

Panel on Welfare Services

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 6 March 2020)

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

- 1. Welfare support for the elderly, the chronically-ill, persons with disabilities and the grass-roots under the novel coronavirus epidemic, as well as anti-epidemic measures taken by subvented non-governmental organizations ("NGOs") and service operation of these NGOs**

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu. 9 March 2020
- 2. Extra month of payment to recipients of social security and Individual-based Work Incentive Transport Subsidy as announced in the 2020-2021 Budget**

Item proposed by the Administration. 20 April 2020

The captioned initiative was announced in the 2020-2021 Budget to ease the financial burden of the public. This item is to brief the Panel on the implementation arrangements for the extra allowance.
- 3. Annual briefing on welfare facility projects funded by the Lotteries Fund**

Item proposed by the Administration. 20 April 2020
- 4. Provision and accreditation of sign language interpretation services**

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun. 11 May 2020
- 5. Social welfare support provided at community housing after its completion**

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and 11 May 2020

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

6. Emergency welfare measures and community services for handling typhoons

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

11 May 2020

Hon KWONG Chun-yu has suggested that the item should be discussed at a joint meeting with the Panel on Home Affairs ("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.

7. Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses

Item proposed by the Administration.

8 June 2020

8. Work progress of the Family Council

Item proposed by the Administration.

8 June 2020

Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun have suggested that a joint meeting with the HA Panel should be held to discuss this item which should cover support for divorced families and recovery of maintenance payments.

9. Welfare support for carers

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun. They have suggested that the Panel should receive public views on this item.

June 2020

10. Language support services and dedicated

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

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.

13 July 2020

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 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.

Services for elderly

11. 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

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

diseases, dementia or disabilities as well as elderly persons from ethnic minorities and from sexual minorities.

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

12. 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

13. 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 have also suggested that deputations should be invited to give views on the subject matter.

To be decided

14. Progress 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

Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun have suggested that the review of the Pilot Scheme should also be discussed and deputations should be invited to give views on the subject matter.

15. Progress of the Pilot Scheme on Residential Care Service Voucher for the Elderly

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun. They have suggested that deputations should be invited to give views on the subject matter.

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

16. Progress of the Pilot Scheme on Support for Elderly Persons Discharged from Public Hospitals after Treatment

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

To be decided

Welfare services for youth and children

17. 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.

18. 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

19. Welfare measures for facilitating children and youth development

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

**20. 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.

21. 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.

**22. 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

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

join the relevant discussion.

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

23. 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

24. Mandatory reporting mechanism for and prevention of child abuse

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

To be decided

Women welfare

25. 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

26. Review of effectiveness of the Working

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Family Allowance Scheme

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

27. 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. They have suggested that the discussion of this item should cover policy on the homeless. To be decided

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

28. 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

HA Panel has discussed CCF which covered the captioned programme at its meeting on 3 December 2019. Members of the Panel were invited to join the discussion of CCF.

29. 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

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

subject matter.

Social welfare planning and administration

30. 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

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

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

To be decided

32. Manpower planning for provision of social welfare services

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

To be decided

33. 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

34. 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.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

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

35. Progress of purchase of premises for welfare uses

Item proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

36. Provision of social work services in old districts

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun. They have suggested that services provided under the Social Welfare Department's Integrated Family Services Centres and Neighbourhood Level Community Development Projects in old districts should be discussed. Representatives from HAB should be invited to join the relevant discussion.

To be decided

Others

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

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

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 on 18 October 2017. Progress reports on the subject were submitted to PAC on 26 October 2018, 15 May 2019 and 31 October 2019.

38. 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.

39. 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.

40. Partial tenancy control

Item proposed by Hon Michael TIEN.

To be decided

Hon Michael TIEN has suggested that the 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

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

to receive public views on tenancy control.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
6 March 2020