

**The Fifth Meeting of the Steering Committee on the Community Care Fund
20 February 2012**

Summary of Discussion

The Steering Committee on the Community Care Fund (CCF) held its fifth meeting on 20 February 2012. A summary of the discussion is as follows:

1. Members noted the progress of various assistance programmes under the CCF. The departments entrusted to implement the CCF programme were conducting evaluation of the programmes that had been rolled out having regard to the progress of the implementation. They would consider whether and how the programmes should be incorporated into Government's regular programmes with a view to providing long-term assistance for the low-income and disadvantaged families.
2. Members agreed to set aside \$100 million to launch the programme of providing subsidy to elderly for dental services. Details of the programme were discussed as follows:
 - (1) Each beneficiary would receive a maximum subsidy of \$8,765 (including \$7,315 for dentures, \$950 for denture-related dental care, \$50 for registration and dental check-up, and \$450 for the provision of accompanying service).
 - (2) The beneficiaries should be persons aged over 60 and were not recipients of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA).
 - (3) The beneficiaries should be users of the "Integrated Home Care Services" or "Enhanced Home and Community Care Services" subvented by the Social Welfare Department and were paying the Level 1 and Level 2 charges.
 - (4) It was agreed to invite the Hong Kong Dental Association (HKDA) to assist in implementing the programme. The HKDA would liaise with the dental clinics operated by private practitioners and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) for participating in the

implementation of the programme and would also compile and update regularly the list of dental clinics participating in the programme.

3. Members agreed to set aside \$40 million to launch the after-school care pilot scheme. Details of the programme included:

- (1) Targeted beneficiaries should be primary one to form three students from Public Sector schools (including Special schools) and Direct Subsidy Scheme schools. They should mainly come from families receiving CSSA or full grant under the financial schemes under the Student Finance Assistance Agency (SFAA).
- (2) The schools and organisations participating in the programme had discretion to include in the programme those needy students who were not from CSSA families nor recipients of the full grant under the financial schemes under SFAA, on the condition that the number of such students should not exceed 25% of the total.
- (3) The Education Bureau would invite the 211 organisations that had submitted “Expression of Interest” previously to put forward their proposals for examination.

4. Members endorsed the reservation of about \$50 million to launch the programme to provide subsidy to low-income elderly tenants in private housing which would provide a one-off subsidy to elderly tenants in private housing to relieve their pressure in view of rising inflation and cyclical rental increases. Details of the programme included:

- (1) Targeted beneficiaries should be aged 65 or above elders.
- (2) The amount of allowance was \$4,000 for elders living alone, \$8,000 for two-person elderly households, and a uniform \$12,000 for three- or more-person elderly households.
- (3) Beneficiaries should not be CSSA recipients and their average monthly household income should not exceed the specified household income limit in the past three months. In addition, they

should not own any property in Hong Kong and the rent they paid for their flats should not exceed the specified limit (i.e. 50% of the specified household income limit).