

Panel on Welfare Services

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 10 November 2017)

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

1. Annual adjustment of social security payment rates under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme and the Social Security Allowance Scheme, and issues relating to rent allowance under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme

The Administration will brief members on:

13 November 2017

(a) the latest position of the Social Security Assistance Index of Prices and the estimated corresponding adjustment to the rates of allowances under the Social Security Allowance Scheme and standard payment rates under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA") Scheme as from 1 February 2018. The Administration intends to submit the relevant funding proposal to the Finance Committee in December 2017; and

(b) the latest position of the Consumer Price Index (A) rent index for private housing and the estimated corresponding adjustment to the maximum rates of the rent allowance under the CSSA Scheme as from 1 February 2018, as well as relevant information on the maximum rent allowance.

2. The Low-income Working Family Allowance Scheme

The Administration will brief members on the enhancements to the Low-income Working Family Allowance Scheme announced in "The

13 November 2017

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Chief Executive's 2017 Policy Address".

3. Looking into the governance issues of social welfare organizations in light of the Neighbourhood Advice-Action Council incident

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

13 November 2017

4. Hong Kong Rehabilitation Programme Plan

Item proposed by the Administration.

11 December 2017

The Administration will brief members on the scope of review and mode of public engagement exercise for the formulation of the new Hong Kong Rehabilitation Programme Plan.

5. Setting up a new contract residential care home for the elderly in the retail and welfare block of the public rental housing development at Hang Tai Road, Ma On Shan (Yan On Estate Extension)

Item proposed by the Administration.

11 December 2017

The Social Welfare Department proposes to set up a new contract residential care home for the elderly ("RCHE") in the public rental housing development of the Hong Kong Housing Authority at Hang Tai Road, Ma On Shan (Yan On Estate Extension). Following the established arrangements, the capital cost for the project is to be funded by Lotteries Fund. As the proposed RCHE in the project is anticipated to give rise to an additional recurrent cost exceeding \$10 million per annum, the Panel shall be briefed on the project.

6. Progress of implementation of the Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses

Item proposed by the Administration.

8 January 2018

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

7. Engagement with the social welfare sector on how to optimize the Lump Sum Grant Subvention System

Item proposed by the Administration.

8 January 2018

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG has suggested that the Panel should discuss review of Lump Sum Grant Subvention System. Hon SHIU Ka-chun has suggested that the Panel should discuss monitoring the implementation of prohibition of cross-subsidization under the System.

8. Setting up a fund of \$1 billion to subsidize elderly and rehabilitation service units to try and procure technology products

Item proposed by the Administration.

8 January 2018

9. Follow-up on the Law Reform Commission Report on Child Custody and Access and related support measures

Item proposed by the Administration.

12 February 2018

10. Progress of implementation of the Best Practice Manual under the Lump Sum Grant Subvention System

Item proposed by the Administration.

February/ March
2018

11. Fujian Scheme

Item proposed by the Administration.

12 March 2018

12. Review of Poverty Line

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun. He wishes to discuss the effectiveness of the Poverty Line ("PL"), the indicators used by PL for measuring the overall poverty situation, how poor people benefit from PL and how it helps to address the problem of poverty gap.

12 March 2018

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

13. Policy to deal with domestic violence

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu (LC Paper No. CB(2)1839/16-17(01) issued on 7 July 2017).

March/ April 2018

14. Implementation of Enhanced Old Age Living Allowance

Item proposed by the Administration.

9 April 2018

15. Manpower planning for non-social worker grades and non-professional grades in welfare organizations

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

9 April 2018

16. Progress of the Consultancy Study on the Long-term Development of Child Care Services

Item proposed by the Administration.

May/ June 2018

17. Work of Family Council

Item proposed by the Administration according to the established practice that the Family Council would brief the Panel on its work on a biennial basis.

11 June 2018

Dr Hon Helena WONG has suggested that the Family Council should brief the Panel on its work and the measures taken to promote family-friendly policies. She has also suggested that deputations should be invited to give views on the functions of the Family Council.

18. Detailed arrangement for setting up a Special Needs Trust

Item proposed by the Administration.

June/ July 2018

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

19. On-site Pre-school Rehabilitation Services

Item proposed by the Administration.

June/ July 2018

20. Welfare support for users and waitlistees of community housing

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

9 July 2018

Services for elderly

21. Elderly Services Programme Plan

The Administration briefed members on the progress of the formulation of the Elderly Services Programme Plan ("ESPP") at the Panel meeting on 14 November 2016. The Panel held a special meeting on 29 November 2016 to receive public views on ESPP.

To be decided

The Panel was briefed on the findings and recommendations of ESPP at its meeting on 10 July 2017. Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki, Hon Alvin YEUNG and Hon Fernando CHEUNG have requested the Panel to receive public views on ESPP.

22. Review of Residential Care Homes (Elderly Persons) Ordinance (Cap. 459)

The Panel of the Fifth Legislative Council ("the former Panel") acceded to Prof Hon Joseph LEE's request for holding a joint meeting with the Panel on Health Services ("HS Panel") to discuss the Residential Care Homes (Elderly Persons) Ordinance (Cap. 459) with a view to improving the quality of these residential care homes ("RCHs").

To be decided

23. Care services for elderly persons with special needs

The Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Future Development of Elderly Services Schemes

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

formed under the former Panel had studied, inter alia, the care services for elderly persons with special needs. The Subcommittee submitted its report (LC Paper No. CB(2)1902/15-16) to the former Panel in July 2016. In its report the Subcommittee suggested that the Panel should follow up the provision of services by the Administration for elderly persons with chronic diseases, dementia or disabilities as well as elderly persons from ethnic minorities and from sexual minorities.

24. Infirmary care in non-hospital setting

The Administration consulted the Panel of the Third Legislative Council in December 2004 on a proposal to launch a trial scheme to provide infirmary care places for medically stable elders in a non-hospital setting. Various options are being explored, including upgrading some of the places in subvented RCHs for the elderly to provide infirmary care. The Administration will report the progress in due course.

To be decided

Social security

25. Review of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG has suggested that the Panel should discuss and receive deputations' views on review of the CSSA Scheme.

To be decided

Support for underprivileged groups with special needs in the community

26. Proposal for formation of a subcommittee on issues relating to welfare of people with disabilities

Item proposed by Miss CHAN Yuen-han.

To be decided

27. Services for persons suffering from dementia

Hon LUK Chung-hung has suggested that the

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Panel should discuss dedicated services for persons suffering from dementia.

Dr Hon Helena WONG has also suggested that community care support for these persons and their carers should be discussed.

28. Community care and support services for persons with disabilities

The former Panel acceded to Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG's request (LC Paper No. CB(2)401/15-16(02)) for discussion of issues relating to community care and support services for persons with disabilities.

To be decided

The Panel acceded to Hon YUNG Hoi-yan's request (LC Paper No. CB(2)253/16-17(01)) for discussion of issues relating to autistic adults.

29. Issues relating to students with special educational needs

Item proposed by Hon Alvin YEUNG. He also suggested that the Panel on Education be invited to join the relevant discussion.

To be decided

30. Mental health services and related community support services

Dr Hon Helena WONG has suggested that a joint meeting with HS Panel should be held to discuss issues relating to mental health and relevant community support services. She has also suggested that organizations/individuals providing mental health services should be invited to give views on the collaboration of policies on mental health.

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Welfare services for families, youth and children

31. Welfare measures for facilitating children and youth development

The former Panel agreed to explore whether to discuss the issue "Exploring a way out for young people in respect of welfare, education and employment, etc. under deep-rooted social conflicts in light of the Mongkok Riot occurred on 8 February 2016".

To be decided

Hon SHIU Ka-chun has suggested discussing as soon as possible the captioned subject matter which also covers the issue mentioned above.

32. Youth suicides

Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki has suggested that the Panel should consider holding a joint meeting with the HS Panel on youth suicides and relevant social welfare organizations should be invited to give views thereon.

To be decided

Social welfare planning and administration

33. Social welfare planning

Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che suggested that the former Panel should discuss social welfare planning.

To be decided

The former Panel discussed medium and long-term social welfare planning at its meetings on 19 February, 26 March and 8 July 2013. Members suggested that the Panel should discuss with the Administration progress of the subject matter as soon as possible.

Miss CHAN Yuen-han suggested that the Panel should consider discussing the subject of setting targets for the provision of hostels for mentally handicapped persons, e.g. setting a target waiting time and a specific percentage of the total area of

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

a new public housing project for such provision.

Dr Hon Helena WONG suggested that the Panel should discuss planning targets for the provision of child care places and residential care places for elderly persons and persons with disabilities.

34. Amending Social Workers Registration Ordinance (Cap. 505)

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

To be decided

35. Management of projects financed by Lotteries Fund

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun. The item was covered in the Report of the Public Accounts Committee ("PAC") No. 68 published in July 2017.

To be decided

36. Planning of social welfare services in new public rental housing estate

Item proposed by Hon Wilson OR.

To be decided

Provision of welfare facilities

37. Setting up a care and attention home for severely disabled persons and a special child care centre cum early education and training centre in So Uk Estate Redevelopment Phase 1, Sham Shui Po

Item proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

38. Setting up an integrated welfare service complex in the vacant school premises in Tuen Mun

Item proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

- 39. Setting up a hostel for moderately mentally handicapped persons, an integrated vocational rehabilitation services centre and an integrated children and youth services centre in the Comprehensive Development Area development at Yau Tong Bay**

Item proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

- 40. Setting up an integrated welfare service complex in a set of vacant school premises in Tai Po**

Item proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

- 41. Provision of welfare service premises for the elderly and enhancement of facilities therein**

Item proposed by Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che.

To be decided

Poverty alleviation

- 42. Possible support for deprived communities**

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun. He wishes to discuss as soon as possible support measures for deprived communities (i.e. people living in urban slum areas).

To be decided

Women welfare

- 43. Women-related issues (e.g. measures to unleash women workforce, female employees receiving less pay than male employees for equal work, long working hours, etc.)**

Item proposed by Miss CHAN Yuen-han.

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

44. The work of the Women's Commission and the Equal Opportunities Commission in the implementation of Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Item referred by the Panel on Constitutional Affairs ("CA Panel") (LC Paper No. CB(2)232/17-18(01) issued on 3 November 2017). CA Panel members will be invited to attend the relevant meeting for discussion of the item.

To be decided

Others

45. Charitable fund-raising activities

On 6 December 2013, the Law Reform Commission ("LRC") released its report on charities, which put forward a number of recommendations including those on monitoring charitable fund-raising activities. Home Affairs Bureau ("HAB") is coordinating comments from relevant bureaux and departments for formulating the Administration's responses to the report.

To be decided

The Administration's responses and actions with regard to LRC reports are to be reported to the Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services ("the AJLS Panel"). HAB is planning to report progress to the AJLS Panel later when the responses are ready.

The monitoring of charitable fund-raising activities was covered in PAC Report No. 68 published in July 2017.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

46. Issues relating to welfare of refugees, torture claimants and asylum seekers and proposed legislative amendments to the unified screening mechanism for non-refoulement claimants

Item proposed by Miss CHAN Yuen-han. She suggested that the Panel should hold a joint meeting with the Panel on Security to discuss the subject matter with the Administration.

To be decided

The House Committee has agreed at its meeting on 28 October 2016 to appoint a subcommittee to follow up issues relating to the Unified Screening Mechanism for Non-refoulement Claims. The Subcommittee is in the third place on the waiting list pending activation.

The Panel on Security discussed the subject of "Comprehensive review of strategy of handling non-refoulement claimants" at its meeting on 11 November 2016.

47. Policies on preventing abuse of elderly persons and of persons with intellectual disabilities

The former Panel suggested that the Panel should discuss policies on preventing abuse of elderly persons in RCHs and of persons with intellectual disabilities in schools/hostels for persons with intellectual disabilities.

To be decided

48. Support for carers

Dr Hon Helena WONG and Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki have suggested that policies on support for carers should be discussed.

Meeting of Joint
Subcommittee on
Long-term Care
Policy on
21 November 2017

49. Welfare support for the homeless

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

50. Community development policy

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

To be decided

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
10 November 2017