

Panel on Welfare Services

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 19 November 2020)

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

1. Annual adjustment of social security payment rates under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme and the Social Security Allowance Scheme, and issues relating to rent allowance under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Scheme

Item proposed by the Administration.

23 November 2020

Hon Alice MAK suggested at the special meeting on 3 November 2020 that the time and manpower required by the Social Welfare Department ("SWD") to vet and approve applications for the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance and the relevant manpower arrangements should be discussed.

2. Study of support for carers

Item proposed by the Administration.

23 November 2020

(Note: Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun suggested in the 2019-2020 session that welfare support for carers should be discussed.

The Panel received views from relevant deputations and individuals on "Support for carers and provision of residential care services for persons with disabilities" at its special meeting on 23 September 2020.

At the special meeting on 3 November 2020, Hon Elizabeth QUAT requested the Administration to report to the Panel on the future plan of the relevant work as soon as possible. Dr Hon Helena WONG also

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

proposed discussing the review of the "Pilot Scheme on Living Allowance for Low-income Carers of Persons with Disabilities" and the "Pilot Scheme on Living Allowance for Carers of Elderly Persons from Low-income Families".

Hon Elizabeth QUAT suggested via her letter dated 12 November 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)316/20-21(01)) that "Welfare support for carers" should be discussed.)

3. Briefing by the Secretary for Labour and Welfare and the Secretary for Home Affairs on the Chief Executive's 2020 Policy Address

The Administration will brief the Panel on the relevant policy initiatives in the Chief Executive's 2020 Policy Address.

14 December 2020

4. Proposed amendments to the Residential Care Homes (Elderly Persons) Ordinance (Cap. 459) and the Residential Care Homes (Persons with Disabilities) Ordinance (Cap. 613)

The Administration will amend the Residential Care Homes (Elderly Persons) Ordinance (Cap. 459), the Residential Care Homes (Persons with Disabilities) Ordinance (Cap. 613) and their subsidiary legislation for implementing the improvement proposals put forward by the Working Group on the Review of Ordinances and Codes of Practice for Residential Care Homes set up by SWD, with a view to enhancing the service quality of residential care services.

First quarter of 2021

(Note: Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG suggested via his letter dated 21 October 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)144/20-21(03)) that the item should be discussed, and deputations and individuals should be invited to give their views.)

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Hon SHIU Ka-chun suggested at the special meeting on 3 November 2020 that the Administration's proposal of relaxing the requirement stipulated in the Residential Care Homes (Elderly Persons) Regulation (Cap. 459A) that no part of a residential care home for the elderly should be situated at a height more than 24 metres above the ground floor should be discussed.

Hon Elizabeth QUAT also suggested via her letter dated 12 November 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)316/20-21(01)) that "Improvement to services of residential care homes for persons with disabilities" should be discussed.

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

Item proposed by the Administration.

Second quarter of
2021

(Note: Hon SHIU Ka-chun proposed discussing "Review of effectiveness of Social Welfare Development Fund" under this item. Hon KWONG Chun-yu also suggested receiving views from the public.)

6. Annual briefing on welfare facility projects funded by the Lotteries Fund

Item proposed by the Administration.

April 2021

(Note: Hon SHIU Ka-chun suggested at the special meeting on 3 November 2020 that the utilization of the Fund should be discussed.)

7. Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses

Item proposed by the Administration.

May 2021

(Note: The Panel discussed the item at its

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

meeting on 8 June 2020.)

8. Progress of purchase of premises for welfare uses

Item proposed by the Administration.

2021-2022 session

Services for elderly

9. Updating of the Standardised Care Need Assessment Mechanism for Elderly Services

Hon SHIU Ka-chun, Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG and Hon Andrew WAN suggested in the 2018-2019 session that the item should be discussed and deputations should be invited to give their views.

To be confirmed

An information paper entitled "Updating of the Standardised Care Need Assessment Mechanism for Elderly Services" provided by the Administration (LC Paper No. CB(2)1316/19-20(01)) was issued to members on 7 July 2020.

10. 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 on Welfare Services of the Fifth Legislative Council ("the former Panel") suggested in its report (LC Paper No. CB(2)1902/15-16) 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 ethnic minorities and from sexual minorities.

To be confirmed

Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki suggested in the 2018-2019 session that welfare for elderly

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

persons living alone should be discussed.

11. Old Age Living Allowance

Hon Michael TIEN suggested via his letter dated 12 October 2018 (LC Paper No. CB(2)102/18-19(01)) that enhancement of the Old Age Living Allowance should be discussed.

To be confirmed

12. Pilot Scheme on Residential Care Service Voucher for the Elderly

Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun suggested in the 2019-2020 session that the progress of the Scheme should be discussed and relevant deputations should be invited to give their views.

To be confirmed

Hon Wilson OR suggested at the special meeting on 3 November 2020 that the effectiveness of the Scheme should be discussed.

13. 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 in the 2019-2020 session.

To be confirmed

14. Ratio of places in private residential care homes for the elderly to those in subsidized residential care homes for the elderly

Item proposed by Hon LEUNG Che-cheung at the special meeting on 3 November 2020.

To be confirmed

15. Enhancement of community care and support services for the elderly and residential care services for the elderly

Item proposed by Dr Hon Helena WONG at the

To be confirmed

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

special meeting on 3 November 2020. Hon Elizabeth QUAT suggested via her letter dated 12 November 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)316/20-21(01)) that "Enhancement of services for the elderly" should be discussed.

Welfare services for youth and children

16. Welfare measures for facilitating children and youth development

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun in the 2016-2017 session.

To be confirmed

17. Welfare issues relating to students with special educational needs

Item proposed by Hon Alvin YEUNG in the 2016-2017 session. He suggested that the Panel on Education ("ED Panel") should be invited to join the discussion.

To be confirmed

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG suggested via his letter dated 31 January 2019 (LC Paper No. CB(2)743/18-19(01)) 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 the tendering arrangements made by the Education Bureau ("EDB") for provision of hearing aids.

18. Provision of social workers in schools

The Panel 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 suggested in the 2018-2019 session that the provision of social workers in kindergartens should be discussed.

To be confirmed

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Hon KWONG Chun-yu suggested that the Panel should hold a joint meeting with the ED Panel to discuss the allocation of funding for increasing the number of school social workers to two per secondary school as announced in the 2019-2020 Budget, and representatives from EDB should be invited to attend the meeting.

19. Work progress of the Commission on Children

Item proposed by Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG via his letter dated 27 May 2019 (LC Paper No. CB(2)1552/18-19(01)).

To be confirmed

20. Mental health of children and adolescents and related community support services

Given that mental health of children and adolescents is a key area of discussion of the Advisory Committee on Mental Health, Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki suggested in the 2017-2018 session that a joint meeting with the Panel on Health Services ("HS Panel") and the ED Panel should be held to discuss issues relating to mental health and related community support services and the work progress of the Advisory Committee. He 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.

To be confirmed

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 also discussed "Mental health of children and adolescents" at a joint meeting on 23 April 2018.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun suggested in the 2018-2019 session that service arrangements for Integrated Community Centres for Mental Wellness arising from extension of the scope of their service to cover all secondary school students should also be discussed under this item.

21. 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 in the 2018-2019 session.

To be confirmed

22. Mandatory reporting mechanism for and prevention of child abuse

Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun suggested in the 2019-2020 session that the Panel should discuss this item and invite the public to give views on the subject matter.

To be confirmed

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

Hon Elizabeth QUAT suggested via her letter dated 12 November 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)316/20-21(01)) that the Panel should

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

discuss "Prevention of child abuse".

23. Child care services

Item proposed by Dr Hon Helena WONG at the special meeting on 3 November 2020.

To be confirmed

Hon Elizabeth QUAT also suggested via her letter dated 12 November 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)316/20-21(01)) that the Panel should discuss "Strengthening of community child-minding services".

24. Support for youth and children services

Item proposed by Hon Wilson OR at the special meeting on 3 November 2020.

To be confirmed

Women welfare

25. The work of the Women's Commission and the Equal Opportunities Commission in the implementation of Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Item proposed by Hon Elizabeth QUAT via her letter dated 12 November 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)316/20-21(01)).

To be confirmed

Item referred by the Panel on Constitutional Affairs ("CA Panel") on 26 October 2017 (LC Paper No. CB(2)232/17-18(01)). Members of the CA Panel will be invited to attend the discussion.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Support for underprivileged groups with special needs in the community

26. Review of the Government Public Transport Fare Concession Scheme for the Elderly and Eligible Persons with Disabilities

Item proposed by Hon Michael TIEN via his letter dated 12 October 2018 (LC Paper No. CB(2)102/18-19(01)) that the coverage of the Scheme should be extended to cover red minibuses and non-franchized buses providing residents' services.

To be confirmed

27. Living subsidy programme for households not living in public housing and not receiving Comprehensive Social Security Assistance

Hon Michael TIEN suggested via his letter dated 12 October 2018 (LC Paper No. CB(2)102/18-19(01)) 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 confirmed

The Panel on Home Affairs ("HA Panel") discussed CCF which covered the captioned programme at its meetings on 3 December 2019, 8 June and 9 November 2020. Members of the Panel were invited to join the discussion of CCF.

28. Provision and accreditation of sign language interpretation services

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun in the 2019-2020 session.

To be confirmed

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

29. Progress of extending the coverage of the Government Public Transport Fare Concession Scheme for the Elderly and Eligible Persons with Disabilities to persons aged between 60 and 64

Item proposed by Hon LEUNG Che-cheung via his letter dated 21 October 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)144/20-21(02)). Hon Alice MAK also suggested at the special meeting on 3 November 2020 that the item should be discussed.

To be confirmed

Hon Elizabeth QUAT also made the same suggestion via her letter dated 12 November 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)316/20-21(01)).

30. Progress of building age-friendly community and disabled-friendly community

Item proposed by Hon Wilson OR at the special meeting on 3 November 2020.

To be confirmed

31. Unemployment assistance

Item proposed by Hon Andrew WAN at the special meeting on 3 November 2020.

To be confirmed

The House Committee endorsed at its meeting on 30 October 2020 to set up under its purview the Subcommittee on Unemployment Financial Assistance, which is pending activation. Separately, the Panel on Manpower endorsed at its meeting on 17 November 2020 the proposal for appointment of a subcommittee under its purview to study the setting up of an unemployment assistance system in Hong Kong.

32. Review of the Working Family Allowance Scheme

Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU

To be confirmed

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

Ka-chun suggested in the 2019-2020 session that the review of the effectiveness of the Scheme should be discussed.

Hon Alice MAK suggested at the special meeting on 3 November 2020 that the review of the working hour requirements under the Scheme should be discussed.

33. Support for victims of domestic violence and sexual violence

Hon Elizabeth QUAT suggested via her letter dated 12 November 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(2)316/20-21(01)) that the Panel should discuss the following related items:

To be confirmed

- Strengthening education against domestic violence and providing support for families at risk of domestic violence; and
- Setting up of sexual violence crisis support centres.

(Note: The Panel discussed and received views from relevant deputations on "Providing crisis support for sexual violence victims" at its meeting on 9 December 2019.)

Social welfare planning and administration

34. Planning for social welfare policies

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 the progress of the subject matter.

To be confirmed

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

- 35. Manpower planning for provision of social welfare services**
- Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun in the 2018-2019 session. To be confirmed
- 36. Amending the Social Workers Registration Ordinance (Cap. 505)**
- Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun in the 2019-2020 session. To be confirmed
- 37. Progress of the implementation of the Best Practice Manual among non-governmental organizations receiving Lump Sum Grant Subvention**
- Item proposed by the Administration in the 2018-2019 session. To be confirmed
- 38. Provision of social work services in old districts**
- Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun in the 2019-2020 session. They suggested that services provided under SWD's Integrated Family Services Centres and Neighbourhood Level Community Development Projects in old districts should be discussed, and representatives from Home Affairs Bureau ("HAB") should be invited to join the relevant discussion. To be confirmed
- 39. Issues relating to the employment of social workers by the Social Welfare Department**
- Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun at the special meeting on 3 November 2020. To be confirmed

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

40. Planning for the provision of welfare facilities in new development areas

Item proposed by Hon Wilson OR at the special meeting on 3 November 2020.

To be confirmed

The Panel discussed "Planning for the provision of welfare facilities in new districts" at its meeting on 13 January 2020.

Others

41. Charitable fund-raising activities

The Panel discussed the existing framework for the monitoring of charitable fund-raising activities at its meeting on 11 June 2007, and held a special meeting on 24 August 2011 to receive public views on the Consultation Paper on Charities released by the Charities Subcommittee under the Law Reform Commission ("LRC").

To be confirmed

On 6 December 2013, LRC released the report and put forth a recommendation on monitoring charitable fund-raising activities. HAB was assigned to coordinate inputs from relevant bureaux and departments and report the progress to LRC, which would in turn submit an annual report on the progress of implementation of its recommendations to the AJLS Panel.

(Note: According to the annual report submitted by LRC to the AJLS Panel in June 2020 (LC Paper No. CB(4)715/19-20(01)), the Government had introduced a series of administrative measures by phases on 1 August 2018 and 1 April 2019, with a view to enhancing the transparency of charitable fund-raising activities, safeguarding the interests of donors and facilitating the conduct of fund-raising activities.)

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

42. Community development policy

Item proposed by Hon SHIU Ka-chun in the 2018-2019 session.

To be confirmed

The Panel discussed and received deputations' views on "Community development policy and services" at its meeting on 11 June 2018.

43. Partial tenancy control

Item proposed by Hon Michael TIEN via his letter dated 12 October 2018 (LC Paper No. CB(2)102/18-19(01)). He suggested that the Administration should conduct public consultation on the subject matter.

To be confirmed

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.

The Panel on Housing discussed "Study on tenancy control of subdivided units" at its meeting on 1 June 2020.

44. Emergency welfare measures and community services for handling typhoons

Item proposed by Hon KWONG Chun-yu and Hon SHIU Ka-chun in the 2019-2020 session.

To be confirmed

Hon KWONG Chun-yu further suggested that the Panel should hold a joint meeting with the HA Panel to discuss the item and invite views from relevant deputations.

The Panel on Security discussed "Review of the Government's handling of super typhoon" at its meeting on 7 May 2019.

The Panel on Development discussed "Management of typhoon season flood risk" at

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

its meeting on 26 May 2020.

45. Work progress of the Family Council

Item proposed by Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan in the 2020-2021 session. To be confirmed

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
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