

**For discussion on
9 February 2012**

Paper FC 1/2012

**Measures in Support of the Policy Directions Arising from
Findings of the Four Thematic Studies on Youth Prostitution, Youth
Drug Abuse, Elderly Neglect and Child Neglect**

PURPOSE

This paper aims to set out the background leading to the four research studies, the policy directions as endorsed by the Family Council and the measures to support the new policy directions.

2. At the briefing to the Legislative Council Panel on Welfare Services on the 2011-12 Policy Address on 21 October 2011, the Administration undertook that the Family Council would conduct further in-depth discussions with concerned stakeholders on implementation of relevant measures to support the new policy directions. We have also undertaken to report findings to the Panel in March 2012. Towards this end, relevant policy bureaux and departments (B/Ds) have been invited to give views on and contribute to the measures that they consider practicable for implementation, for further consideration by the Family Council.

BACKGROUND

3. The 2009-10 Policy Address pointed out that many social problems including juvenile drug abuse, prostitution and the neglect of elderly people and children could be traced back to the family. To effectively tackle these problems from a family perspective, the Family Council was tasked to conduct focused discussions and research in these aspects, and propose new policy options to alleviate such problems from the family perspective. The Family Council had commissioned the Central Policy Unit (CPU) to co-ordinate work in these areas. Local universities were invited by the CPU to undertake researches focusing on whether and how such social problems were related to families, and make an attempt to come up with solutions.

NEW AND BROAD POLICY DIRECTIONS WITH FAMILY-FOCUSED STRATEGIES AND MEASURES

4. The four researches have identified that many of the causes of the four social problems could be traced back to the family -

- *Youth drug abuse*: Most of the factors causing the problem are related to unstable family background, such as dysfunctional families due to unstable family conditions (e.g. poor marital relationships, family crisis, divorce of parents, single-parent families); family members working long hours or earning low wages (e.g. insufficient time to spend with the family, less time to care for their teenage children or poor parent-child relationships); and poor/ineffective communication between young people and their families (e.g. inadequate/poor parenting and bad parent-child relationship);
- *Youth prostitution*: Parents' improper behaviour (e.g. promiscuous parent); bad examples (e.g. parents working in vice establishments); domestic violence (parents abusing their children) and frequent inter-generational conflicts are contributing factors to higher risk of problems;
- *Child neglect*: Parents with poor parenting knowledge/ competency or incorrect parenting concepts would have a greater tendency to neglect their children. Single-parent families, especially deprived families, are particularly prone to child neglect; and
- *Elderly neglect*: For families with frigid husband-wife relationship and alienating parent-child relationships, their already weak family bondage would be prone to be undermined by factors such as death of spouse, growing up of children and their forming of new families. The elderly would easily have nobody to rely on and have to live their final years in neglect. Cross-boundary marriages between ageing husbands and young wives whose relationships are not based on love but on practical interests are also at high risks. Their age differences are the crucial factors to a power transfer (in the family) in future, which would result in a huge power imbalance between the strong and the weak in the family relationship. The weaker

side, such as an ill-stricken elderly, could easily become the subject of neglect.

5. On a related note, the four researches have proposed a number of **family-focused strategies and measures (Annex A)** which were deliberated by the Family Council at its meeting on 4 July 2011. The Family Council noted that it was difficult to generalize the causes of these social problems as they were complicated, multi-layered and multi-faceted. This notwithstanding, the researches had a common finding that many of **the causes of the social problems could be traced back to the family**. The researches confirmed the need for a **“family-based” strategy** in order to tackle such problems effectively. In short, not only do we need to target relevant individuals or groups, but we also need to focus on the family. Moreover, while the support of the neighbourhood and local community should be enlisted, we should **strive to forge cross-departmental and multi-sectoral collaboration**, bringing together input from different professions.

6. To sufficiently and effectively prevent relevant social problems, families and various sectors in the community must work hand in hand. Towards this end, the Family Council recommends **three new policy directions** as highlighted below -

- (a) **Family engagement** (提升家庭的參與): “Family-focused”, with emphasis on formulation of project/activity objectives, decisions and expectation-oriented strategy through a mutual communication and partnership mode;
- (b) **Preventive strategy** (預防性策略): Early identification in different areas of families with greater needs; and
- (c) **Community-based family support strategy** (社區為本支援家庭策略): Community resources (including retirees, religious bodies and supportive neighbours) should be better utilized.

7. The abovementioned new policy directions have featured in the Policy Agenda of the 2011-12 Policy Address. The Family Council agreed that the measures to support the new policy directions should be carefully considered and further deliberated by the Sub-committee on Family Support.

RECOMMENDED MEASURES

8. Subject to any other views from Members, relevant B/Ds will be invited to -

- (a) take stock of existing measures under their respective purview which they consider relevant to the policy directions; and
- (b) put forward measures they consider practicable for implementation to support and reinforce the new policy directions.

The measures have been deliberated and agreed by the Sub-committee on Family Support at its meeting on 6 January 2012. They are set out at **Annex B**.

9. The Sub-committee also considered that government policy initiatives, services and programmes should continue to take into account the interests and well-being of families. To enable B/Ds to have good family awareness and sensitivity in balancing such considerations against other policy objectives and considerations, they will continue to be reminded regularly to include family perspectives as a factor in policy formulation. The Sub-committee also considered that a cross-departmental approach in strengthening families and identification of at-risk families was conducive to devising family-focused strategies and measures to tackle the social problems.

ADVICE SOUGHT

10. Members are invited to comment on the measures to support the policy directions. Subject to Members' comments, the Sub-committee on Family Support will keep in view the long-term strategies to implement these policy directions.

January 2012
Family Council Secretariat

Family-focused Strategies Proposed by the Four Researches

- *Youth drug abuse*: It is essential to nurture positive family relationship, identify high-risk families and provide more training, seminars and workshops for them. Equally important is to arrange professionals to visit neighbourhoods to promote family education and to impart the knowledge and skills to deal with related problems;
- *Youth prostitution*: The research team considered that strengthening effective parenting and parent-child relationship; providing counseling on family reunion and remarriage for broken families; providing counseling for youths from problem families for joint counseling or services for parents and children together; and providing parent education for parents in need regarding crisis intervention; as well as providing guidance to children on proper use of the internet are important strategies;
- *Child neglect*: Family-focused strategies include providing support and assistance for families with potential child neglect problems according to the scale of the problems and the “threshold” for intervention in order to enhance the effectiveness of parenting and prevent child neglect; empowering the court to issue orders to irresponsible parents involved in child neglect to receive compulsory parent education; and requiring parents convicted of child neglect offences to receive parent education; and
- *Elderly neglect*: It is important to implement preventive and intervening measures on three levels, including strengthening family, community and school education in relation to respect and care for the elderly; promotion of filial piety; encouraging frequent interaction and expression of love among family members.

Proposed Measures by the Four Researches in Support of the Policy Directions

Family Engagement (提升家庭的參與)

With reference to the success of the overseas experience and the situation of Hong Kong, the Government is invited to consider offering *tangible incentives to families*, such as concessionary rates to families for public recreational and cultural venues and facilities to encourage family engagement. Besides, the Government could also make more proactive efforts to encourage the commercial sector to offer similar incentives to families. Other viable options include offering *intangible incentives to families*, such as providing support to families in need through “mentors” of mentorship programmes.

Preventive Strategies and Measures (預防性策略及措施)

“Early identification and timely intervention” could help mitigate conflicts between family members before the problems would become complicated or intensified to the extent that they could not be solved. Towards this end, the Government is invited to consider the following measures -

- ***Development of assessment and management tools for family risks:*** Assessment tools for family functioning, such as Family Assessment Device (Epstein, Baldwin & Bishop, 1983) and Self-Report Family Inventory (Beavers, Hampson & Hulgus, 1985) have been developed in other countries. Nonetheless, most of the family assessment tools adopted in the Chinese societies target at specific age groups (e.g. young people)¹ only. Apparently, evidence-based assessment tools for comprehensive assessment of the risks in various stages of the family life course and practical guides for tackling various family problems for use by parents and related professionals are not available in Hong Kong. As such, there is a need to develop such tools and establish a certification framework to evaluate the effectiveness of the “family-risks assessment tools and practical guides” in the long run.
- ***Strengthening family education:*** Family education should continue to

¹ Shek, D.T.L and MA, C.M.s. (2010) The Chinese Family Assessment Instrument (C-FAI), Volume 20, No.1, pp112-123

be widely promoted for **different stages of the family life cycle** (including sex education, dating education, pre-marriage education, parental education and cross-generational family education), with particular focus on **families with potential risks** (e.g. low income, single-parent, divorce-parent and cross-border families); adolescents with poor academic performance and low self-esteem; and **irresponsible parents and parents with deviant behaviour** (e.g. drug abusers and crime offenders). To take this forward, the Government is invited to take stock of the current state of family education programmes/provisions in Hong Kong and consider accreditation of family education courses for quality assurance purpose as necessary. As regards the suggestion of imposing a mandatory requirement for neglectful parents to undertake compulsory education on parenting, the Family Council considers that this is a contentious issue which requires careful consideration and discussion in the long run.

- ***Providing more professional training and counseling:*** In view of the fact that today's social problems are more complicated and challenging than those in the past, more professional expertise and skills are needed to tackle them. As such, it is recommended that more professional training and counseling courses should be provided to encourage the participation of parents, carers, social welfare institutions and specialized service organizations in order to enhance the quality and effectiveness of the services through training and exchanges.

Community-based Family Support Strategy and Measures (社區為本支援家庭策略及措施)

According to the research teams, community resources should be better utilised. Resources available include retirees, religious bodies and supportive neighbours. The Government is invited to consider the following measures -

- ***Building neighbourhood and friendship networks for the community:*** the Government may consider exploring ways to increase neighbourhood support in combating and identifying social problems in the community by partnering with the 18 District Councils for "Neighbourhood Watcher Programme". On a related note, the Government should proactively foster informal support for parents with

problems and difficulties in child care at the community level. Another possible measure is to encourage families to form self-support groups for mutual assistance' purpose.

- ***Encouraging cross-sector collaboration:*** Stand-alone efforts of a single party - be they families, schools, social workers, police, counselors or the government, cannot effectively tackle the social problems. The Government should promote collaboration amongst various sectors in the community and a culture of loving society in order to provide concerted support for the disadvantaged groups and the high risk/problem families.
- ***Continuing to foster and strengthen family core values:*** The Government should continue to work closely with different sectors, including families, schools, non-governmental organizations, and the business sector to promote the importance of individuals' responsibilities and families' responsibilities to take care of their family members.

Measures in Support of the Policy Directions

(a) Family Engagement

Bureau/ Department	Existing Measures	Proposed Measures
Home Affairs Bureau (HAB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Youth Programme Co-ordinating Committee (YPCC) under the Commission on Youth (COY) attaches great importance to beating youth drug abuse problem and according priorities to support district-based beat drug related activities. Youth participants are encouraged to join individual activities with their family members. • Starting from 2010/11, HAB grants thematic funds to subvented youth organisations for “Happy Family” projects. Youth members and their families are encouraged to participate in activities organised by the youth groups. 	

Bureau/ Department	Existing Measures	Proposed Measures
	<p>Through various programmes, the bond of youth members and their families could be strengthened.</p>	
<p>Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each year, LCSD organises some 36 900 recreation and sports activities including training courses, recreation activities and competitions for participation by members of the public. While most of these programmes are open to all, about 650 of them (for a total of 200 000 participants) such as sport fun days and carnivals, dance nights, camping and excursions are particularly suitable for family participation. • To further encourage family participation in recreation and sports activities, LCSD has also introduced a series of Parent-Child Sports Programmes including badminton training course / fun day, ultimate fun day and social dance training course. In 2011/2012, LCSD 	

Bureau/ Department	Existing Measures	Proposed Measures
	<p>will organise 156 parent-child programmes to cater for over 7,000 family members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LCSD offers museum family pass as well as organises a wide range of thematic exhibitions and family-based extension/ educational activities to dovetail with their thematic programmes in public museums. • The Hong Kong Public Libraries (HKPL) have been organizing a variety of extension activities targeting families, such as workshops, talks and thematic programmes for the promotion of family reading on an on going basis. 	
Social Welfare Department (SWD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 62 Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) operated by SWD and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) over the territory have been implementing the Family Support Programme (FSP). FSP aims to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FSP will continue to be implemented to mobilize social capital and community resources to promote self-help and mutual help for helping the needy.

Bureau/ Department	Existing Measures	Proposed Measures
	<p>connect needy families which are unable/unwilling to seek help from the suitable family support services so as to prevent their family problems from deteriorating. Under FSP, social workers and volunteers together form a community network to proactively reach out to vulnerable families through various means such as telephone contacts and home visits, etc. Volunteers recruited under FSP include those who have gone through similar problems or crises before.</p>	

(b) Preventive Strategy

Bureau/ Department	Existing Measures	Proposed Measures
LCSD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The HKPL has been organizing on a continuing basis a variety of extension activities to promote the building of harmonious family, such as talks 	

Bureau/ Department	Existing Measures	Proposed Measures
	<p>on parenting, parent-child communication, parent-child reading programmes, and health care of elderly members.</p>	
Department of Health (DH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Maternal and Child Health Centres (MCHCs) provide a comprehensive range of health promotion and disease prevention services for children from birth to 5 years of age through the Integrated Child Health and Development Programme (ICHDP). • The Parenting Programme is one of the core service components of ICHDP and aims to provide parents-to-be and parents with anticipatory guidance on child care, child development and parenting issues through information leaflets and audio-visual resources distributed as printed materials / CDs and available on the Family Health Service website and Family Health Service YouTube Channel; as 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In collaboration with NGOs and the Hospital Authority, DH is now in the process of developing parenting programme for at-risk families e.g. teenage parents.

Bureau/ Department	Existing Measures	Proposed Measures
	well as through workshops and individual counselling.	
Education Bureau (EDB)	<p>School Curriculum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family education is provided through a holistic school curriculum. Promotion of knowledge, skills and values conducive to family education covering the elements of sex education, drug education and filial piety, such as roles and responsibilities of family members, preparation for marriage and maintenance of harmonious family relationships, etc. are emphasized in various Key Learning Areas/Subjects as well as learning experiences outside classroom. To support the implementation of family education in schools, learning and teaching materials are produced for teachers' reference and adoption. 	<p>School Curriculum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Family Life” will be included as a core module in the new subject “Life and Society” to be launched at junior secondary level from the 2012/13 school year onward. Public consultation of the draft of the Moral and National Education Curriculum was held in 2011. Family Domain is one of the five domains in the proposed Curriculum. The introduction of the subject will further reinforce a pro-family school curriculum for students. The Curriculum Development Council will refine specific curriculum content with flexibility in implementation modes and submit the revised proposals to the Government for detailed consideration.

Bureau/ Department	Existing Measures	Proposed Measures
	<p>Other Learning Experiences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools are advised and encouraged to organise a wide range of learning activities for cultivation of family values. It may take the form of, for example, organizing the students to provide community services for different social groups and organisations or family sports day. These activities help students better understand the needs of other family members and problems faced by some families in Hong Kong. Students will also have opportunities to reflect on ways to cope with those problems and to lead a healthy family life as well as to practise communicative skills. <p>Promotion of Home-School Co-operation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through the platforms of the Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs), parent activities and seminars are organized for promoting home-school cooperation. The PTAs act as a 	<p>Promotion of Home-School Co-operation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Core family values will be promoted through the new release of Parent-Teacher Association Handbook.

Bureau/ Department	Existing Measures	Proposed Measures
	<p>bridge between parents and teachers to foster communication, understanding and mutual support. Publications and resources are provided to equip parents with knowledge in helping their children’s personal growth and understanding the educational development. Publicity programmes, sharing of good practices, workshops and seminars for parents are also conducted with focus on home-school co-operation, students’ learning and personal growth.</p> <p>Anti-drug Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enhance parents’ knowledge on anti-drug education and skills to identify high risk children, EDB assisted the Narcotics Division (ND) of Security Bureau to produce and deliver the leaflet “無毒家教有妙法” to all parents through schools in 2009. The leaflet was updated and redistributed to parents in April 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publicity programmes and briefing sessions will continue to be provided to parents for promoting home-school co-operation.

Bureau/ Department	Existing Measures	Proposed Measures
	<p>2011.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with EDB and SWD, the ND commissioned an NGO to produce the Anti-drug Resource Kits for Parents in June 2009. • To strengthen relation with parents and to foster an environment conducive to the healthy development of students, EDB issued a circular in 2010 encouraging schools to formulate a school-based “Healthy School Policy” starting from the 2010/2011 school year. • To equip parents with the knowledge, skills and attitude in handling young drug abusers, EDB is organizing anti-drug education activities for parent with Federations of Parent-Teacher Associations. 	

Bureau/ Department	Existing Measures	Proposed Measures
SWD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three assessment tools for spouse battering or child abuse have been developed and validated in a consultancy study conducted in 2005. • Publicity Campaign on “Strengthening Families and Combating Violence” is launched each year, under which territory-wide and district-based publicity and education programmes are organized to enhance public awareness of the importance of family solidarity and prevention of domestic violence. Positive messages reminding parents of the needs of children and family core values are included in the publicity programmes. • IFSCs provide a spectrum of preventive, supportive and remedial services to address the needs of different individuals and families. They have adopted various measures to prevent family problems and promote parent-child and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professionals may make reference to the assessment tools developed in 2005 for identifying at-risk families. • SWD will continue to launch the annual Publicity Campaign on “Strengthening Families and Combating Violence”. • On the proposed measure to impose a mandatory requirement for neglectful parents to undertake compulsory education on parenting, the Sub-committee on Family Support discussed the recommendation on whether mandatory parent education should be imposed. There were concerns on the effectiveness of mandatory parent education and the meeting did not come to any conclusion. The Sub-committee concluded that the issue should be further considered in the long run.

Bureau/ Department	Existing Measures	Proposed Measures
	<p>family relationship, such as organising groups and programmes. They have also put in place a mechanism to facilitate timely assessment of the family problems of needy families for timely follow-up.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 41 District Elderly Community Centres (DECCs) and 118 Neighbourhood Elderly Centres in Hong Kong providing an array of community support and care services to elders and their carers. They also have outreaching teams to identify and support singleton and hidden elders. • To tackle elder abuse, the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) and the Elderly Commission (EC) jointly launched a 2-year pilot Neighbourhood Active Ageing Project (NAAP) in 2009, with “Caring for Elders” as the theme. The purpose is to promote respect for elders and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory education on parenting may have implications from the perspective of the Bill of Rights Ordinance unless this is a sentencing option. In any case, the effectiveness of such education is not definitive. • DECCs will continue to provide community support and care services to needy elders. • Cases of elder abuse identified through the NAAP will be/are being followed up by the Government or NGOs.

Bureau/ Department	Existing Measures	Proposed Measures
	help identify abuse cases.	
Narcotics Division, Security Bureau	<p>Anti-drug Measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An anti-drug resource kit has been produced to provide useful reference materials for stakeholders, such as NGOs, schools and PTAs, to plan and organize anti-drug activities targeting parents and their family members. • Telephone support service manned by social worker provides real-time support to parents. Newsletters on anti-drug parent education and district-based anti-drug seminars for parents have been organized to enhance parents' general knowledge of drugs, communication skills with children, and skills to handle children with drug abuse problem. • To encourage the formation of support networks, "train-the trainer" sessions have been organized 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures will be introduced in 2012 to engage parents in the fight against drugs by equipping them with drug knowledge and skills to identify and handle youth drug abuse problem. In particular, we would seek to capitalize on established district networks to reach out to more parents.

Bureau/ Department	Existing Measures	Proposed Measures
	<p>to enhance the capabilities of relevant stakeholders to organize anti-drug parent education within their networks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the Beat Drugs Fund, different sectors are encouraged to put forward initiatives to provide support to families, and organize activities promoting harmonious family relations as a means to prevent drug abuse among young people. 	

(c) Community-based Family Support Strategy

Bureau/ Department	Existing Measures	Proposed Measures
LCSD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HKPL has been collaborating with related Government departments and NGOs for organizing thematic workshops and talks and providing venues to support exhibitions on family related topics. 	
DH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Comprehensive Child Development Service (CCDS) has been implemented in phases since July 2005. • Under this programme, MCHCs serve as a platform for delivering coordinated services among health, education and social services provided by Obstetrics, Psychiatry and Paediatrics Departments of hospitals; Integrated Family Service Centres / Integrated Service Centers and pre-primary institutions. The aim is to ensure early identification of children and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCDS will be extended to all districts by 2012.

Bureau/ Department	Existing Measures	Proposed Measures
	<p>their families with special needs so that appropriate services can be made available to them in a timely manner.</p>	
HAB		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Steering Committee on the Community Care Fund has reserved \$40 million for implementing the programme to enhance after-school child care service to support low-income families with both parents employed. The programme will be run on a pilot basis, and aims to forge a partnership between schools and NGOs on the provision of after-school child care service for primary one to secondary three students from low-income families. The proposed service should build on and integrate with the existing after-school learning and support programmes funded by Government and other sources. It should also enable the students in need to continue to join the existing extra-curricular activities held by

Bureau/ Department	Existing Measures	Proposed Measures
		<p>schools or other NGOs with after-school child care experience, while using their time constructively for study before they return home for dinner, so that the pressure of their working parents can be relieved. The proposed programme is subject to consideration and endorsement at the meetings of the CCF Executive Committee and Steering Committee to be held in January and February 2012 respectively.</p>
SWD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 62 IFSCs operated by SWD and NGOs over the territory have been implementing the FSP. FSP aims to connect needy families who are unable/ unwilling to seek help to the suitable family support services so as to prevent their family problems from deteriorating. Under FSP, social workers and volunteers together form a community network to proactively reach out to vulnerable families through various means such 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FSP will be implemented continuously to encourage families to form self-support groups for mutual assistance.

Bureau/ Department	Existing Measures	Proposed Measures
	<p>as telephone contacts and home visits, etc. Volunteers recruited under FSP include those who have gone through similar problems or crises before.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publicity Campaign on “Strengthening Families and Combating Violence” is launched each year, under which territory-wide and district-based publicity and education programmes are organized to enhance public awareness of the importance of family solidarity and prevention of domestic violence. Positive messages reminding parents of the needs of children and family core values are included in the publicity programmes. • Various child care services including child care centres, occasional child care service (OCCS) and extended hours service, are in place to support families who cannot temporarily take 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SWD will continue to launch the Publicity Campaign on “Strengthening Families and Combating Violence” to disseminate the message of family solidarity and prevention of domestic violence among the public. • SWD will continue to monitor the implementation of various child care services including the NSCCP and publicise the services.

Bureau/ Department	Existing Measures	Proposed Measures
	<p>care of their young children because of work or other reasons. SWD has also subsidized operators of OCCS to provide family support activities to enhance parents / carers' awareness and understanding of safe and proper care for children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2008-09, SWD introduced the Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project (NSCCP) to provide more flexible forms of child care service and promote mutual help at the neighbourhood level. The NSCCP was regularized and extended to 18 districts in October 2011. • IFSCs adopt various community-based support strategies to strengthen family functioning including collaboration with different government departments, welfare service units and local stakeholders to provide services for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IFSCs will continue to collaborate with relevant parties in the community to develop and organize groups and programmes to promote concern and support for the underprivileged families.

Bureau/ Department	Existing Measures	Proposed Measures
	<p>individuals / families in need.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote family responsibility at the community level, LWB and EC jointly launched a new phase of the NAAP in July 2011, which subscribes to Family Council’s common theme of “sharing family responsibilities in love and filial piety”. • The Opportunities for the Elderly Project (OEP) provides subsidies to community organisations to plan and implement innovative programmes and activities for promoting a sense of worthiness among elders and intergenerational interactions. • The Community Investment and Inclusion Fund administered by LWB promotes community participation and cross-sectoral projects to foster social capital development. It encourages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District projects under the new phase of NAAP will commence in early 2012 and will last for two years. • SWD will continue to implement the OEP.

Bureau/ Department	Existing Measures	Proposed Measures
	<p>mutual support in the neighbourhood as well as community building. Many of the funded projects are geared toward the enhancement of children and family networks, youth development, social integration, cross generation integration, and elderly empowerment.</p>	
<p>Home Affairs Department (HAD)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The relevant subject policy bureaux and departments take the lead in planning and implementing various programmes to fulfill policy objectives. Where necessary, the lead policy bureaux and departments will consult and involve the District Councils in taking forward the programmes with assistance provided by HAD in the consultation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HAB, with the assistance of HAD, will consider the proposal of exploring ways to increase neighbourhood support in the community by partnering with the 18 District Councils under the “Neighbourhood Watcher Programme” proposed by the research team.