

Panel on Welfare Services

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 9 March 2018)

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

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

Item proposed by the Administration. This item is to brief the Panel on the follow-up actions on the Law Reform Commission Report on Child Custody and Access, including the way forward of the proposed legislation, as well as related support measures. Hon SHIU Ka-chun has suggested that representatives of the Home Affairs Bureau ("HAB") should also attend the relevant meeting for discussion of this item.

12 March 2018

2. 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

3. Setting up two new contract residential care homes for the elderly and two new day care centres for the elderly at the land sale site at Site 1F1 of Kai Tak Development, Kowloon

Item proposed by the Administration.

12 March 2018

The Administration proposes to set up two new contract residential care homes for the elderly and two new day care centres for the elderly at Site 1F1 of Kai Tak Development, Kowloon, to be funded by the Lotteries Fund. This item is to

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

brief the Panel on the proposal.

4. Review of the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme

The Panel was briefed on the overall situation of the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme at its meeting on 12 February 2018. Members have agreed to receive public views on review of the Scheme at a special meeting of the Panel.

19 March 2018

5. 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).

9 April 2018

The Administration will brief members on the proposed outline of the topics to be included in the fourth report of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region under the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. CA Panel members will be invited to attend the relevant meeting for discussion of the item.

6. Providing extra allowance to recipients of social security, Low-income Working Family Allowance and Work Incentive Transport Subsidy; and one-off grant to students in need to support learning

Item proposed by the Administration.

9 April 2018

The two captioned initiatives were announced in the 2018-2019 Budget as part of the concessionary measures to share fruits of

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

economic success with the community. This item is to brief the Panel on the implementation arrangements for the extra allowance/one-off grant.

7. 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).

To be decided

8. Welfare support for the homeless (particularly "McRefugee")

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun. He has suggested that representatives of HAB should also attend the relevant meeting for discussion of this item.

To be decided

9. Implementation of the Higher Old Age Living Allowance

The Panel was briefed on the implementation arrangements for the Higher Old Age Living Allowance ("Higher OALA") at its meeting on 12 February 2018. Members have agreed to receive public views on the Higher OALA at a special meeting of the Panel.

14 April 2018

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

Item proposed by the Administration.

14 May 2018

"Administration of Lump Sum Grants by the Social Welfare Department", which is one of the items covered in the audit report tabled in the Council on 22 November 2017 ("Audit Report No. 69"), is being followed up by the Public Accounts Committee ("PAC").

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

11. Detailed arrangement for setting up a Special Needs Trust

Item proposed by the Administration.

14 May 2018

12. 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.

13. Welfare support for users and waitlistees of community housing

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

9 July 2018

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

Item proposed by the Administration.

Third quarter of
2018

Services for elderly

15. 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

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

16. Care services for elderly persons with special needs

The Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Future Development of Elderly Services Schemes formed under the former Panel had studied, inter alia, care services for elderly persons with special needs. In its report (LC Paper No. CB(2)1902/15-16) 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.

To be decided

17. 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

18. Implementation arrangements for the Fujian Scheme

The Administration has provided information to the Panel on the launch of the Fujian Scheme vide LC Paper No. CB(2)988/17-18(01) on 6 March 2018.

To be decided

Support for underprivileged groups with special needs in the community

19. 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

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

20. 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.

21. 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

22. 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

23. Social service for ethnic minorities and mainstreaming of such service

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun. He has suggested that representatives of HAB should also attend the relevant meeting for discussion of this item.

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Welfare services for families, youth and children

24. 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.

25. 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

A joint meeting with the HS Panel and the Panel on Education was held on 20 December 2017 to discuss "Mental health of adolescents" which covers, inter alia, youth suicides.

Social welfare planning and administration

26. 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.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

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 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.

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

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

To be decided

28. Management of projects financed by Lotteries Fund

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun. The item was covered in the PAC Report No. 68 published in July 2017.

To be decided

29. Review on the Enhancement of the Lump Sum Grant Subvention System

Item proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

The Secretary for Labour and Welfare has tasked the Social Welfare Department ("SWD") to set up a Task Force to conduct a review on the enhancement of the Lump Sum Grant ("LSG") Subvention System, and make recommendations thereof. The Task Force comprises representatives/stakeholders from the Legislative Council, Hong Kong Council of Social Service, Hong Kong Social Workers Association, management of non-governmental organizations, staff side, service users, committees related to LSG subvention, independent persons, the Labour and Welfare Bureau and SWD. This item is to report the progress made by the Task Force on mapping out the scope of review.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

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

"Administration of Lump Sum Grants by the Social Welfare Department", which is one of the items covered in the Audit Report No. 69, is being followed up by PAC.

30. Planning of social welfare services in new public rental housing estates and deprived communities

Hon Wilson OR has proposed to discuss planning of social welfare services in new public rental housing estates. Hon SHIU Ka-chun has also proposed to discuss as soon as possible support measures for deprived communities (i.e. people living in urban slum areas).

To be decided

31. Review of effectiveness of Social Welfare Development Fund

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

To be decided

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

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

To be decided

Provision of welfare facilities

33. 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

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

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

Item proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

35. 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

36. 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

37. Provision of welfare service premises for the elderly and enhancement of facilities therein

Item proposed by Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che.

To be decided

Women welfare

38. 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

Others

39. 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. HAB is

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

coordinating comments from relevant bureaux and departments for formulating the Administration's responses to the report.

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.

40. 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 appointed a subcommittee to follow up issues relating to the Unified Screening Mechanism for Non-refoulement Claims. The Subcommittee will hold its second meeting on 27 March 2018.

41. Policies on preventing abuse of elderly persons and of persons with intellectual disability

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

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

42. Review of policies and welfare support for carers

Dr Hon Helena WONG and Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki have suggested that policies on support for carers should be discussed. The Joint Subcommittee on Long-term Care Policy has discussed "Support for carers of elderly persons and of persons with disabilities" at its meeting on 21 November 2017. The Panel discussed "Community care support for persons suffering from dementia and their carers" at its meeting on 11 December 2017.

To be decided

43. Community development policy and services

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun. He has suggested that representatives of HAB should also attend the relevant meeting for discussion of this item.

To be decided

44. Request for holding a joint meeting with the Panel on Housing regarding tenancy control

The Panel has acceded to Hon Michael TIEN's request for the Panel to hold a joint meeting with the Panel on Housing ("HG Panel") regarding tenancy control (LC Paper No. CB(2)375/17-18(01) issued on 22 November 2017). The Panel also suggested that public views should be received on the subject matter at the joint meeting. The HG Panel has agreed that a joint meeting of the HG Panel and the Panel should be held on 4 June 2018 to meet with the Administration and deputations/individuals on tenancy control measures.

To be decided