

**The Fourth Meeting of the Third-term
Community Care Fund Task Force
9 July 2019**

Summary of Discussion

The third-term Community Care Fund (CCF) Task Force (CCFTF) under the Commission on Poverty (CoP) held its fourth meeting on 9 July 2019. A summary of the discussion is as follows:

1. Members noted the progress of the CCF's existing assistance programmes and its latest financial position, as well as the views and suggestions received during the public consultation sessions. Members also agreed that virement of budget among expenditure items under "administrative fees" would be allowed to cover staff costs under the "Elderly Dental Assistance Programme". Moreover, Members supported that an additional provision of \$80,000 should be allocated for paying audit fees in the next four audit years. The proposal would be submitted to the CoP for consideration.
2. After discussion, the CCFTF supported the following proposals:
 - (a) to implement the "Pilot Scheme on Subsidy for Conversion of School Premises for Transitional Housing – Lok Sin Tong Primary School" to provide transitional social housing for no less than three years. The Pilot Scheme, with a total funding provision of \$13.04 million, was expected to provide about 50 housing units and benefit about 180 persons.
 - (b) to implement the "Pilot Scheme on Subsidy to Purchase and Construct Modular Housing to Facilitate the Hong Kong Council of Social Service to Implement Its Modular Social Housing Scheme - Yen Chow Street Project". The Pilot Scheme, with a total funding provision of \$99.92 million, was expected to provide about 205 housing units and benefit about 420 persons.
 - (c) to implement the "Digital Terrestrial Television Assistance Programme" to help analogue television (TV) households with financial difficulties obtain digital TV receivers so that they could continue to access local free TV programmes after the switching off

of analogue TV broadcasts on 30 November 2020. The Programme, with a total funding provision of \$456.45 million, was expected to benefit about 160 000 eligible households.

- (d) to implement the “Assistance Programme to Improve the Living Environment of Low-income Subdivided Unit Households” with details of the Assistance Programme to be revised after the meeting. The Assistance Programme sought to provide a one-off non-cash subsidy for low-income households living in subdivided units (SDUs) to improve their living environment through carrying out minor improvement/repair works, purchasing furniture and household items as well as pest control services. The Assistance Programme, with a total funding provision of \$287.04 million, was expected to benefit about 24 000 low-income households living in SDUs.

3. As instructed by the Chairman of the CCFTF, the CCF Secretariat circulated the following proposals/document to the CCFTF after the meeting and obtained support from the CCFTF:

- (a) extension of the “Pilot Scheme on Raising the Maximum Level of Disregarded Earnings for Recipients with Disabilities under the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme” for 12 months till the end of September in 2020, involving an additional funding provision of \$6.81 million and bringing the revised total funding provision to \$54.06 million;
- (b) extension of the “Pilot Scheme on Providing Subsidy for Higher Disability Allowance Recipients in Paid Employment to Hire Carers” for 12 months till the end of September in 2020 where no additional funding provision would be required; and
- (c) an evaluation report on the “Incentive Scheme to Further Encourage CSSA Recipients of the Integrated Employment Assistance Programme for Self-reliance to Secure Employment”.

The above proposals/document in paragraphs 2 and 3 will be submitted to the CoP for consideration/information.