

Panel on Health Services**List of follow-up actions**

(Position as at 12 June 2024)

Subject	Date of meeting	Follow-up action required	Administration's response
1. Healthcare manpower projection	24 March 2021	The Administration was requested to provide the report on corporate governance of the Hospital Authority ("HA").	The Administration will provide a response in due course.
2. Drug Formulary of HA and drug subsidies	14 May 2021	The Administration/HA was requested to advise: (a) the action plan for reviewing the "secondary review" approach in vetting and approving applications for registration of pharmaceutical products containing new chemicals or biological entities, under which applicants are required to submit documentary proof of registration and certificates of free sale issued by the drug regulatory authorities of two or above of the recognized countries (e.g. whether the requirement of provision of relevant documents issued by the drug regulatory authorities of two or more recognized countries could be relaxed to provision of such documents of only one recognized country); and	The Administration will provide a response in due course.

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		(b) the action plan for discussing with the Mainland authorities of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area joint procurement of drugs with a view to reducing expenses on drugs.	
3. The medium of instruction as a criterion for the Special Registration Committee to assess non-local medical programmes	21 July 2022	The Special Registration Committee was requested to report the outcome of its discussion on the medium of instruction as a criterion for assessment of non-local medical programmes to the Panel in August 2022.	The Administration will provide a response in due course.
4. Healthcare Manpower Projection 2023	10 March 2023	The Administration/HA was requested to advise of the public hospital(s) which implemented the five-day week initiative currently.	The Administration/HA will provide a response in due course.
5. Specialist services, non-emergency services and examinations provided by HA	12 May 2023	The Administration/HA was requested to provide information on the number of elderly persons who emigrated overseas in the 1980s and returned to Hong Kong in recent years to queue for HA's services.	The Administration/HA will provide a response in due course.
6. Report of the HA Review Committee on Medical Equipment and Facility Maintenance	9 June 2023	HA was requested to provide information on who had decided not to immediately make public announcement of the spalling concrete incident at Castle Peak Hospital in November 2022.	HA will provide a response in due course.

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7. Treatment, rehabilitation services and support provided to persons in mental recovery and persons with mental health needs	19 June 2023	<p>The Administration/HA was requested to provide the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the staffing establishment and number of vacancies of HA's psychiatric doctors and community psychiatric nurses; (b) the ratio of HA's psychiatric doctors to the population of Hong Kong; (c) the implementation timetable for the 10 enhanced measures on mental health services mentioned in paragraph 7 of the Administration's discussion paper (LC Paper No. CB(4)597/2023(01)), and the estimated increase in manpower (including healthcare manpower and social workers) required for implementing the 10 measures; and (d) if mentally-ill persons having a medical history of criminal violence or a disposition to commit such violence were detained, the place(s) of detention and number of persons detained. 	The Administration/HA will provide a response in due course.
8. Update on tobacco control measures	14 July 2023	The Administration was requested to provide responses to the following views/questions raised by Members:	The Administration will provide a response in due course.

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		<p>(a) the Tobacco and Alcohol Control Office of the Department of Health should step up enforcement against illegal smoking in statutory no smoking areas;</p> <p>(b) on tobacco control publicity work, the Administration should strengthen family and school education, particularly the promotion of the role of family members in tobacco control;</p> <p>(c) the Administration should review the content of tobacco control publicity and include innovative elements;</p> <p>(d) as regards banning the act of "smoking while walking", the Administration should:</p> <p>(i) review the locations of rubbish bins; and</p> <p>(ii) put forward proposals in the consultation document on how to ban the above act, rather than to consult the public on whether they agree to banning the above act, since exposure to second-hand smoke was harmful to health;</p>	

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		<p>(e) tobacco control measures should be appropriate and not too extreme, and it was necessary for the Administration to examine how to balance the interests of various parties;</p> <p>(f) increase in tobacco duty might exploit the grassroots' right to choose, lead to more illicit tobacco activities and the sale of low-quality cigarettes in Hong Kong;</p> <p>(g) as regards the suggestion of prohibiting the sale of tobacco products to persons born after a certain date, it was necessary to strike a balance between health and freedom of choice;</p> <p>(h) as regards the suggestion of imposing plain packaging requirement and further enlarging the coverage of graphic health warnings, it might obscure product content;</p> <p>(i) on regulating the additives in tobacco products and banning the sale and import of all tobacco products with non-tobacco flavours, it might deprive Hong Kong people of the right to choose;</p>	

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		<p>(j) whether the Administration's ultimate goal was to prohibit anyone from smoking in Hong Kong or to prohibit the sale and purchase of tobacco in Hong Kong; if it was the former, Hong Kong' tourism industry and economy might be affected;</p> <p>(k) conducting surveys in the school setting to ascertain whether there were smokers among family members of students, then implementing targeted tobacco control measures in high-risk families; and</p> <p>(l) whether the Administration had identified the causes for increase in smoking prevalence of female and addressed the problem in a targeted manner. The Administration should put forward targeted measures to encourage young people not to smoke.</p>	
9. Briefing by the Secretary for Health on the Chief Executive's 2023 Policy Address	17 November 2023	<p>The Administration/HA was requested to provide the following information:</p> <p>(a) on the Administration's plan to extend the coverage of the elderly health care vouchers in the Greater Bay Area ("GBA"), with the target of initially</p>	The Administration/HA will provide a response in due course.

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		<p>adding about five medical institutions in GBA as trial service points for provision of primary healthcare services, the locations of the medical institutions concerned and the status of cooperating with Hong Kong's medical institutions which provided services in GBA, and whether the Administration had encountered any difficulties in identifying these institutions;</p> <p>(b) given the shortage of social workers, the measures to be taken by the Administration to provide emotional support and counselling for ethnic minorities, and let women of ethnic minorities know the channels for seeking help;</p> <p>(c) the reasons why the contractor involved in the incident of falling surgical light at the United Christian Hospital in February 2023 was awarded three times in HA's tendering exercises after the incident; and</p> <p>(d) whether referrals of psychiatric patients to private medical practitioners would be made under the Public-Private Partnership Programme.</p>	

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10. Report on the new mental health initiatives and work of the Advisory Committee on Mental Health	17 November 2023	<p>The Administration was requested to provide the following information:</p> <p>(a) under the “3-tier model” advocated by the Work Report of the Advisory Committee on Mental Health, whether it was possible to set up community mental health service teams, the unit responsible for the teams, the person-in-charge of the teams, how quality of the services concerned could be ensured, as well as roles of family doctors, psychiatrists and psychiatric nurses in private practice in the districts; and</p> <p>(b) whether special intervention services for mental health would be provided in public housing estates with multiple suicide cases.</p>	The Administration will provide a response in due course.
11. Progress of the Hospital Authority's work in resuming the Hospital Accreditation Programme	12 April 2024	The Administration was requested to provide the Panel with a paper on the accreditation outcome after it is available, including the areas of improvement that had been recommended to the hospitals by the surveyors and the improvement measures to be taken by the hospitals.	The Administration will provide a response in due course.

Council Business Division 4
Legislative Council Secretariat
12 June 2024