

**The Sixth Meeting of the Welfare Sub-committee on  
the Community Care Fund  
26 March 2012**

**Summary of Discussion**

The Welfare Sub-committee on the Community Care Fund (CCF) held its sixth meeting on 26 March 2012. A summary of discussion is as follows:

1. Members noted the progress of the programme of “Lunch subsidy at schools for students from low-income families”. With the Student Financial Assistance Agency (SFAA) raising the income and asset limits for its student financial assistance schemes, the current number of beneficiaries had increased by over 5 000 students from 56 500 students as at the last November.
2. Members noted the progress of the programme of “Relocation allowance for residents of sub-divided units in industrial buildings”. As for the case of Tai Kok Tsui’s Larch Street, the Buildings Department (BD) had received 41 applications, of which 37 were eligible for some \$83,000 of allowances in aggregate. All applicants had received the relocation allowance. The social work team of BD had helped the residents concerned to find new homes and had also joined hands with other government departments and voluntary groups to work out measures to help the residents relocate.
3. Members noted the progress of the five assistance programmes implemented by the Social Welfare Department (SWD):
  - The programme of “Subsidy for elders from low-income families to hire household cleaning service and escorting service for medical consultations” received fewer applications than expected. Some members advised SWD to discuss with the relevant service organisations on further explaining the programme details and clarifying misunderstandings with elders, as well as considering extension of the programme’s application period.
  - Application for the programme of “Training subsidy for children who are on the waiting list of subvented pre-school rehabilitation services” had closed. SWD would keep monitoring the situation and consider whether there should be another round of application, taking into account the number of places

available from the relevant service organisations.

- The application period of the programme of “Special care subsidy for the severely disabled” had been extended to 31 March 2012. As at mid-March, SWD had received some 1 590 applications, of which 180 were submitted after the application period had been extended. SWD would evaluate the results of the programme and study its future direction, and continue to follow urgent cases in a timely manner. In addition, to strengthen the assistance provided to the severely disabled, SWD and the Hospital Authority were considering a case-based model which aimed at mitigating the financial burden of expense on healthcare equipment, healthcare consumables and care services on the severely disabled. Details of the plan were being deliberated.
4. Members noted the preparation progress of the programme of “Subsidy for low-income elderly tenants in private housing”. Members considered that the programme should be implemented as soon as possible and suggested considering to invite more neighbourhood elderly centres to assist in implementing the programme.
5. Members discussed the programme of “Subsidy for low-income persons who are inadequately housed”:
- Low-income persons (e.g. those who lived in bed-spaces, cubicle apartments, sub-divided units, temporary housing or similar environments) who were inadequately housed could be the target beneficiaries.
  - Target beneficiaries should have entered Hong Kong for settlement.
  - There was discussion on whether residents of sub-divided units with independent main entrance door could benefit from the programme. Some Members opined that if those renting rooms with independent main entrance door but with poor hygienic conditions were also covered by the programme, those renting small independent units could not be excluded either. As such, the total number of beneficiaries could increase in folds and the definition would be unclear as well.
  - The proposed subsidy amounts for one-person and two-person households were \$3,000 and \$6,000 respectively, while the proposed amount for