

The Seventh Meeting of the Community Care Fund Task Force
28 May 2014

Summary of Discussion

The Community Care Fund (CCF) Task Force under the Commission on Poverty (CoP) held its seventh meeting on 28 May 2014. A summary of discussion is as follows:

1. Members noted the latest financial position of the CCF (including the donation of about \$1.8 billion had all been received by the CCF) and the progress report of the current assistance programmes.
2. Members noted that the Social Welfare Department (SWD) had been making preparatory work for the “Pilot scheme on living allowance for carers of the elderly persons from low income families”, including the design of the programme, development of the assessment/monitoring mechanism, organisation of briefings for non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and planning for the research on evaluation of effectiveness, etc.
3. In respect of the “Training subsidy for children who are on the waiting list for subvented pre-school rehabilitation services” programme, Members suggested that during the transitional period before the regularisation of the programme in October, the training places freed up by children who were receiving service under this programme but progressively switching to subsidised service should be used as far as possible.
4. Regarding the “After-school care pilot scheme” for the 2014/15 school year, Members noted that the Education Bureau (EDB) had received about 180 proposals from schools and NGOs to date. The vetting panel of the scheme would convene a meeting in early July to examine the proposals.
5. Members noted the evaluation reports submitted by EDB on two programmes, namely the “Enhancement of the flat rate grant under the School Textbook Assistance Scheme” and the “Enhancement of the financial assistance for needy students pursuing programmes below sub-degree level”, and that the EDB would incorporate the two programmes into the regular assistance programme from the 2014/15

school year.

6. Members supported that the “specified date” in respect of elders benefited from the “Elderly dental assistance programme” to receive the “Integrated Home Care Services” or the “Enhanced Home and Community Care Services” should be extended to 31 December 2013, and elders who were benefited from the “Home Help Service” should also be covered as target beneficiaries. In addition, they also agreed that \$400,000 should be redeployed from within the existing budget for administrative costs to establish a computer system to help handle dental appointments of elders.