The Second Meeting of the Third-term Community Care Fund Task Force 6 December 2018

Summary of Discussion

The third-term Community Care Fund (CCF) Task Force (CCFTF) under the Commission on Poverty (CoP) held its second meeting on 6 December 2018. A summary of the discussion is as follows:

- 1. Members noted the progress of the existing assistance programmes and the latest financial position of the CCF, and agreed to the budget for staff cost and administrative expenses of the CCF Secretariat and the Social Welfare Department in 2019-20.
- 2. Members supported the proposal to renew CCF's investment arrangements in relation to the placement with the Hong Kong Monetary Authority. The proposal would be submitted to the CoP for consideration.
- 3. After discussion, the CCFTF supported the following proposals:
 - to include seven new specified self-financed cancer drugs (namely Ceritinib, Alectinib, Osimertinib, Palbociclib, Trastuzumab emtansine (T-DM1), Everolimus and Axitinib) in the First Phase Programme of Medical Assistance Programmes (the First Phase Programme), and to allocate \$248.092 million to meet the financial expenditure for the eighth operation year of the First Phase Programme;
 - (b) to allocate \$143.736 million to meet the financial expenditure for the second operation year of the Subsidy for Eligible Patients to Purchase Ultra-expensive Drugs (Including Those for Treating Uncommon Disorders) programme;
 - (c) to include the new interventional "Impella" in the list of medical devices under the Subsidy for Eligible Patients of Hospital Authority to Purchase Specified Implantable Medical Devices for Interventional Procedures programme, and to allocate \$22.177 million to meet the financial expenditure for the second operation year of the programme;
 - (d) to enhance the means test mechanism for CCF's Medical Assistance Programmes, including modifying the calculation of the annual disposable financial resources and revising the definition of "household" adopted for financial assessment, so as to strengthen the support for patients;
 - (e) to extend the Elderly Dental Assistance Programme for three years to

February 2022, and to enhance the services under the Programme while expanding its target beneficiaries to cover those elderly persons aged 65 or above and receiving Old Age Living Allowance;

- (f) to extend the cut-off date for new cases under the Cervical Cancer Vaccination Pilot Scheme (the Pilot Scheme) by six months to September 2019 to facilitate the smooth transition between the Pilot Scheme and the coming inclusion of cervical cancer vaccination service in the Hong Kong Childhood Immunisation Programme under the Department of Health, and to adjust the fixed vaccination service fee; and
- (g) to revise the budget for the Subsidy for Comprehensive Social Security Assistance Recipients Living in Rented Private Housing programme to \$125.53 million.

The above proposals will be submitted to the CoP for consideration.