALA and Disability Allowance to apply for the Carer Allowance Scheme.
40.	安老政策研究顧問	• To address the manpower shortage problem of RCHEs, the Administration should: (a) collate statistics of part-time care workers for planning of manpower; (b) import labour for RCHEs; and (c) collect views of

		young people on joining the elderly care sector. As the Administration had earmarked \$1 billion to subsidize elderly service units to procure technology products, the Administration should expand the scope of beneficiaries to cover non-subsidized RCHEs. The Administration should promote the accreditation system for RCHEs to ensure their service quality. The assumption that the overall needs for LTC services would decrease by 1% each year was wrong.
41.	Mr TANG Wai-keung	 Given the long waiting time for RCS, the Administration should consider setting up a dedicated fund to increase the provision of subsidized RCS places. The Administration should review the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines as soon as possible and relax the plot ratio restrictions on non-residential land.
42.	The Civic Party	[LC Paper No. CB(2)593/17-18(01)]
43.	Carer Union	 Objected to the suggestion that elderly singletons were subvented to employ FDHs as these helpers might encounter difficulties in communicating with and taking care of elderly persons. The Administration should establish dedicated support centres for carers of elderly persons in order to provide training and relevant support services. The Administration should set up a database about carers of elderly persons in order to understand the needs of these carers.
44.	United Muslim Association of Hong Kong	 [LC Paper No. CB(2)575/17-18(02)] ● The Administration could approach non-governmental organizations serving ethnic minorities to provide training for FDHs to serve RCHEs.
45.	Hong Kong Christian Service Un Chau Neighbourhood Elderly Centre	• Given that the Residential Care Homes (Elderly Persons) Regulation (Cap. 459A) did not specify minimum area of floor space for dormitory and other common areas, some RCHEs only provided limited space

	for dormitory which affected health conditions of elderly residents. • Minimum area of floor space for dormitory should be stipulated under the Regulation as 7.16 m² while equal area of floor space should be provided for common area, toilet and bathroom.
46. 中西區護老關注組	 The Administration should allocate more resources to the provision of elderly services, especially for subsidized RCS places and elderly welfare. To address the manpower shortage problem of RCHEs, the Administration should import labour for RCHEs in the short term. The Administration should adopt measures (e.g. strengthening training, expanding career path and improving remuneration) to attract local people to join the elderly care sector.

Council Business Division 2 Legislative Council Secretariat

21 February 2018