

**The Eighth Meeting of the Welfare Sub-committee on  
the Community Care Fund  
25 October 2012**

**Summary of Discussion**

The Welfare Sub-committee on the Community Care Fund (CCF) held its eighth meeting on 25 October 2012. A summary of discussion is as follows:

1. Members noted the progress of the programme of “Relocation allowance for residents of sub-divided units in industrial buildings”. So far, the Buildings Department (BD) had conducted inspection on sub-divided units in over 30 industrial buildings and taken enforcement action on cases of sub-divided units in 7 industrial buildings. As at the end of September, BD had disbursed a subsidy of \$243,100 to 100 eligible affected households.
2. Regarding the assistance programmes implemented by the Social Welfare Department (SWD), Members noted that:
  - SWD had completed the evaluation on the effectiveness of two programmes: “Training subsidy for children who are on the waiting list of subvented pre-school rehabilitation services” (Training subsidy) and “Subsidy for Tenant Purchase Scheme flat owners on Comprehensive Social Security Allowance”, and was deliberating the proposals on the regularisation of these two programmes;
  - SWD had formulated the evaluation proposals on the effectiveness of the following three programmes: “Subsidy for elders from low-income families to hire household cleaning service and escorting service for medical consultation” (Subsidy for cleaning service and escorting service for medical consultation), “Special care subsidy for the severely disabled” (Special care subsidy) and “Subsidy for CSSA recipients living in rented private housing”.
  - The extension of the programme of “Training subsidy” had been

approved by the Steering Committee and there would be a new round of application. The “specified date” had been changed to 30 November 2012 and eligible children could receive subsidised training services up to 31 March 2014 the longest.

3. Members supported:

- extending the programme of “Subsidy for cleaning service and escorting service for medical consultation”, accepting another round of applications and increasing the maximum amount of subsidy. Eligible elders could receive the subsidised services up to 31 March 2014 the longest.
- extending the programme of “Special care subsidy”, providing subsidy for eligible persons for a maximum of 12 months and changing the “specified date” to 31 July 2012, as well as relaxing the specified household income limit and the requirement of “family members living with the applicants”.

4. Members noted the progress of the programme of “Lunch subsidy at schools for students from low-income families”, and the Education Bureau was deliberating the proposal and arrangement for incorporating the programme into regular assistance programme.

5. Members noted the progress of the programme of “Subsidy for low-income elderly tenants in private housing”. As at mid-October, the CCF Secretariat had received around 1 700 applications and subsidy had been disbursed to about 1 380 households (about 1 720 persons in total) confirmed to be eligible. In addition, the independent consultant had been studying the approach of evaluating the programme and the data to be collected, and would advise the Secretariat in these aspects.

6. Members noted the progress of the programme of “Subsidy for low-income persons who are inadequately housed”, as well as the comments on eligibility criteria of the programme from the organisations/community service units that assisted in implementing the programme. The programme was well-received. During the first two weeks, nearly 3 800 applications had been received by various

community service units. Also, over 4 100 enquiries had been received through the Secretariat's telephone hotline in the first two weeks. Members agreed that when sufficient data was available for making projection on the number of eligible households and additional funding required, the Secretariat could submit the revised funding proposal to the Steering Committee for consideration.

7. Members noted the support provided by SWD for victims of the collision of vessels near Lamma Island and their families and the follow-up work. As the families of victims had been provided with proper assistance for the time being, some Members suggested that the CCF could reserve resources for providing appropriate assistance to these families to meet their long-term needs in future.