## The Third Meeting of the Welfare Sub-committee on the Community Care Fund 24 June 2011

## **Summary of Discussion**

The Welfare Sub-committee on the Community Care Fund (CCF) held its third meeting on 24 June 2011. A summary of discussion is as follows:

- 1. Members noted the budget monitoring and administrative arrangements for CCF regarding such aspects on budgetary control, recording, auditing and reporting.
- 2. Members noted the progress of the five assistance programmes to be implemented by the Social Welfare Department (SWD), including details of administrative expenses, implementation schedule and publicity arrangements, etc. Among these, SWD had been in preliminary talks with relevant service organisations regarding the cooperation arrangements for the two programmes "Subsidy for elders from low-income families on household cleaning and escorting services for medical consultations" and "Training subsidy for children who were on the waiting list of subvented pre-school rehabilitation services". All programmes would be implemented in the third and fourth quarters of the year as scheduled. SWD would continue to monitor the implementation of the programmes.
- 3. Members noted the progress of the assistance programme implemented by the Education Bureau (EDB) to provide a lunch subsidy at schools for students from low-income families. EDB had organised two briefings in June to brief primary schools on the implementation details of the programme. Members also noted that certain schools expressed concerns for the programme.
- 4. Members noted that EDB would disburse the CCF funding to participating schools in two phases, and would verify, at the end of the school year, individual schools' surplus amount that should be returned to the CCF or the shortfall that should be covered by the CCF.

- 5. Members discussed the information regarding the Public Rental Housing (PRH) Waiting List provided by the Housing Department (HD). The sub-committee would like to obtain more information about the PRH Waiting List (e.g. the number of households on the PRH Waiting List which had been waiting for more than 3 years and the number of people involved), such that it might consider whether and how to provide assistance to those needy persons (e.g. the "N-nothing").
- 6 The sub-committee discussed the provision of subsidy to elderly households (e.g. two-person elderly households and elders living alone) which were not CSSA recipients:
  - (1) Target beneficiaries of the subsidy could be limited to those eligible for applying public housing, not owning any real estate properties, living in rented private housing and paying rents which were below a specified level.
  - (2) Data such as the numbers of two-person elderly households and elders living alone in rented private housing, their income and rental levels collected from the earlier census could be sought from the Census and Statistics Department to enable further assessment on the current situation.
  - (3) Channels to identify those target beneficiaries and the feasibility of implementing the programme should be further considered.

The sub-committee agreed to further deliberate on the programme.