Panel on Welfare Services

List of outstanding items for discussion

(position as at 11 January 2019)

Proposed timing for discussion

1. Proposal to create a Senior Principal Executive Officer post in the Social Welfare Department to head the new Planning and Development Branch

Item proposed by the Administration.

14 January 2019

The Social Welfare Department proposes to create a Senior Principal Executive Officer post to head the new Planning and Development Branch to formulate departmental policies and procedures and oversee all matters relating to premises planning welfare and works implementation, premises management maintenance, and monitoring the uses of lands held by non-governmental organizations under private treaty, etc. The consultation with the Panel will be followed by a submission to the Establishment Sub-committee and approval by the Finance Committee.

2. Evaluation Study of the Pilot Scheme on On-site Pre-school Rehabilitation Services

Item proposed by the Administration.

14 January 2019

The Administration will brief members on the key findings and recommendations of an Evaluation Study on the Pilot Scheme on On-site Pre-school Rehabilitation Services.

3. Review of Compassionate Rehousing

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and 14 January 2019 Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

4. Consultancy Study on the Long-term Development of Child Care Services

At its meeting on 10 December 2018, the Panel discussed the final report of the Consultancy Study on the Long-term Development of Child Care Services ("Final Report"). The Panel has to Dr Hon Fernando acceded **CHEUNG** Chiu-hung's (LC Paper No. request CB(2)418/18-19(01)) to receive public views on the Final Report at a special meeting of the Panel.

19 January 2019

Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin would also like to discuss how the Administration could assist and support carers as well as improve child care services.

5. Welfare of elderly persons aged between 60 and 64

Hon KWONG Chun-yu, Hon SHIU Ka-chun and Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun have requested the Panel to discuss the captioned subject.

11 February 2019

6. Policies on preventing abuse of elderly persons and of persons with intellectual disability

The Panel of the Fifth Legislative Council ("the former Panel") suggested that the Panel should discuss policies on preventing abuse of elderly persons in residential care homes ("RCHs") and of persons with intellectual disability in schools/hostels for persons with intellectual disability.

11 February 2019

7. Review of supplements and special grants under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun. Specifically, these members would like to discuss the provision of special grants for purchase of spectacles.

11 February 2019

8. Support for carers of elderly persons and of persons with disabilities

Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin have jointly requested the Panel to meet with deputations and the Administration on policies in relation to carers (LC Paper No. CB(2)1792/17-18(01)). Specifically, these members would like to discuss, inter alia, how the Administration could assist and support carers.

22 February 2019

Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun also proposed to discuss provision of carer allowance to support carers of elderly persons and of persons with disabilities.

A special meeting will be held to discuss and receive public views on the subject matter.

9. Provision of relocation allowance for poor households

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

11 March 2019

Hon KWONG Chun-yu has suggested that a joint meeting with the Panel on Home Affairs ("HA Panel") should be held to discuss the item.

10. Review of effectiveness of Community Investment and Inclusion Fund

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and 11 March 2019 Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

11. Review of Hong Kong's poverty situation and setting of target for poverty elimination

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

March 2019

Hon KWONG Chun-yu has suggested that the Panel should discuss and receive public views on

the subject matter.

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

Item proposed by the Administration.

First quarter/ second quarter of 2019

13. Annual briefing on welfare facility projects funded by Lotteries Fund

Item proposed by the Administration.

15 April 2019

14. Strengthening the monitoring of residential care homes for the elderly and residential care homes for persons with disabilities and enhancing their service quality

Item proposed by the Administration.

15 April 2019

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung has requested the Panel to discuss the report of the Social Welfare Department's Working Group on the Review of Ordinances and Codes of Practice for Residential Care Homes to review the Residential Care Homes (Elderly Persons) Ordinance (Cap. 459), Residential Care Homes (Persons with Disabilities) Ordinance (Cap. 613) and the related codes of practice.

15. Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses

Item proposed by the Administration.

April/May 2019

16. Social welfare service planning for new development areas

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and 20 May 2019 Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

17. Review of effectiveness of the Working Family Allowance Scheme

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and 10 June 2019 Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

18. Emergency welfare measures and community services for handling typhoons

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and 10 June 2019 Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

Hon KWONG Chun-yu has suggested that the item should be discussed at a joint meeting with the HA Panel.

"Review of the Administration's response to typhoons" is on the list of outstanding items for discussion by the Panel on Security.

19. Review of effectiveness of social services provided for ethnic minorities

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and 10 June 2019 Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

Hon SHIU Ka-chun has suggested that mainstreaming of social services for ethnic minorities should also be discussed and 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 bureaux/departments on support for ethnic minorities.

20. Support for divorced families and recovery of maintenance payments

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

10 June 2019

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

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

Item proposed by the Administration.

8 July 2019

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

22. Pilot Scheme on Social Work Service for Pre-primary Institutions

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

8 July 2019

The Panel has discussed and received public views on the subject matter at its special meeting on 22 June 2018.

Services for elderly

23. Care services for elderly persons with special needs

The Subcommittee on Issues Relating to the Future Development of Elderly Services Schemes formed under 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

To be decided

well as elderly persons from ethnic minorities and from sexual minorities.

24. Infirmary care in non-hospital setting

The Administration consulted the Panel of the Third Legislative Council ("LegCo") in December 2004 on a proposal to launch a trial scheme to provide infirmary care places for medically stable elders in a non-hospital setting. Various options are being explored, including upgrading some of the places in subvented RCHs for the elderly to provide infirmary care. The Administration will report the progress in due course.

To be decided

25. Welfare of elderly persons living alone

Item proposed by Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki.

To be decided

26. Improving the quality of manpower for residential care homes

Item proposed by Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung.

To be decided

27. Provision of an additional 1 000 vouchers under the Second Phase of the Pilot Scheme on Community Care Service Voucher for the Elderly

Item proposed by Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung.

To be decided

28. Provision of welfare service premises for the elderly and enhancement of facilities therein

Item proposed by Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che.

To be decided

29. Old Age Living Allowance

Item proposed by Hon Michael TIEN.

To be decided

Hon Michael TIEN would like to discuss enhancement of the Old Age Living Allowance.

Welfare services for youth and children

30. Child protection policy and a proposed Member's bill on such policy

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung has requested the Panel to discuss child protection policy and his proposed Member's bill on such policy, which will soon be presented to the Panel for consideration.

To be decided

31. Welfare measures for facilitating children and youth development

The former Panel agreed to explore whether to discuss the issue "Exploring a way out for young people in respect of welfare, education and employment, etc. under deep-rooted social conflicts in light of the Mongkok Riot occurred on 8 February 2016".

To be decided

Hon SHIU Ka-chun has suggested discussing as soon as possible the captioned subject matter which also covers the issue mentioned above.

32. 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 Panel on Education ("ED Panel") should be held in the 2018-2019 session 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.

33. 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.

34. 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

Women-related issues (e.g. measures to unleash women workforce, female employees receiving less pay than male employees for equal work, long working hours, etc.)

Item proposed by Miss CHAN Yuen-han.

To be decided

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

37. Proposal for formation of a subcommittee on issues relating to welfare of persons with disabilities

Item proposed by Miss CHAN Yuen-han.

To be decided

38. Community care and support services for persons with disabilities

The former Panel acceded to Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung's request (LC Paper No. CB(2)401/15-16(02)) for discussion of issues relating to community care and support services for persons with disabilities.

To be decided

The Panel acceded to Hon YUNG Hoi-yan's request (LC Paper No. CB(2)253/16-17(01)) for discussion of issues relating to autistic adults.

Welfare issues relating to students with special educational needs

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

To be decided

40. Arrangements made and support measures provided by the Social Welfare Department in relation to households living in inadequate housing and the homeless

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

Hon KWONG Chun-yu has suggested that representatives from HAB should also be invited for discussing this item.

The Subcommittee to Follow Up Issues Related to Inadequate Housing and Relevant Housing Policies formed under the Panel on Housing ("HG Panel") has held its first meeting on

14 December 2018.

41. Regularization of living subsidy programme for households not living in public housing and not receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance

Item proposed by Hon Michael TIEN.

To be decided

Social welfare planning and administration

42. Social welfare planning

Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che suggested that the former Panel should discuss social welfare planning.

To be decided

The former Panel 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 as soon as possible.

Miss CHAN Yuen-han suggested that the Panel should consider discussing the subject of setting targets for the provision of hostels for mentally handicapped persons, e.g. setting a target waiting time and a specific percentage of the total area of a new public housing project for such provision.

Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan suggested that the Panel should discuss planning targets for the provision of child care places and residential care places for elderly persons and persons with disabilities.

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

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun.

To be decided

44. Management of projects financed by Lotteries Fund

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun. The item was covered in the Public Accounts Committee ("PAC") Report No. 68 published in July 2017. A Government Minute, with details of the Government's responses, was tabled at LegCo on 18 October 2017.

To be decided

45. Manpower planning for provision of social welfare services

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

Others

46. 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 is coordinating comments from relevant bureaux and departments for 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 is planning to report progress to the AJLS Panel later when the responses are ready.

The monitoring of charitable fund-raising activities was covered in PAC Report No. 68 published in July 2017. A Government Minute, with details of the Government's responses, was tabled at LegCo on 18 October 2017.

47. 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.

48. 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.

49. 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 HG Panel and the Panel were held on 4 June and 6 July 2018 to receive public views on tenancy control.

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