

Panel on Welfare Services

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 8 October 2018)

**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:

November 2018

(a) the latest position of the Social Security Assistance Index of Prices and the estimated corresponding adjustment to the standard payment rates under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance ("CSSA") Scheme and rates of allowances under the Social Security Allowance Scheme as from 1 February 2019. The Administration intends to submit the relevant funding proposal to the Finance Committee in December 2018; 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 2019, as well as relevant information on the maximum rent allowance.

2. Hong Kong Rehabilitation Programme Plan

The Administration will brief members on the progress and work plan of the formulation of the new Hong Kong Rehabilitation Programme Plan.

November 2018

Services for elderly

3. 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

4. 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

5. Infirmiry care in non-hospital setting

The Administration consulted the Panel of the Third Legislative Council ("LegCo") in December 2004 on a proposal to launch a trial scheme to provide infirmiry 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 infirmiry care. The Administration will report the progress in due course.

To be decided

Support for underprivileged groups with special needs in the community

- 6. 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
- 7. 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.
- 8. Issues relating to students with special educational needs**
- Item proposed by Hon Alvin YEUNG. He also suggested that the Panel on Education ("ED Panel") be invited to join the relevant discussion. To be decided
- 9. Social service for ethnic minorities and mainstreaming of such service**
- Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun. He has suggested that representatives of the Home Affairs Bureau ("HAB") should also attend the relevant meeting for discussion of this item. To be decided
- 10. 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 To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

providing mental health services should be invited to give views on the collaboration of policies on mental health. A joint meeting with the HS Panel and the ED Panel was held on 23 April 2018 to discuss mental health of children and adolescents which covered, inter alia, support measures for carers of children.

Welfare services for families, youth and children

11. 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.

12. 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 ED Panel was held on 20 December 2017 to discuss "Mental health of adolescents" which covered, inter alia, youth suicides.

Social welfare planning and administration

13. Social welfare planning

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

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

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 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.

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

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

To be decided

15. Management of projects financed by Lotteries Fund

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun. The item was covered in the Public Accounts Committee ("PAC") Report No. 68 published in July 2017. A Government Minute, with details of the Government's responses, was tabled at LegCo on 18 October 2017.

To be decided

16. Review of effectiveness of Social Welfare Development Fund

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

To be decided

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

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

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

Item proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

Provision of welfare facilities

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

Item proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

[According to the Administration, this item has been covered in the paper submitted to the Panel for discussing "provision of elderly and rehabilitation service facilities in Sham Shui Po and Kwun Tong, and arrangements for annual briefings on Lotteries Fund projects" on 9 July 2018. The Administration has therefore proposed to delete this item.]

20. 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

21. 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

[According to the Administration, this item has been covered in the paper submitted to the Panel for discussing "provision of elderly and rehabilitation service facilities in Sham Shui Po and Kwun Tong, and arrangements for annual briefings on Lotteries Fund projects" on 9 July

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

2018. The Administration has therefore proposed to delete this item.]

22. 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

23. 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

24. 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

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

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

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. A Government Minute, with details of the Government's responses, was tabled at LegCo on 18 October 2017.

26. 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