

## **The Fourth Meeting of the Executive Committee on the Community Care Fund 10 October 2011**

### **Summary of Discussion**

The Executive Committee on the Community Care Fund (CCF) held its fourth meeting on 10 October 2011. A summary of the discussion were as follows:

1. Members noted that after the Steering Committee's (SC) launch of 10 assistance programmes in April 2011, CCF had rolled out 6 programmes in addition to the programme of providing allowance of \$6,000 to eligible new arrivals. Meanwhile, the Education Sub-committee and Medical Sub-committee were following up and deliberating on the programmes of "After-school Care Pilot Scheme" and "Subsidy for Dental Services for the Elderly" respectively.
2. Members supported the proposed programme of "Subsidy for new arrivals and ethnic minorities participating in language courses", on a pilot basis, to provide a subsidy to non-school-attending ethnic minorities and new arrivals who enrolled in part-time language training courses run by the Employees' Retraining Board (ERB) and attained an attendance rate of over 80%, so as to encourage them to complete the courses. Members' deliberations on the proposed programme were as follows:
  - (1) Regarding the proposal of commissioning implementing agencies to receive applications and arrange the disbursement of subsidy, certain members opined that the implementing agencies should maintain close contact with the training institution, so as to vet applications effectively.
  - (2) Regarding the means test criteria, the household income of beneficiaries should not exceed 75% of the median monthly domestic household income applicable to their relevant household size, or that the household of such beneficiaries should have passed the means tests of specified assistance schemes.
3. Members supported the proposed programme of "Relocation allowance to residents of sub-divided units in industrial buildings who would have to

move out as a result of the Buildings Department's (BD) enforcement action".

4. Members noted the difference between residing in sub-divided units in industrial buildings and residing in sub-divided units in residential or composite buildings (private buildings). Industrial buildings were not designed for residential purposes, and as such they were different from ordinary residential properties in terms of design and facility requirements. Moreover, industrial activities might be ongoing in other industrial building units, thereby highly endangering the lives of the residents in those sub-divided units. Therefore, BD planned to carry out large-scale enforcement actions. Members' deliberations on the proposed programme were as follows:
  - (1) To discourage the households concerned from moving back to sub-divided units in industrial buildings, in the course of implementation of the programme, all households receiving the allowance should be clearly informed that no further allowance would be given.
  - (2) If sub-divided units were offered for lease in the relevant industrial buildings again, new households that moved into these sub-divided units would not be given any subsidy.
  - (3) The programme should adopt the same means test criteria of other CCF programmes, i.e. the household income of beneficiaries should not exceed 75% of the median monthly domestic household income applicable to their relevant household size.
5. Members noted that the sub-committees were beginning to deliberate on the next round of CCF assistance programmes and public consultation forum would be held for such purpose.