

Panel on Welfare Services

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 5 June 2020)

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

1. Work progress of the Family Council

Item proposed by the Administration.

8 June 2020

At its meeting on 11 May 2020, the Panel has acceded to the request of Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun for holding a joint meeting with the Panel on Home Affairs ("HA Panel") to discuss this item which should cover support for divorced families and recovery of maintenance payments.

2. 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 ("EMs") to facilitate their application for social welfare and community services.

8 June 2020

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

At its meeting on 11 May 2020, the Panel has acceded to the request of Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun for holding a joint meeting with the HA Panel to discuss the subject matter. Representatives of Home Affairs Bureau ("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

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

bureaux/departments on support for EMs.

3. Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses

Item proposed by the Administration.

8 June 2020

4. Special Needs Trust

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

13 July 2020

Hon KWONG Chun-yu has suggested that relevant deputations should be invited to give views on the subject matter.

5. 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.

13 July 2020

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

6. 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.

July 2020

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

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 EMs 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. 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

9. 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 relevant deputations should be invited to give views on the subject matter.

To be decided

10. 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

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

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

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

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

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. He has also suggested that the Panel should consider holding a joint meeting with the HS Panel to discuss youth suicides and relevant social welfare organizations should be invited to give views thereon.

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. The Panel and the HS Panel have also discussed "Mental health of children and adolescents" at a joint meeting on 23 April 2018.

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. 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 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.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

16. 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

17. 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

The Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services ("AJLS Panel") has referred Hon IP Kin-yuen's request for the AJLS Panel to discuss matters relating to Care or Protection Orders under the Protection of Children and Juveniles Ordinance ("PCJO") (Cap. 213) to the Panel for follow-up (LC Paper No. CB(2)643/19-20(01)).

The Panel has discussed Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG's proposed Member's bill to amend PCJO and the Juvenile Offenders Ordinance (Cap. 226) at its meeting on 9 December 2019. The proposal of establishing a statutory reporting mechanism for child abuse has been discussed at that Panel meeting.

Women welfare

18. The work of the Women's Commission and the Equal Opportunities Commission in the implementation of Convention on the

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

**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. 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.

21. Provision and accreditation of sign language interpretation services

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

Social welfare planning and administration

22. Planning for social welfare policies

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

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

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

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

To be decided

24. Manpower planning for provision of social welfare services

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

To be decided

25. 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

26. 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.

27. Progress of purchase of premises for welfare uses

Item proposed by the Administration.

To be decided

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

28. 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

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

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

31 October 2019.

30. 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.

31. 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.

32. 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 to receive public views on tenancy control.

33. 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

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

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.

The Panel on Development has discussed "Management of typhoon season flood risk" at its meeting on 26 May 2020.

34. 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.

To be decided