

Waiting list for subsidised residential care services for the elderly

- As at 31 December 2019, there were a total of 41 011 applicants being waitlisted for various types of subsidised residential care services (RCS) for the elderly in the Central Waiting List for subsidised long term care services. Details were as follows:

Subsidised RCS for the elderly	No. of applicants Note ^{1& 2}
Care and attention places	33 843
Nursing home places	7 168
Total	41 011

Waiting time

- With reference to information as at 31 December 2019, the average waiting times for various types of subsidised RCS for the elderly were as follows:

Subsidised RCS for the elderly	Waiting time (in months) Average from the past 3 months Note ³
Care and attention places	
Subvented homes and contract homes	41
Private homes participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme	8
Overall	20
Nursing home places Note ⁴	22

Note¹ The Social Welfare Department has ceased to accept new applications for placement in subvented Homes for the Aged since 1 January 2003. Currently subsidised RCS for the elderly available for application include subsidised care and attention and nursing home places.

Note² To encourage ageing in place, elderly persons assessed to be equally suitable for either Residential Care Service (RCS) or Community Care Service (CCS) (the so-called “dual option” cases) or those solely suitable for RCS will be given the choice of CCS if they wish to stay at home. Upon admission to CCS, their applications for RCS will be treated as “inactive” and will not be called for admission to service. However, these elderly persons may seek to re-activate their RCS option if there is a need in future. Once their applications are re-activated, these elderly persons will be called for admission to RCS when

vacancies arise in accordance with their original application dates subject to valid assessment results. As at end of December 2019, there were 16 237 “inactive” applications.

Note³ It is the average number of months taken between the waitlist date and the admission date of normal cases admitted to service in the past three months. Cases accorded priority in allocation of places, those cases with inactive history admitted in the past three months, and cases transferred from home for the aged places to the converted care and attention places providing a continuum of care in the same residential care home for the elderly have been excluded in the calculation because their waiting time may be extraordinarily long or short in comparison with that of normal cases.

Note⁴ Including subsidised nursing home places provided by subvented nursing homes, self-financing nursing homes and contract homes.

Turn for placement offer for cases applying for residential care services

As at 31 December 2019, the latest application dates for applications for various types of residential care services with turn for placement offer were as follows:

[for reference only - the following turn for placement offer is only for cases without location preference to region/district/home.]

Subsidised RCS for the elderly	The latest application date with turn for placement offer (Month/Year)	
	Female	Male
Care and attention places		
Subvented homes and contract homes	5/2018	11/2017
Private homes participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme	8/2019	11/2019
Nursing homes places Note ¹	4/2016	1/2017

Note¹ Including subsidised nursing home places provided by subvented nursing homes, self-financing nursing homes and contract homes.