

政府總部  
民政事務局

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6 June 2019

Ms. Joanne MAK  
Clerk to the Panel on Home Affairs  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Ms. MAK,

**Panel on Home Affairs  
Letter from Hon SHIU Ka-chun  
Follow-up questions regarding agenda item  
“Community Care Fund”**

Thank you for your letter dated 27 May 2019. On the follow-up questions regarding the above-mentioned agenda item raised by the Hon SHIU Ka-chun attached thereto, the information provided by the Social Welfare Department on the Community Care Fund’s “Pilot Scheme on Living Allowance for Carers of Elderly Persons from Low-income Families” and “Pilot Scheme on Living Allowance for Low Income Carers of Persons with Disabilities” is enclosed at the Annex for Members’ reference.

Yours sincerely,

(Carmen KONG)

for Secretary for Home Affairs

Encl.

c.c. Director of Social Welfare

(Attn.: Senior Social Work Officer  
(Community Care Fund))

**Information provided by Social Welfare Department**

(1)-(3) The Social Welfare Department (SWD) has commissioned the Sau Po Centre on Ageing of the University of Hong Kong to conduct an evaluation on the Pilot Scheme on Living Allowance for Carers of Elderly Persons from Low-income Families (Pilot Scheme for Elderly Carers) and the Pilot Scheme on Living Allowance for Low Income Carers of Persons with Disabilities (Pilot Scheme for PwD Carers), with a view to helping the Government map out the way forward for the two Pilot Schemes, including matters such as the eligibility criteria, the amount of allowance, and whether the two Pilot Schemes should be regularised, etc. The evaluation report is expected to be completed within 2019.

(4) As at end-April 2019, the three phases of the Pilot Scheme for Elderly Carers had disbursed allowance to a total of 5 689 carers of elderly persons who were assessed to be eligible, while the two phases of the Pilot Scheme for PwD Carers had disbursed allowance to a total of 2 285 carers of PwDs who were assessed to be eligible. The amounts of allowance disbursed under the Pilot Schemes for Elderly Carers and the Pilot Scheme for PwD Carers were about \$280 million and \$100 million respectively (including service fees of approved service providers). The SWD does not maintain the breakdown of the number of successful applications by household size and disbursement amount under the two Pilot Schemes. As at end-April 2019, the number of benefitting carers of elderly persons/ carers of PwDs with a breakdown by age group was as follows (age of the applicant was calculated upon his/her submission of application) –

**Age distribution of benefitting carers of elderly persons under the Pilot Scheme for Elderly Carers**

<b>Age of elderly carers</b>	<b>Phase I</b>	<b>Phase II</b>	<b>Phase III</b>
Aged 18 or below	1	3	1
Aged 19 to 29	14	35	24
Aged 30 to 39	103	92	81
Aged 40 to 49	350	368	300
Aged 50 to 59	704	650	638
Aged 60 to 69	594	575	490
Aged 70 or above	235	245	186
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 001</b>	<b>1 968</b>	<b>1 720</b>

**Age distribution of benefitting carers of PwD under the Pilot Scheme for PwD Carers**

<b>Age of carers of PwDs</b>	<b>Phase I</b>	<b>Phase II</b>
Aged 18 or below	2	0
Aged 19 to 29	40	52
Aged 30 to 39	339	214
Aged 40 to 49	360	171
Aged 50 to 59	416	191
Aged 60 to 69	312	114
Aged 70 or above	59	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 528</b>	<b>757</b>

**(5) Number of ineligible cases under the Pilot Scheme for Elderly Carers and reasons for being ineligible**

<b>Reasons for being ineligible</b>	<b>Phase I</b>	<b>Phase II</b>	<b>Phase III</b>
Carers of elderly persons receiving Old Age Living Allowance (OALA)	274	277	154
Carers of elderly persons receiving Disability Allowance (DA)	38	60	39



Carers of elderly persons receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA)	92	93	28
Household income being above the income limit	29	85	73
Others <sup>Note</sup>	370	147	114
<b>Total</b>	<b>803</b>	<b>662</b>	<b>408</b>

<sup>Note</sup> Other reasons include elderly persons under care receiving residential care services and carers of elderly persons not being able to provide the minimum hours of care service to elderly persons under care, etc.

**Number of ineligible cases under the Pilot Scheme for PwD Carers and reasons for being ineligible**

<b>Reasons for being ineligible</b>	<b>Phase I</b>	<b>Phase II</b>
Carers of PwDs receiving OALA	65	52
Carers of PwDs receiving DA	27	21
Carers of PwDs receiving CSSA	48	47
Household income being above the income limit	69	43
Others <sup>Note</sup>	120	60
<b>Total</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>223</b>

<sup>Note</sup> Other reasons include PwDs under care are receiving residential care services or currently studying in boarding school, etc.

**Number of cases having withdrawn from the Pilot Scheme for Elderly Carers and the Pilot Scheme for PwD Carers and their reasons for withdrawal**

Reason for having withdrawn from the Pilot Scheme	Number of cases	
	Pilot Scheme for Elderly Carers	Pilot Scheme for PwD Carers
Elderly persons/PwDs started receiving residential care services (including boarding schools or infirmary service)	1 161	83
Elderly persons/PwDs under care passed away	919	18
Carers of elderly persons /carers of PwDs started receiving CSSA/ OALA	243	74
Carers of elderly persons/elderly persons under care /carers of PwDs/ PwDs under care faced other changing circumstances	276	79
Did not apply for Phase II/III of the Pilot Scheme upon completion of Phase I/II	175	62
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 774</b>	<b>316</b>

(6) The SWD does not maintain the breakdown of the number of cases by individual service providers and district under the two Pilot Schemes.

(7) The approved service providers participating in the two Pilot Schemes are not required to provide training courses for carers of elderly persons/carers of PwDs. The carers are free to decide whether to attend and choose relevant training courses. Each carer of elderly persons/carer of PwDs can apply for reimbursement of training fees of a total amount not exceeding \$1,000. As at end-April 2019, there were 223 carers of elderly persons and 346 carers of PwDs having applied for the relevant reimbursement of training fees, with the total amount being about \$74,000 and \$201,000 respectively.