

### Existing Government-funded Support Services for Carers

(Note: This Annex is extracted from pages 31 to 38 of the Main Report of the Consultancy Study on Needs and Support Required of Carers of Elderly Persons and of Persons with Disabilities in Hong Kong. The information therein reflects the position as at the completion of the Report, which may have some minor differences with the latest position.)

**Table 2.1 Measures for carers of elderly persons**

Aspect	Services/Programmes
I. Centre-based community care and support services	<p><b>District Elderly Community Centres (DECCs) and Neighbourhood Elderly Centres (NECs)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of 212 DECCs and NECs provide community support services for elderly persons and their carers across the territory. The services included, community education, health education, educational and developmental activities, reaching out and networking, volunteer development, provision of information on community resources and referral services, assistance in making long-term care service applications, arrangement of social and recreational activities, meal services, and carer support services;</li> <li>• The Support Teams for the Elderly (STEs) in the 41 DECCs identify potentially vulnerable elderly persons and their carers through various outreach services and community networks;</li> <li>• STEs show care for elderly persons through regular telephone contacts and home visits, provide them with emotional support, match suitable volunteers and encourage elderly persons of similar background to set up peer support</li> </ul>

Aspect	Services/Programmes
	<p>groups, or refer those in need to other support or care services.</p> <p><b>Day Care Centres/Units for the Elderly (DEs/DCUs)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of 90 DEs/DCUs provide care services for elderly persons in need and support services for their carers;</li> <li>• Including information and counselling services, group activities and skill training, mutual support groups, and demonstration/ loan of rehabilitation-aid equipment.</li> </ul>
II. Home-based community care services	<p><b>Integrated Home Care Services (Frail Cases) and Enhanced Home and Community Care Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of 13 365 service places are provided through the 61 Integrated Home Care Services (Frail Cases) service teams and 31 Enhanced Home and Community Care Services service teams for elderly persons in need and support services are also provided for their carers;</li> <li>• Services include personal care, basic and special care, rehabilitation exercises, counselling services, 24-hour emergency support, respite services, home environment safety assessment and improvement suggestions, housekeeping and meal delivery services, escort services, carer support, etc.</li> </ul>
III. Respite services for elderly persons	<p><b>Residential respite and day respite for the elderly</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In addition to the 58 designated places in subvented RCHEs and contract homes, residential respite services are also provided in all subvented RCHEs and contract homes through the use of casual vacancies. A total of 280 designated residential respite places are provided through</li> </ul>

Aspect	Services/Programmes
	<p>140 private homes participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are a total of 208 designated day respite places provided by 46 subsidised DEs/DCUs for elderly persons.</li> </ul>
IV. Project-based services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrated Discharge Support Programme for Elderly Patients;</li> <li>• Pilot Scheme on Support for Elderly Persons Discharged from Public Hospitals after Treatment;</li> <li>• Pilot Scheme on Community Care Service Voucher for the Elderly;</li> <li>• Pilot Scheme on Living Allowance for Carers of Elderly Persons from Low-income Families;</li> <li>• Support for Carers Project;</li> <li>• Pilot Scheme on Training for Foreign Domestic Helpers in Elderly Care;</li> <li>• Dementia Friendly Community Campaign;</li> <li>• Dementia Community Support Scheme.</li> </ul>
V. Other support	<p><b>SWD hotline service</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The SWD hotline 2343 2255 provides information on welfare services in the form of voice messages or facsimile transmission to callers through a 24-hour interactive voice response system;</li> <li>• Social workers on duty also provide counselling, support and advice, and arrange appropriate follow-up services for those in need.</li> </ul> <p><b>SWD websites/webpages on relevant carer support services</b></p> <p>Information on the elderly services under SWD can be accessed via the below websites/webpages.</p>

Aspect	Services/Programmes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SWD elderly services <a href="http://www.swd.gov.hk/tc/index/site_pubsvc/page_elderly/">www.swd.gov.hk/tc/index/site_pubsvc/page_elderly/</a></li> <li>• SWD Elderly Information Website <a href="http://www.elderlyinfo.swd.gov.hk/tc">www.elderlyinfo.swd.gov.hk/tc</a></li> <li>• Vacancy Enquiry System for Residential Respite Service for Persons with Disabilities, Residential Respite Service for the Elderly and Emergency Placement for the Elderly <a href="http://www.vesrrsep.swd.gov.hk/tc">www.vesrrsep.swd.gov.hk/tc</a></li> <li>• Dementia Friendly Community Campaign <a href="http://www.swd.gov.hk/dementiacampaign/tc/index.html">www.swd.gov.hk/dementiacampaign/tc/index.html</a></li> <li>• Pilot Scheme on Training for Foreign Domestic Helpers in Elderly Care (On-line Training Videos) <a href="http://www.swd.gov.hk/tc/index/site_pubsvc/page_elderly/sub_online/">www.swd.gov.hk/tc/index/site_pubsvc/page_elderly/sub_online/</a></li> </ul>

**Table 2.2 Measures for carers of persons with disabilities**

Aspect	Services/Programmes
I. Centre-based community support services	<p><b>District Support Centres for Persons with Disabilities (DSCs)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16 DSCs offer training, care, social, psychological, and personal development activities for persons with disabilities taking account of their needs, and provide support and training for their family members and carers (including care skills training, mutual support groups, relevant educational courses / seminars / workshops, and leisure and family recreational activities) for enhancing their caring capabilities and lessening their pressure;</li> <li>• The government has increased the number of DSCs from 16 to 18 in 2021-22, and will increase to 21 in 2022-23.</li> </ul>

Aspect	Services/Programmes
	<p><b>Parents/Relatives Resource Centres (PRCs)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 19 PRCs help parents, family members, and carers in need to share experiences and strengthen their caring capabilities, as well as attain mutual support, acquaintance, and acceptance of family members with disabilities.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Social and Recreational Centres for the Disabled (S&amp;RCs)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16 S&amp;RCs provide social, recreational, and developmental activities for persons with disabilities;</li> <li>• In 2020-21, SWD has increased resources for strengthening S&amp;RCs' community support functions, particularly support for family members and carers, including: enhancing emotional support and counselling services for persons with disabilities and their family members and carers; getting in touch with less-motivated persons with disabilities and their family members and carers through outreach services, thus providing immediate assistance in bridging the needy to suitable community services; and strengthening the support networks of persons with disabilities and their family members and carers through volunteer services.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Support Centres for Persons with Autism (SPAs)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 SPAs seek, through multi-disciplinary teams (comprising clinical psychologists, social workers, occupational therapists, speech therapists, etc.), to enhance the living, social, and job skills of young persons with high-functioning autism to help them cope with their needs in the transition to adulthood;</li> <li>• SPAs also provide support for parents and carers (including casework, group and programme support, and assistance in</li> </ul>

Aspect	Services/Programmes
	<p data-bbox="596 282 1370 495">building mutual support networks) as well as advisory services and professional training for other subvented rehabilitation service units and frontline staff serving persons with autism.</p> <p data-bbox="501 524 1233 562"><b>Day Care Service for Persons with Severe Disabilities</b></p> <ul data-bbox="549 584 1370 1234" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="549 584 1370 976">• Provides centre-based day care for persons with severe disabilities. It promotes care in the community by strengthening the caring capability of families or carers through provision of regular day care including nursing, rehabilitation, and social and personal care services so as to enhance opportunities of persons with severe disabilities to continue living in the community;</li> <li data-bbox="549 1016 1370 1234">• As of end-April 2021, there were a total of 245 service places in the Care and Attention Homes for Severely Disabled Persons, DSCs, and Community Rehabilitation Day Centres.</li> </ul> <p data-bbox="501 1261 1370 1350"><b>Self-help Organisations of Persons with Disabilities/Chronic Illnesses</b></p> <ul data-bbox="549 1395 1370 1727" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="549 1395 1370 1727">• The Financial Support Scheme for Self-help Organisations of Persons with Disabilities/Chronic Illnesses provides an annual amount of \$21 million is provided as time-limited and project-based financial assistance to self-help organisations of persons with disabilities and their families/carers.</li> </ul>
II. Home-based community support services	<ul data-bbox="549 1760 1370 1962" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="549 1760 1370 1962">• Six service teams of the Home Care Service for Persons with Severe Disabilities (HCS) and two service teams of the Integrated Support Service for Persons with Severe Physical Disabilities (ISS) provide a range of integrated home-based</li> </ul>

Aspect	Services/Programmes
	<p>services (including personal care, nursing care, and rehabilitation training) for persons with disabilities in need;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carer support (including counselling services, care skills training, home respite services, and service referral).</li> </ul>
<p>III. Respite services for persons with disabilities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As of end-March 2021, there were a total of 160 day respite service places provided in the Day Activities Centres, DSCs, and Care and Attention Homes for Severely Disabled Persons, and 344 residential respite service places in different types of Residential Care Homes for Persons with Disabilities (RCHDs);</li> <li>• From 2021, SWD has purchased over 40 residential respite service places from RCHDs participating in the Bought Place Scheme (BPS) for Private RCHDs to provide more service places and options for carers in need.</li> </ul>
<p>IV. Project-based services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pilot Scheme on Living Allowance for Low-income Carers of Persons with Disabilities – launched through the Community Care Fund (CCF) to provide a monthly allowance of \$2,400 to carers from low-income families with persons with disabilities waiting for specified rehabilitation services subsidised by SWD, a special school with boarding placements under the Education Bureau or infirmary service of the Hospital Authority;</li> <li>• Pilot Scheme on Providing Subsidy for Higher Disability Allowance Recipients in Paid Employment to Hire Carers – launched through CCF to provide a monthly subsidy of \$5,000 for eligible persons with disabilities to hire carers to assist them in travelling between their homes and workplaces, with a view to encouraging them to stay in employment;</li> </ul>

Aspect	Services/Programmes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special Care Subsidy for the Severely Disabled – launched through CCF to provide a maximum monthly subsidy of \$2,000 for eligible persons with disabilities to purchase care goods and services or for other purposes related to nursing care.</li> </ul>
V. Other support	<p><b>SWD hotline service</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The SWD hotline 2343 2255 provides information on welfare services in the form of voice messages or facsimile transmission to callers through a 24-hour interactive voice response system;</li> <li>• Social workers on duty also provide counselling, support and advice, and arrange appropriate follow-up services for those in need.</li> </ul> <p><b>SWD websites/webpages on relevant services</b></p> <p>Information on the rehabilitation services under SWD can be accessed via the below websites/webpages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SWD rehabilitation services <a href="http://www.swd.gov.hk/tc/index/site_pubsvc/page_rehab/">www.swd.gov.hk/tc/index/site_pubsvc/page_rehab/</a></li> <li>• SWD Information Website for RCHDs <a href="http://www.rchdinfo.swd.gov.hk/">www.rchdinfo.swd.gov.hk/</a></li> <li>• Vacancy Enquiry System for Residential Respite Service for Persons with Disabilities, Residential Respite Service for the Elderly and Emergency Placement for the Elderly <a href="http://www.vesrrsep.swd.gov.hk/tc">www.vesrrsep.swd.gov.hk/tc</a></li> </ul>