

Panel on Welfare Services

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 8 November 2019)

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

1. Providing one-off extra allowance to recipients of social security payments, Working Family Allowance and Work Incentive Transport Subsidy

Item proposed by the Administration.

11 November 2019

The Administration will brief members on the provision of one-off one-month extra allowance to recipients of social security payments, Working Family Allowance and Work Incentive Transport Subsidy under a package of measures to support enterprises and relieve people's financial burden as announced by the Financial Secretary on 15 August 2019.

2. Review of pro-employment measures and other improvement measures under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme, as well as annual adjustment of social security payment rates

Item proposed by the Administration.

11 November 2019

The Administration will brief members on:

(a) the proposed improvements to "pro-employment" measures and other measures under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme as announced in the Chief Executive's 2019 Policy Address; and

(b) the adjustment to the social security payment rates as from 1 February 2020 according to the established mechanism.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

3. Welfare and community support for people affected by recent social incidents

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun. They have suggested that the role of social workers and welfare support provided for persons arrested in recent social incidents should be discussed under this item. They have also suggested that the Panel should receive public views on the subject matter.

18 November 2019

4. Briefing on the proposed Member's bill to amend the Protection of Children and Juveniles Ordinance (Cap. 213) and the Juvenile Offenders Ordinance (Cap. 226)

Item proposed by Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG (LC Paper No. CB(2)58/19-20(01)).

9 December 2019

5. Providing crisis support for sexual violence victims

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun. They have suggested that representatives of the Hospital Authority should be invited to join the relevant discussion.

9 December 2019

6. Formulation of a new Hong Kong Rehabilitation Programme Plan

Item proposed by the Administration.

December 2019

Hon KWONG Chun-yu, Hon SHIU Ka-chun and Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG have suggested that issues relating to residential and rehabilitation support for ex-mentally ill persons and community support for persons with disabilities should be discussed.

Hon YUNG Hoi-yan has suggested that issues relating to autistic adults should also be discussed (LC Paper No. CB(2)253/16-17(01)).

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun have suggested that the Panel should receive public views on the subject matter.

Services for elderly

7. Care services for elderly persons with special needs

The Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Future Development of Elderly Services Schemes formed under the Panel of the Fifth Legislative Council ("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

Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki has suggested that welfare for elderly persons living alone should also be discussed.

8. Second Phase of the Pilot Scheme on Community Care Service Voucher for the Elderly

Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung has proposed to discuss the provision of additional vouchers under the Second Phase of the Pilot Scheme.

To be decided

9. Old Age Living Allowance

Item proposed by Hon Michael TIEN. He would like to discuss enhancement of the Old Age Living Allowance.

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

10. Updating of the Standardised Care Need Assessment Mechanism for Elderly Services

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun, Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG and Hon Andrew WAN. They also suggested that deputations should be invited to give views on the subject matter.

To be decided

Welfare services for youth and children

11. Provision of social workers in schools

The Panel has discussed and received public views on "Pilot Scheme on Social Work Service for Pre-primary Institutions" at its special meeting on 22 June 2018. Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun have suggested that the Panel should discuss the provision of social workers in kindergartens.

To be decided

As it is announced in the 2019-2020 Budget that funding will be allocated for increasing the number of school social workers to two per secondary school, Hon KWONG Chun-yu has proposed that the Panel should also discuss the provision of additional social workers for secondary schools. He has suggested that a joint meeting with the Panel on Education ("ED Panel") should be held to discuss the item and representatives of the Education Bureau ("EDB") should also attend the relevant meeting.

12. Work progress of the Commission on Children

Item proposed by Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG (LC Paper No. CB(2)1552/18-19(01)).

To be decided

13. Welfare measures for facilitating children and youth development

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

14. Mental health of children and adolescents and related community support services

Given that mental health of children and adolescents is a key area of discussion of the Advisory Committee on Mental Health, Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki has suggested that a joint meeting with the Panel on Health Services ("HS Panel") and the ED Panel should be held to discuss issues relating to mental health and related community support services and the work progress of the Advisory Committee.

To be decided

Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun have suggested that service arrangements for Integrated Community Centres for Mental Wellness arising from extension of the scope of their service to cover all secondary school students should also be discussed under this item.

15. 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.

16. Welfare issues relating to students with special educational needs

Item proposed by Hon Alvin YEUNG. He has suggested that the ED Panel should be invited to join the relevant discussion.

To be decided

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG has suggested that the Panel should hold a joint meeting with the

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

ED Panel to discuss and receive views from relevant deputations/individuals including academics, professional bodies, welfare organizations, parents and students on EDB's tendering arrangements for provision of hearing aids.

17. Provision of cyber youth support services for reaching out to at-risk and hidden youths through the Internet

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

To be decided

Women welfare

18. 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)). CA Panel members will be invited to attend the relevant meeting for discussion of the item.

To be decided

Support for underprivileged groups with special needs in the community

19. Review of effectiveness of the Working Family Allowance Scheme

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

To be decided

20. Arrangements made and support measures provided by the Social Welfare Department for the homeless

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Hon KWONG Chun-yu has suggested that representatives from the Home Affairs Bureau ("HAB") should also be invited for discussing this item.

21. Living subsidy programme for households not living in public housing and not receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance

Hon Michael TIEN has suggested that regularization of the captioned programme, which was launched by the Community Care Fund ("CCF") in 2014, 2015 and 2016 should be discussed.

To be decided

The Panel on Home Affairs ("HA Panel") will discuss CCF which will cover the captioned programme at its meeting on 11 November 2019. Members of the Panel are invited to join the discussion of CCF.

22. Language support services and dedicated outreach services teams for ethnic minorities

Hon KWONG Chun-yu has suggested that the discussion of this item should cover provision of language support services for ethnic minorities to facilitate their application for social welfare and community services.

To be decided

Hon SHIU Ka-chun has suggested that mainstreaming of social services for ethnic minorities should also be discussed.

Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun have suggested that a joint meeting with the HA Panel should be held to discuss and receive views of relevant deputations on the subject matter. Representatives of HAB should also attend the relevant meeting for discussion of this item.

The Administration established the Steering

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Committee on Ethnic Minorities Affairs, under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary for Administration, in July 2018 to enhance internal collaboration among government bureaux/departments on support for ethnic minorities.

23. Special Needs Trust

The Panel discussed "Special Needs Trust" at its meeting on 11 March 2019.

To be decided

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG has suggested that the Panel should receive public views on the subject matter.

Social welfare planning and administration

24. Planning for social welfare policies

The former Panel has 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.

To be decided

25. Planning for the provision of welfare facilities in new development areas

Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun have suggested that the Panel should discuss provision of welfare facilities (including child care places, residential care places for elderly persons and persons with disabilities) in new public housing development projects and setting of targets for such provision.

To be decided

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

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

27. Manpower planning for provision of social welfare services

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

To be decided

28. Progress of the implementation of the Best Practice Manual among non-governmental organizations receiving Lump Sum Grant Subvention

Item proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

29. Progress of the review on enhancement of the Lump Sum Grant Subvention System

Item proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

Hon KWONG Chun-yu has suggested that the Panel should receive public views on the subject matter.

"Review of effectiveness of Social Welfare Development Fund", which is proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun, will be covered under this item.

Others

30. 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 has been assigned to co-ordinate inputs from relevant bureaux and departments in 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

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Services ("AJLS Panel"). HAB has been reporting progress to LRC which will in turn submit an annual report on the progress of implementation of the recommendations made by LRC to the AJLS Panel.

The monitoring of charitable fund-raising activities was covered in Public Accounts Committee ("PAC") Report No. 68 published in July 2017. A Government Minute, with details of the Government's responses, was tabled at the Legislative Council ("LegCo") on 18 October 2017. Annual progress report on the subject was submitted to PAC on 26 October 2018. Further progress was included in the Government Minute in response to PAC Report No. 71 tabled at LegCo on 15 May 2019.

31. Community development policy

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

To be decided

The Panel has discussed and received deputations' views on "Community development policy and services" at its meeting on 11 June 2018.

32. Review of the Public Transport Fare Concession Scheme for the Elderly and Eligible Persons with Disabilities

Item proposed by Hon Michael TIEN.

To be decided

Hon Michael TIEN has suggested that the Scheme should be extended to cover red minibuses and non-franchized buses providing residents' services.

33. Partial tenancy control

Item proposed by Hon Michael TIEN.

To be decided

Hon Michael TIEN has suggested that the

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Administration should conduct public consultation on the subject matter.

Two joint meetings of the Panel on Housing and the Panel were held on 4 June and 6 July 2018 to receive public views on tenancy control.

34. Emergency welfare measures and community services for handling typhoons

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun. To be decided

Hon KWONG Chun-yu has suggested that the item should be discussed at a joint meeting with the HA Panel and relevant deputations should be invited to give views on the subject matter.

The Panel on Security has discussed "Review of the Government's handling of super typhoon" at its meeting on 7 May 2019.

35. Support for divorced families and recovery of maintenance payments

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun. To be decided

Hon KWONG Chun-yu has suggested that a joint meeting with the HA Panel should be held to discuss this item.