



## **In Attendance**

### **Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB)**

Mr David LEUNG Deputy Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Welfare) 1

Mrs Annie CHAN Chief Executive Officer (Welfare) 2

Ms Betty LAW Senior Executive Officer (Welfare) 2A

### **Social Welfare Department (SWD)**

Mrs Fanny CHEUNG Senior Social Work Officer (Youth) 2

## **Members absent with Apologies**

Ms Clara CHAN

Dr Angela SIU

## **Agenda Item (1): Proposed Review of the Child Development Fund Programme**

Members were briefed on the background, framework, timetable and transitional arrangements for the proposed overall review of the CDF, in particular the key components of CDF projects would be reviewed to enhance their uniqueness and competitiveness vis-à-vis other schemes which targeted children from a disadvantaged background offered by the Government or non-governmental organisations (NGOs), including the Strive and Rise Programme (S&R Programme), with an aim to ensure the most effective use of resources in supporting underprivileged children.

2. Members noted the positive feedback and performance of completed CDF projects over the years were well-recognized by members of the public. The current review would focus on CDF's mode of operation and implementation arrangements, strategic role and future direction, with a view to creating synergy between CDF and S&R Programme.

3. While the target participants of CDF and S&R Programme had some overlap, Members noted the difference between CDF and S&R programme in terms of scheme administration and implementation, duration and content and key components.

4. Members considered it timely to conduct an overall review of the CDF Programme, and that there should be clear differentiation between CDF and S&R Programme to facilitate future implementation and assessment of the programmes. Members agreed with the proposed scope of the review, the timetable as well as the transitional arrangements for ongoing CDF projects and the postponement of the next batch of projects (10<sup>th</sup> batch) until completion of the review.

5. Members suggested that, in respect of the operation of CDF projects, consideration should be given to review the duration of CDF projects after taking into account the effectiveness of CDF in the long-term development of participants through the three-year programme; adjust the invitation and implementation schedule of CDF projects to avoid clashing with the S&R Programme; lower the existing requirement of at least 50 participating children for each school-based project to encourage more schools to participate in CDF; differentiate the target participants of CDF from those of S&R Programme in view of different development needs of students of primary schools and secondary schools, etc.

6. As regards the key components, Members considered that the review should consider the importance and effectiveness of the long-term development of participants in sustaining savings habits and gaining a better understanding of wealth management. The review should also cover the monthly savings target of \$200 during the first two years of the programme, and the present arrangement of soliciting matching contributions by CDF project operators. In respect of Personal Development Plans (PDPs), training for parents/ guardians of participating children on the objective of CDF and life planning of children should be enhanced so that they would understand better the value and importance of inspiring children to develop their long-term PDPs and supporting them in realising their plans. In respect of Mentorship, the current methodology of recruiting mentors through project operators of CDF could be expanded, and the setting up of an alumni for CDF participants in maintaining contact between mentors and mentees could also be explored.

Views and comments from the project operators and participants on the key elements of CDF and the possible enhancements that might improve the attractiveness of the programme should be collected during the review. Moreover, consideration could be given to enhancing the scale and coverage of promotion and publicity measures to help reach out to target participants and/ or their families.

7. Members noted that the findings and recommendations of the review would be reported to the Steering Committee for consideration at the next meeting scheduled for December 2023 tentatively.

### **Agenda Item (2): Progress Update of the Child Development Fund**

8. Members were briefed on the performance of the 7<sup>th</sup> batch of NGO-led Projects and the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> batches of School-based Projects that were completed during the period from 2021 to 2022, as well as the latest progress of the ongoing CDF projects.

9. Members noted the latest update on the on-going CDF projects and were pleased to learn that the completed projects had met the agreed level of output and outcome indicators.

**Labour and Welfare Bureau**  
**October 2023**