

Legislative Council Subcommittee on Poverty

Community Care Fund

Purpose

This paper briefs Members on the work progress of the Community Care Fund (CCF) and seek Members' views in this regard.

Background

2. The CCF is a trust fund established in early 2011 under the Secretary for Home Affairs Incorporation Ordinance (Cap. 1044) with the Secretary for Home Affairs Incorporated as its trustee. Its main objective is to provide assistance to people facing economic difficulties, in particular those who fall outside the social safety net or those within the safety net but have special circumstances that are not covered. In addition, the CCF may implement measures on a pilot basis to help the Government identify those that can be considered for incorporation into the Government's regular assistance and service programmes.

3. The CCF has since 2013 been integrated into the work of the reinstated Commission on Poverty (CoP)¹. The CCF Task Force, set up under the CoP as chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration, is responsible for advising the CoP on the CCF's various arrangements (including investment, finance and administrative operations), as well as the formulation of assistance programmes, the co-ordination and overseeing of the implementation of assistance programmes and the reviewing of their effectiveness. The CCF Task Force will also liaise closely with other CoP task forces and provide mutual support, so as to

¹ In late 2010, the Chief Executive appointed the Steering Committee on the CCF as chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration to oversee and co-ordinate the work of the CCF. An Executive Committee and four Subcommittees (Education, Home Affairs, Medical and Welfare) were set up under the Steering Committee to support the operation of the CCF. The terms of these committees/ subcommittees ended in end 2012.

draw up programmes to provide assistance to the underprivileged. The membership and terms of reference of the CoP and the CCF Task Force are at [Annex 1](#).

4. The Finance Committee (FC) of the Legislative Council (LegCo) approved the injection of \$5 billion into the CCF in May 2011, and approved in July the same year an additional injection of \$1.5 billion for implementation of the programme to provide a one-off allowance of \$6,000 to new arrivals. The FC also approved in June 2013 an additional injection of \$15 billion into the CCF to strengthen the poverty alleviation efforts.

Work Progress

Assistance Programmes

5. Since its establishment, the CCF has launched 27 assistance programmes under the medical, education, housing, welfare and home affairs areas for target beneficiary groups including children, the elderly, persons with disabilities, patients, new arrivals and ethnic minorities, etc. People outside the existing safety net or the coverage of the Government's short-term relief measures have been identified and provided with assistance. The total commitments exceed \$3.517 billion. As at end May this year, more than 760 000 person-times² have benefited under these programmes, and the CCF has disbursed around \$1.91 billion to various implementing agencies³. The latest progress of the programmes is set out at [Annex 2](#).

6. The CCF also implemented measures on a pilot basis to help the Government identify those initiatives that have been proven effective for incorporation into the regular assistance programme. Since its establishment in 2011, the four programmes below have been incorporated into the regular assistance programme:

² Nearly 200 000 people have benefited under the programme to provide a one-off allowance of \$6,000 to new arrivals.

³ Including the disbursements to beneficiaries and the staffing and administrative expenses of the implementing agencies.

- (1) The programme providing subsidy for needy patients of Hospital Authority (HA) who marginally fall outside the Samaritan Fund (SF) safety net for the use of SF subsidised drugs;
- (2) Financial Assistance for non-school-attending ethnic minorities and new arrivals from the Mainland for taking language examinations;
- (3) Subsidy for non-school-attending ethnic minorities and new arrivals from the Mainland participating in language courses; and
- (4) Subsidy for Tenants Purchase Scheme flat owners on Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA).

In addition, the Government will progressively regularise the following six programmes in 2014-15:

- (1) Subsidy to meet lunch expenses at whole-day primary schools for students from low-income families;
- (2) Training subsidy for children who are on the waiting list for subvented pre-school rehabilitation services;
- (3) Special subsidy to persons with severe physical disabilities for renting respiratory support medical equipment (special subsidy for renting respiratory support medical equipment);
- (4) Special subsidy to persons with severe physical disabilities for purchasing medical consumables related to respiratory support medical equipment (special subsidy for purchasing medical consumables);
- (5) Enhancement of the flat rate grant under the School Textbook Assistance Scheme; and
- (6) Enhancement of the financial assistance for needy students pursuing programmes below sub-degree Level.

7. After briefing this Subcommittee on the work progress of the CCF last December, the CCF has launched/ rolled out the following four assistance programmes:

- (1) Incentive scheme to further encourage CSSA recipients of the Integrated Employment Assistance Programme for Self-reliance to secure employment: This is a trial incentive scheme which aims at further encouraging able-bodied and unemployed CSSA recipients to take up employment and leave the CSSA net by incentive payment. During the three-year implementation period, the earnings from employment above the prescribed disregarded earnings limit of the participants will be accumulated in the form of incentive payment. When the amount of incentive payment accumulated reaches the incentive target, the CCF will release the full amount of the target incentive payment to the participants in one go for them to leave the CSSA net. The programme was rolled out in April 2014. The funding provision is \$226.62 million and it is estimated that 2 050 CSSA recipients will benefit.
- (2) Pilot scheme on living allowance for carers of the elderly persons from low income families: This is a pilot scheme which aims at providing carers of the elderly persons from low income families with a living allowance to help supplement their living expenses so that elderly persons who are in need of long term care services can, under the help of their carers, receive proper care and enable them to remain in the community. Under the two-year programme, each eligible carer of elderly persons will be disbursed with a monthly allowance of \$2,000, or a maximum of \$4,000 each for those who take care of more than one elderly person at the same time. The funding provision is \$126 million and it is estimated that about 2 000 carers of elderly persons will benefit.
- (3) Providing hostel subsidy for needy undergraduate students: This programme provides a subsidy for needy undergraduate students who are offered a student hostel place to meet student

hostel expenses, such that they are not denied hostel accommodation because of lack of means. Under the three-year programme, each eligible student will be disbursed with a maximum subsidy of \$8,000 per year. The funding provision is \$137 million and it is estimated that about 20 600 person-times will benefit.

- (4) Increasing the academic expenses grant under the Financial Assistance Scheme for Post-secondary Students: The programme aims at strengthening support for needy students pursuing locally-accredited self-financing post-secondary programmes through the disbursement of additional academic expenses grant. Under the three-year programme, each eligible student will be disbursed with a maximum additional grant of \$2,000 per year. The funding provision is \$151 million and it is estimated that about 93 000 person-times will benefit.

8. Through continuous review of the existing programmes, the CCF can also timely identify which programmes need to be revised or extended, so that the assistance can be provided in an effective manner. Since last December, to provide appropriate assistance to more needy persons, the CCF has enhanced/ extended the implementation/ accepted a new round of applications for several programmes, namely the training subsidy for children who are on the waiting list for subvented pre-school rehabilitation services, the special subsidy for renting respiratory support medical equipment, the special subsidy for purchasing medical consumables, the after-school care pilot scheme, and the subsidy for HA patients for specified self-financed cancer drugs which have not yet been brought into the SF safety net.

9. In addition to the above, the CCF is exploring the following:

- (1) Re-launching the “One-off living subsidy for low-income households not living in public housing and not receiving CSSA” programme to provide a one-off subsidy to persons not living in public housing and not receiving CSSA (i.e. known colloquially as the “n have-nots”) to relieve their financial pressure. The current programme is open for application

from 2 December 2013 to 29 August 2014. The CCF Secretariat is evaluating the programme and, having regard to the evaluation results, will submit proposals to the CCF Task Force and the CoP for consideration.

- (2) Re-launching the “Subsidy for CSSA recipients living in rented private housing” programme to provide a one-off subsidy to CSSA households living in rented private housing paying rents which exceed the maximum rent allowance under the CSSA Scheme. The Social Welfare Department is devising the proposal on re-launching the programme for the consideration of the CCF Task Force and the CoP.
- (3) To consider expanding the target beneficiaries of the “Elderly dental assistance programme” to persons who have financial difficulties and do not receive CSSA, for example, elderly persons who are Old Age Living Allowance recipients, taking into account the progress of the implementation and the experience gained.

Financial Position

10. Apart from the Government’s injection mentioned at paragraph 4 above, bank accounts have been opened to accept donations from the community. The amount of donations pledged i.e. about \$1.8 billion has been received in full. A deposit of \$15 billion in total has been placed with the Hong Kong Monetary Authority⁴ (HKMA) to earn an investment return that is linked to the performance of the Hong Kong Exchange Fund. The remaining amount of the CCF funding has been deposited with banks for Hong Kong dollar and Renminbi time deposit, so as to earn interest income and meet the cash flow requirements for financing assistance programmes and other liquidity needs.

11. As at end May this year, the balance of the CCF stood at around \$20.893 billion, mainly including the placement of \$15.938 billion (including the investment return of about \$938 million) at the HKMA, as well as bank deposits of around \$4.954 billion.

⁴ i.e. a placement of \$5 billion in June 2011 and a placement of \$10 billion in July 2013.

Consultation and Monitoring

12. As regards consultation, the CCF held two public consultation sessions in March this year to seek opinions on the formulation of assistance programmes. Focus group meetings on specific issues and public consultation sessions will continue to be held in order to gauge the views of the community and stakeholders on the work of the CCF, with a view to introducing more appropriate assistance programmes. Other task forces under the CoP are looking into the needs of different disadvantaged groups (including students from low-income families, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, new arrivals and single-parent families, etc.) and considering whether the Government's support for them is sufficient with a view to achieving poverty alleviation, reduction and prevention. The CoP will make use of the CCF to introduce pilot schemes where necessary.

13. The CoP and the CCF Task Force will continue to monitor the implementation of various assistance programmes. Government departments and other organisations entrusted to implement the programmes are required to submit progress and financial reports regularly to the CCF Task Force for review of the programmes. Prior to launching brand-new programmes which are pilot in nature and the funding provision of which is expected to exceed \$100 million, the Government will consult this Subcommittee or relevant Panels of the LegCo. We will continue to report regularly to this Subcommittee the financial position of the CCF and the implementation progress of its programmes every six months. Evaluation reports of the programmes will also be provided. Moreover, the information will be uploaded to the CCF website for easy reference by the public.

Advice Sought

14. Members are invited to note this paper and give views.

Home Affairs Bureau
June 2014

Annex 1

Commission on Poverty Membership

<u>Name</u>	<u>Occupational/ Professional Background</u>
<u>Chairman</u>	
Chief Secretary for Administration (Chairperson of the Social Security and Retirement Protection Task Force)	--
<u>Non-official Members</u>	
Ms Amy Chan Lim-chee, JP	Manager, Racing Development Board, The Hong Kong Jockey Club and Principal, Apprentice Jockeys' School, The Hong Kong Jockey Club
Ms Sylvia Chan May-kuen	Principal, Ma On Shan Ling Liang Primary School
Ms May Chan Suk-mei, BBS, JP	Director, News and Public Affairs Department, Commercial Radio Hong Kong
Mr Clement Chen Cheng-jen, SBS, JP (Chairperson of the Education, Employment and Training Task Force)	Executive Director, Tai Hing Cotton Mill Limited
Dr Henry Cheng Kar-shun, GBS	Chairman and Executive Director, New World Development Company Limited
Hon Cheung Kwok-che	Legislative Council Member
Professor Stephen Cheung Yan-leung, BBS, JP (Chairperson of the Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Fund Task Force)	President, The Hong Kong Institute of Education
Mr Chua Hoi-wai (Chairperson of the Special Needs Groups Task Force)	Chief Executive, The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

<u>Name</u>	<u>Occupational/ Professional Background</u>
Dr Stephen Frederick Fisher, SBS	Director General, Oxfam Hong Kong
Hon Frederick Fung Kin-kee, SBS, JP	Legislative Council Member
Mr Ho Hei-wah, BBS	Director, Society for Community Organisation
Ms Lam Shuk-yee, SBS	President, Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions
Dr Law Chi-kwong, SBS, JP (Chairperson of the Community Care Fund Task Force)	Associate Professor, Department of Social Work and Social Administration, the University of Hong Kong
Hon Leung Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP	Legislative Council Member
Ms Li Fung-ying, SBS, JP	Non-Executive Director, Zanwell Limited/ Honorary President, United Labour Chi Hong Association Limited
Hon Michael Tien Puk-sun, BBS, JP	Legislative Council Member/ Chairman, G2000 (Apparel) Limited
Dr David Wong Yau-kar, BBS, JP (Chairperson of the Societal Engagement Task Force)	Chairman, Business and Professionals Federation of Hong Kong
Dr Rosanna Wong Yick-ming, JP	Executive Director, The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups
<u>Ex-officio Members</u>	
Secretary for Home Affairs	--
Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Vice-chairperson of the Social Security and Retirement Protection Task Force)	--
Secretary for Education	--
Secretary for Food and Health	--
<u>Vice-chairpersons of the Task Forces</u>	
Dr Bunny Chan Chung-bun, SBS, JP (Vice-chairperson of the Community Care Fund Task Force)	Chairman, Prospective Holdings Limited/ Chairman, Kwun Tong District Council

Name

**Occupational/ Professional
Background**

Mr Cheung Kin-fai, MH
(Vice-chairperson of the Special Needs Groups
Task Force)

Director, Joint Council for the
Physically and Mentally Disabled
Hong Kong

Dr Philemon Choi Yuen-wan, SBS, JP
(Vice-chairperson of the Education,
Employment and Training Task Force)

Honorary General Secretary,
Breakthrough Limited

Miss Leonie Ki Man-fung, SBS, JP
(Vice-chairperson of the Societal Engagement
Task Force)

Executive Director, New World
Development Company Limited

Dr Joseph Lee, GBS, JP
(Vice-chairperson of the Social Innovation and
Entrepreneurship Development Fund Task
Force)

Group Chairman, Wofoo Plastics
Limited

Commission on Poverty

Terms of Reference

- (1) examine the current poverty situation and causes of poverty in Hong Kong with a view to identifying favourable conditions for personal development, self-reliance and social mobility; and set poverty line as a tool for gauging the poverty situation and assessing the effectiveness of poverty alleviation policies;
- (2) review existing policies and formulate new policies to achieve the objectives of preventing and alleviating poverty and social exclusion, promoting social mobility as well as providing an appropriate safety net to better help the disadvantaged overcome material deprivation and improve livelihood;
- (3) co-ordinate and monitor the implementation of poverty prevention and alleviation policies and evaluate measures funded by the Community Care Fund, the Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Fund and other relevant government funding sources as appropriate;
- (4) engage stakeholders and advise on ways to promote tripartite partnership among the Government, the business sector and community organisations in poverty alleviation, including the development of social enterprises;
- (5) promote district-based poverty alleviation measures to better meet the specific needs of local residents; and
- (6) monitor the poverty situation in Hong Kong.

Community Care Fund Task Force
Membership

Name

Occupational/ Professional Background

Chairperson

Dr Law Chi-kwong, SBS, JP

Associate Professor, Department of Social Work and Social Administration, the University of Hong Kong

Vice-chairperson

Dr Bunny Chan Chung-bun, SBS, JP

Chairman, Prospectful Holdings Limited/
Chairman, Kwun Tong District Council

Members of the Commission on Poverty

Hon Cheung Kwok-che

Legislative Council Member

Mr Chua Hoi-wai

Chief Executive, The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

Mr Ho Hei-wah, BBS

Director, Society for Community Organisation

Hon Michael Tien Puk-sun, BBS, JP

Legislative Council Member/
Chairman, G2000 (Apparel) Limited

Co-opted Members

Miss Ophelia Chan Chiu-ling, BBS

Retired/ former Assistant Director of Social Welfare

Ms Chang Siu-wah

Director, the ABM Hong Kong Swatow Baptist Church
Community Service Association

Dr Cheung Wai-lun, JP

Director (Cluster Services), Hospital Authority

Dr Saimond Ip

Chief Executive Officer, OnePort Limited

Mr Frederick Lai Wing-hoi, JP

Service Head, Youth and Community Service, Caritas –
Hong Kong

<u>Name</u>	<u>Occupational/ Professional Background</u>
Mr Lau Ming-wai, BBS, JP	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Chinese Estates Holdings Limited
Dr Sigmund Leung Sai-man, JP	President, Hong Kong Dental Association
Dr Donald Li Kwok-tung, SBS, JP	Director, Family Medical Practice Limited
Ms Nancy Tsang Lan-see, JP	Director, Heep Hong Society
Dr Yuen Pong-yiu	Principal, Tin Ka Ping Secondary School

Ex-officio Members

Permanent Secretary for Education (or his representative)	--
Permanent Secretary for Food and Health (Health) (or his representative)	--
Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (or his representative)	--
Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (or his representative)	--
Director of Home Affairs (or his representative)	--
Director of Social Welfare (or his representative)	--

Community Care Fund Task Force

Terms of Reference

- (1) advise the Commission on Poverty (CoP) on the Community Care Fund's various strategies and arrangements (including investment, finance and administrative operations), as well as the formulation of assistance programmes (including target beneficiaries, assistance amounts, handling of cross-sectoral issues and setting priorities);
- (2) co-ordinate and oversee the implementation of assistance programmes and review their effectiveness, as well as advising the CoP on the incorporation of programmes into the Government's regular assistance programme and service;
- (3) liaise closely with other CoP task forces and provide mutual support, as well as making timely report on work progress and plans to the CoP; and
- (4) collaborate with the CoP and other CoP task forces to prepare for the annual Poverty Summit, report the progress of the CoP's work to the public, and exchange with the members of the public and various sectors of the community on promoting poverty alleviation work.

Assistance Programmes under the Community Care Fund (CCF)

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
<p>(1) Setting up the School-based Fund (Cross-boundary Learning Activities) to subsidise primary and secondary school students from low-income families to participate in cross boundary learning activities and competitions</p> <p>(A subsidy of not more than \$3,000 for each benefited student to participate in cross-boundary learning activities and competitions respectively)</p>	July 2011 (a three-year programme)	194.66	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students receiving full or half grant from the Student Financial Assistance Agency (SFAA); ● students receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA); or ● students meeting the “financially needy” criteria as determined by individual schools. 	47 005 persons	Around 116.51	<p>The programme was initially set up to subsidise eligible students to participate in cross-boundary learning activities. The scope of the programme was expanded in July 2012 to subsidise eligible students to represent Hong Kong to take part in cross-boundary competitions.</p> <p>The evaluation results were reported to the Commission on Poverty (CoP) in March 2014.</p>

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
<p>(2) Subsidy for patients of Hospital Authority (HA) for specified self-financed cancer drugs which have not yet been brought into the Samaritan Fund (SF) safety net but have been rapidly accumulating medical scientific evidence and with relatively higher efficacy</p> <p>(To subsidise the drug costs borne by patient beneficiaries for the relevant drug treatment)</p>	August 2011 (current funding provision for four years)	376.44 ¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The prevailing SF financial assessment mechanism and its sliding scale are adopted as the financial assessment criteria. 	2 645 person-times ²	Around 210.06 ²	<p>The programme initially covered six specified self-financed cancer drugs and was expanded to nine subsequently.</p> <p>The evaluation results were reported to the former Steering Committee on the CCF in May 2012.</p> <p>All patients whose applications were approved in the first year of operation (i.e. from August 2011 to July 2012) have completed treatment.</p>

¹ Including the administrative and audit expenses of this programme and programme (11) below.

² This refers to the applications/subsidy for drug costs approved for beneficiaries as at 31 May 2014.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
<p>(3) Subsidy to meet lunch expenses at whole-day primary schools for students from low-income families</p> <p>(The subsidy level is determined by the actual fee charged by lunch suppliers and the subsidy is directly paid to lunch suppliers through the schools)</p>	September 2011 (a three-school year programme)	494.65	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Whole-day primary school students receiving full grant from SFAA and having lunch as arranged by their schools. 	180 925 person-times ³	Around 457.17	<p>The evaluation results were reported to the former Steering Committee on the CCF in May 2012 and it supported the regularisation of the programme.</p> <p>As announced in the Policy Address 2014, the programme will be incorporated into the Government's regular assistance programme in 2014-15.</p>
(4) Financial assistance for non-school-attending ethnic minorities and new arrivals from the Mainland for taking	September 2011 (a two-year programme)	1.05	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Passed the family/household-based means-test establishing eligibility for CSSA Scheme, student financial assistance 	428 persons	0.452	The programme has been incorporated into the Home Affairs Department (HAD)'s regular support services from late September 2013.

³ Including 56 387, 60 386 and 64 152 beneficiaries in the school years of 2011/12, 2012/13 and 2013/14 respectively. For 2013/14, 64 152 is an estimated number of beneficiaries only.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
<p>language-related international public examinations</p> <p>(Reimbursement of relevant examination fees to beneficiaries on an accountable basis)</p>			<p>schemes or HA Medical Fee Waiving Mechanism; or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● household income below 75% of the Median Monthly Domestic Household Income. 			<p>The processing of all applications received under the programme has been completed. The total expenditure of the programme is \$0.502 million, including \$0.452 million for disbursement of subsidy and \$0.05 million for administrative expenses (mainly for the one-off expenses on the production of posters, leaflets and application forms).</p>
<p>(5) Subsidy for the severely disabled persons aged below 60 who are non-CSSA recipients, requiring</p>	<p>September 2011 (extension of implementation in November 2012 and</p>	142.68	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Aged below 60 and receiving Higher Disability Allowance (HDA) under the Social Security Allowance (SSA) 	4 934 person-times	Around 90.06	<p>The evaluation results were reported to the CoP in May 2013.</p> <p>The CoP in August 2013 approved to</p>

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
<p>constant attendance and living in the community</p> <p>(According to the monthly household income of the applicants, the subsidy is disbursed in “full grant” (\$2,000 per month); “three-quarters” (\$1,500 per month) or “half grant” (\$1,000 per month).</p>	<p>further extension in November 2013)</p>		<p>Scheme as at 31 July 2013;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● living in the community as at 31 July 2013; and ● household income not exceeding 150% of the Median Monthly Domestic Household Income. 			<p>extend again the implementation of the programme for one year and to relax the income limit to 150% of the Median Monthly Domestic Household Income for the new round of applications; to set three levels of subsidy amount according to the monthly household income of the applicants.</p> <p>The programme has been extended again in November 2013 to provide a maximum of 12 months of subsidy.</p>
<p>(6) Subsidy for CSSA recipients who are owners of Tenants Purchase Scheme</p>	<p>September 2011 (a one-off subsidy</p>	<p>1.73</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CSSA households meeting the relevant criteria as at 1 July 2011. 	<p>825 households</p>	<p>1.65</p>	<p>The programme was completed and has been incorporated into the Government’s</p>

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
flats for five years or above and not eligible for rent allowance under the CSSA Scheme (A subsidy of \$2,000 per household)	programme)					regular assistance programme with effect from 1 April 2014.
(7) Subsidy for elders aged 65 or above from low-income families who are on the waiting list for Integrated Home Care Services (IHCS) (Ordinary Cases) for household cleaning service and escorting services for medical consultations (A monthly subsidy of not more than \$560)	October 2011 (extension of implementation in December 2012)	15.256	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Aged 65 or above; living in the community; and have been on the waiting list for IHCS (Ordinary Cases) on or before 31 October 2012; and ● household income not exceeding 75% of the Median Monthly Domestic Household Income. 	1 341 persons	Around 7.51	<p>The evaluation results were reported to the CoP in May 2013.</p> <p>Existing elderly beneficiaries of the programme who are still on the waiting list for IHCS (Ordinary Cases) could have their subsidy period extended from 31 March 2014 to 31 December 2014.</p>

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
(8) Subsidy for CSSA recipients living in rented private housing and paying a rent exceeding the maximum rent allowance under the CSSA Scheme	The programme was first launched in October 2011	33.671	● CSSA households living in rented private housing paying actual rents which exceed the maximum rent allowance under the CSSA Scheme as at 1 July 2011.	22 605 households	32.085	The evaluation results were reported to the CoP in May 2013. The CoP approved to re-launch the programme at its meeting in May 2013.
(When the programme was first launched: a subsidy of \$1,000 for one-person household; and \$2,000 for two-or-more-person household)	The programme was re-launched in September 2013	56.81	● CSSA households living in rented private housing paying actual rents which exceed the maximum rent allowance under the CSSA Scheme as at 1 July 2013.	17 751 households	Around 51.26	Subsidy was disbursed to most of the eligible households. As announced in the Policy Address 2014, the CCF will be invited to re-launch the programme to provide a one-off subsidy to CSSA households living in rented private housing and paying a rent exceeding the maximum rent allowance under the
(When the programme is re-launched: a subsidy of \$2,000 for one-person household; and \$4,000 for two-or-more-person household)						

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
						CSSA Scheme.
(9) Training subsidy for children from low-income families who are on the waiting list for subvented pre-school rehabilitation services (A monthly subsidy of not more than \$2,615)	December 2011 (extension of implementation in November 2012, July 2013 and February 2014 respectively)	68.145	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● On the waiting list for subvented pre-school rehabilitation services on or before 31 January 2014; and ● household income not exceeding 75% of the Median Monthly Domestic Household Income. 	2 761 persons	Around 44.21	<p>The evaluation results were reported to the former Steering Committee on the CCF in May 2012 and it supported the regularisation of the programme.</p> <p>As announced in the Policy Address 2014, the programme will be incorporated into the Government's regular assistance programme in 2014-15.</p> <p>Pending regularisation, the programme was extended again in February 2014 with a view to accepting a new round of applications. The</p>

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
						subsidy period has also been extended to 30 September 2014. The new round of applications closed on 30 April 2014.
<p>(10) Relocation allowance for eligible residents of sub-divided units in industrial buildings who have to move out as a result of the Buildings Department (BD)'s enforcement action</p> <p>(An allowance of \$2,500 for one-person household, \$5,500 for two-to-three-person household; and \$7,100 for four-or-more-person household)</p>	December 2011	4.43	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Persons who have passed the family/household-based means-test establishing eligibility for CSSA Scheme, student financial assistance schemes, HA Medical Fee Waiving Mechanism or Work Incentive Transport Subsidy; or ● household income not exceeding 100% of the Median Monthly Domestic Household Income 	140 households (204 persons)	Around 0.39	<p>BD has inspected 60 target industrial buildings, and has so far identified cases of unauthorised sub-divided units for domestic use in ten of them. BD has taken enforcement action against these cases and enforcement action was completed in four buildings. BD will continue to follow up the enforcement actions in other industrial buildings.</p> <p>Evaluation is being</p>

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
			for one-person households; and not exceeding 75% of the Median Monthly Domestic Household Income for two-or-more-person households.			planned and the progress will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.
(11) Subsidy for needy patients of HA who marginally fall outside the SF safety net for the use of SF subsidised drugs (To subsidise the drug costs borne by patient beneficiaries for the relevant drug treatment)	January 2012	4.293	●The prevailing SF financial assessment mechanism was adopted by applying a more relaxed patient contribution ratio than that for the SF i.e. the patient's maximum contribution ratio is 20%.	281 person-times ⁴	4.293 ⁵	The programme has been incorporated into the regular mechanism of the SF with effect from 1 September 2012.

⁴ The programme ceased operation on 31 August 2012, and this is the actual figure of the beneficiary statistics.

⁵ The programme ceased operation on 31 August 2012, and this is the actual expenditure of the programme.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
<p>(12) Subsidy for non-school-attending ethnic minorities and new arrivals from the Mainland participating in language courses</p> <p>(A subsidy of \$350 to \$700 is provided for participating in dedicated language courses of the Employees Retraining Board)</p>	March 2012	0.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Passed the family/household-based means-test establishing eligibility for CSSA Scheme, student financial assistance schemes or HA Medical Fee Waiving Mechanism; or ● household income below 75% of the Median Monthly Domestic Household Income. 	171 persons	0.061	<p>The programme has been incorporated into HAD's regular support service with effect from late September 2013.</p> <p>The processing of all applications received under the programme had been completed. The total expenditure of the programme is \$0.128 million, including \$0.061 million for disbursement of subsidy and \$0.067 million for administrative expenses (mainly for the one-off expenses on the production of posters, leaflets and application forms).</p>

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
(13) Subsidy for low-income elderly tenants in private housing (A subsidy of \$4,000 for one-person elderly household; \$8,000 for two-person elderly household; and \$12,000 for three-or-more-person elderly household)	July 2012 (A one-off subsidy programme with the application period closed on 31 January 2013)	11.89	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Elderly households aged 65 or above; ● not receiving CSSA; ● household income and rent not exceeding the specified limits; and ● not owning any property in Hong Kong. 	2 095 households (2 599 persons)	Around 10.4	The evaluation results were reported to the CoP in May 2013. The programme has been completed.
(14) After-school care pilot scheme (The subsidy cap for each project is \$500,000)	September 2012 (a three-school year programme)	108.75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Primary one to Secondary three students receiving CSSA or SFAA full grant (expanded to cover Primary one to Secondary three students receiving half grant in 2013/14 school year); and ● participating schools or non-government 	18 798 person-times	Around 63.57	In 2013/14 school year, a total of 93 schools and NGOs participated in the programme. The CoP in March 2014 approved to extend the implementation of the scheme to the 2014/15 school year. The evaluation results

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
			organisations (NGOs) have discretion to include needy students who do not meet the above criteria, but the number of these students should not exceed 25% of the total number of student beneficiaries.			were reported to the CoP in March 2014.
(15) Elderly dental assistance programme (A maximum subsidy of \$ 13,140 for dental services for each beneficiary (including \$8,800 for dentures, \$4,285 for denture-related dental care and \$55 for registration and dental	September 2012 (expected to be a two-year programme)	100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Aged 60 or above; ● not receiving CSSA; and ● users of the IHCS or “Enhanced Home and Community Care Services” subvented by the Social Welfare Department (SWD) as at 31 December 2012 and are paying level 1 or level 2 fee 	899 persons	Around 6.3	<p>1 127 eligible elders have been referred to receive the dental services under the programme.</p> <p>The interim evaluation results were reported to the CoP in September 2013.</p> <p>The CCF Task Force has set up a working</p>

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
check-up), a referral fee of \$50 for each referral by NGOs, and an accompanying service fee of \$70 per hour based on the actual duration of accompanying service provided (if applicable))			charge of the above services.			group to consider expanding progressively the eligibility criteria of the programme, taking into account the progress of implementation and the experience gained, as well as factors such as the number of participating dentists.
(16) Subsidy for owners' corporations of old buildings (Eligible owners' corporations can be granted a subsidy with the total amount capped at \$20,000 for relevant expenditure items on an accountable basis)	October 2012 (a three-year programme)	67.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Residential or composite buildings aged 30 years or above; and ● average rateable value of the residential units does not exceed \$120,000 for urban area and \$92,000 for New Territories. 	977 owners' corporations	Around 4.65	<p>Among the 4 400 eligible owners' corporations, about 2870 have indicated their intention to make an application.</p> <p>The progress of evaluation will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.</p>

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
<p>(17) Subsidy for low-income persons who are inadequately housed</p> <p>(A subsidy of \$3,000 for one-person household; \$6,000 for two-person household; and \$8,000 for three-or-more-person household)</p>	October 2012 (a one-off subsidy programme with the application period closed on 8 April 2013)	174.43	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Persons renting on a monthly basis rooms/cubicles, cocklofts or bedspaces in private permanent housing; persons renting bedspaces offered under HAD's Singleton Hostel Programme; persons residing in temporary housing; or homeless persons; ● household income and rent not exceeding the specified limits; ● not receiving CSSA; and ● not owning any property in Hong Kong. 	<p>25 768 households</p> <p>(59 016 persons)</p>	Around 150.2	The evaluation results were reported to the CoP in May 2013.
(18) Special subsidy to persons with severe physical	January 2013 (extension of implementation)	9.68	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Renting respiratory support medical equipment without 	150 persons	Around 2.56	The evaluation results were reported to the CoP in March 2014.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
<p>disabilities for renting respiratory support medical equipment</p> <p>(According to the monthly household income and annual household disposable financial resources, the subsidy is disbursed in “full grant” (\$2,500 or \$2,000 per month); “three-quarters” (\$1,875 or \$1,500 per month) or “half grant” (\$1,250 or \$1,000 per month))</p>	<p>in September 2013 and further extension in May 2014)</p>		<p>any relevant assistance, at the same time living in the community and receiving HDA under the SSA Scheme; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● household income not exceeding 150% of the Median Monthly Domestic Household Income and the annual household disposable financial resources not exceeding \$180,000. 			<p>As announced in the Policy Address 2014, the programme will be incorporated into the Government’s regular assistance programme in 2014-15.</p> <p>The CoP approved in March 2014 to extend the programme during the transitional period prior to its regularisation. Eligible persons may receive the subsidy at most up to October 2014.</p>
<p>(19) Special subsidy to persons with severe physical disabilities for purchasing medical consumables</p>	<p>September 2013 (extension of implementation in May 2014)</p>	<p>10.9</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Using respiratory support medical equipment without receiving any relevant subsidy to purchase related 	<p>105 persons</p>	<p>Around 0.66</p>	<p>The evaluation results were reported to the CoP in March 2014.</p> <p>As announced in the Policy Address 2014,</p>

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
<p>related to respiratory support medical equipment</p> <p>(According to monthly household income, the subsidy is disbursed in “full grant” (a maximum of \$2,000 per month); “three-quarters” (a maximum of \$1,500 per month) or “half grant” (a maximum of \$1,000 per month))</p>			<p>medical consumables, at the same time living in the community and receiving HDA under the SSA Scheme; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● household income not exceeding 150% of the Median Monthly Domestic Household Income and the annual household disposable financial resources not exceeding \$180,000. 			<p>the programme will be incorporated into the Government’s regular assistance programme in 2014-15.</p> <p>The CoP approved in March 2014 to extend the programme during the transitional period prior to its regularisation. Eligible persons may receive the subsidy at most up to October 2014.</p>
<p>(20) Extra travel subsidy for needy special school students</p> <p>(The enhanced travel subsidy is 50% of the amount of travel</p>	October 2013 (a two-school year programme)	3.64	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Needy special school students from Primary one to Secondary six who are physically disabled, visually impaired, hearing impaired, mildly, 	1 731 persons	Around 1.66	<p>As at 31 May 2014, subsidy was disbursed to all 1 731 primary and secondary students receiving grant of STS from SFAA.</p> <p>The evaluation results</p>

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
subsidy an eligible student can receive on top of the Student Travel Subsidy (STS) disbursed by SFAA)			moderately or severely intellectually disabled, and are receiving full grant or half grant of STS from SFAA.			will be reported to the CCF Task Force in the future.
(21) Enhancement of the flat rate grant under the School Textbook Assistance Scheme (STAS) (An additional grant of \$1,000 or \$500, depending on the conditions)	October 2013 (a one-school year programme)	292.47	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Primary and secondary students receiving full and half grant under the STAS (an additional grant of \$1,000 and \$500 respectively for each student); and ● primary and secondary students on CSSA (an additional grant of \$1,000 for each student) 	311 880 persons (including 235 188 students meeting the eligibility criteria for the STAS under SFAA and 76 692 students on CSSA)	Around 262.69 (including around \$186.05 million disbursed by SFAA and around \$76.64 million disbursed by SWD)	As at 31 May 2014, subsidy was disbursed to over 99% of the 313 400 primary and secondary students who are receiving grant under the STAS or on CSSA. The completed evaluation results will be reported to the CoP. As announced in the Policy Address 2014, the programme will be incorporated into the Government's regular

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
						assistance programme in 2014-15.
(22) Enhancement of the financial assistance for needy students pursuing programmes below sub-degree level (Including the “Tuition Fee Reimbursement Scheme” and the “Flat-rate Academic Expense Grant”)	October 2013 (a one-school year programme)	64.89	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Target beneficiaries of the “Tuition Fee Reimbursement Scheme” are students enrolling in eligible courses below sub-degree level; ● target beneficiaries of the “Flat-rate Academic Expense Grant” are students enrolling in eligible courses with duration of one year or above; the grant amount will be on par with the enhanced flat-rate grant receivable by eligible primary and secondary students after enhancement 	<p>Tuition Fee Reimbursement Scheme: 2 540 persons</p> <p>Flat-rate Academic Expense Grant : 4 238 persons (including 2 610 Vocational Training Council (VTC) students and 1 628 Yi Jin Diploma students)</p>	<p>Tuition Fee Reimbursement Scheme: Around 40.05</p> <p>Flat-rate Academic Expense Grant : Around 7.14 (including \$4.33 million for VTC students and \$2.81 million for Yi Jin Diploma students)</p>	<p>Disbursement of subsidy by VTC is in progress.</p> <p>As at 31 May 2014, flat-rate academic expense grant was disbursed to all 1 628 Yi Jin Diploma students who passed the means test of SFAA.</p> <p>The completed evaluation results will be reported to the CoP.</p> <p>As announced in the Policy Address 2014, the programme will be incorporated into the Government’s regular assistance programme</p>

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
			(i.e. \$2,094 and \$1,047 for each full-grant and half-grant student respectively) in the 2013/14 school year.			in 2014-15.
(23) One-off living subsidy for low-income households not living in public housing and not receiving CSSA (A subsidy of \$3,500 for one-person household; \$7,000 for two-person household; and \$10,000 for three-or-more-person household)	December 2013	638.33	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Persons renting on a monthly basis private permanent housing, industrial buildings or commercial buildings; persons renting bedspaces offered under HAD's Singleton Hostel Programme; persons residing in temporary housing; homeless persons; or persons residing in vessels; ● monthly household income and rent not exceeding the 	33 223 households (76 487 persons)	Around 236	<p>As at 31 May 2014, the CCF Secretariat has received around 19 600 replies from the old application households confirming their eligibility and 22 300 new applications.</p> <p>The progress on evaluation will be reported to the CCF Task Force in future.</p> <p>As announced in the Policy Address 2014, CCF will be invited to consider the possible provision of a one-off</p>

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
			specified limits; ● not receiving CSSA; and ● not owning any property in Hong Kong.			subsidy for those low-income households not living in public rental housing and not receiving CSSA (known colloquially as the “n have-nots”).
(24) Incentive scheme to further encourage CSSA recipients of the Integrated Employment Assistance Programme for Self-reliance (IEAPS) to secure employment	April 2014 (a three-year programme)	226.62	● CSSA recipients of the IEAPS.	1 811 ⁶	Around 2.21 ⁷	The second meeting of the working group set up under the CCF Task Force was held on 22 May 2014 to follow up the implementation progress of the incentive scheme and its evaluation study.

⁶ This is the number of participants randomly selected from the IEAPS cases who agree to participate in the incentive scheme as at 31 May 2014. SWD will continue to invite randomly selected CSSA recipients to join the Scheme.

⁷ The disbursement is for payment of service fees to the NGOs which assist in implementing the incentive scheme.

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
<p>(25) Pilot scheme on living allowance for carers of the elderly persons from low income families</p> <p>(A monthly subsidy of \$2,000 would be given to each eligible carer who takes care of one elderly person and a maximum of \$4,000 each for those who take care of more than one elderly person at the same time.)</p>	<p>Scheduled for the second quarter of 2014 (a two-year pilot scheme)</p>	<p>126</p>	<p>Carer of the elderly person should meet the following eligibility criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● the elderly person(s) being taken care of should be living in Hong Kong and assessed by Standardised Care Need Assessment Mechanism for Elderly Services to have impairment at moderate level or above, and waiting for subsidised long term care services before a specified date; ● the elderly person(s) being taken care of is/are not using any residential care service; ● be capable of taking up the care-giving 	<p>Programme not yet implemented</p>	<p>Programme not yet implemented</p>	<p>SWD is making preparation for the pilot scheme, and had invited the concerned NGOs on 28 May 2014 to become service providers to assist in the implementation of the pilot scheme.</p>

Assistance programme (Disbursement amount)	Implementation date	Funding provision (\$ million)	Major eligibility criteria	Beneficiary statistics (as at 31 May 2014)	Disbursements (\$ million) (as at 31 May 2014)	Progress and evaluation
			<p>work, and is required to provide at least 80 hours of care-giving per month (or not less than 120 hours per month for taking care of more than one elderly person);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● be a Hong Kong resident not engaging in any form of employment relationship with the elderly person(s) of whom he/she is taking care of; ● not receiving CSSA or Old Age Living Allowance; and ● monthly household income not exceeding 75% of the Median Monthly Domestic Household Income. 			