

**THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE**  
**Executive Committee 2024/25**

Minutes of 2nd Meeting of the Executive Committee for 2024/25 held on Tuesday, 21 January, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at Room 201, 2/F., Duke of Windsor Social Service Building, 15 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

Present : Revd Canon Hon. Peter Douglas Koon (Chairperson)  
Ms. Yvonne Chak                      The Hon. Bernard Chan  
Ms. Chan Siu Lai                      Ms. Kitty Chau  
Mr. Cooke Cheung                      Mrs. Angela Chiu  
Mr. Raymond Chiu                      Mr. Thomas Chu  
Mr. Larry Kwok                      Dr. Hon. Lam Ching Choi  
Mrs. Patricia Lau                      Ms. Lau Sze Fan  
Ms. Elizabeth Law                      Ms. Carmen Lee  
Ms. Joyce Lee                      Mr. Kennedy Liu  
Dr. CC Luk                      Ms. Melissa Pang  
Ms. Bonnie So                      Dr. Wan Lap Man

In-Attendance : Mr. Chua Hoi Wai, Chief Executive  
Ms. Grace Chan, Business Director  
Ms. Cheung Lai Wah, Business Director  
Dr. Jessica Tam, Business Director  
Mr. Anthony Wong, Business Director

Apologies : Ms. Queenie Chan                      Mr. Benny Cheung  
Ms. Hsu Siu Man                      Mr. Billie Lau  
Ms. Anthea Lee                      Mr. Henry Ng  
Dr. Hon. Tik Chi Yuen

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

1. Minutes of the last meeting dated 11 December 2024 were confirmed with no amendment.

**MATTERS ARISING**

2. The recruitment process for the new Chief Executive (CE) was discussed during a confidential session.

**MATTERS FOR INFORMATION AND APPROVAL**

To note the Chief Executive's Progress Report

3. Mr. Chua highlighted and provided supplementary information to Members on the progress report.

**3.1 Care Food-Networking with Key Stakeholders**

The Care Food team was in the process of applying for the International Dysphagia Diet Standardisation Initiative (IDDSI) Framework approved as a Greater Bay Area (GBA) standard. An expert panel meeting had been convened by the Guangdong Institute of Standardization to provide feedback and oversee the thorough and stringent approval process. It was hoped that this process could be completed by the second or third quarter. Our Care Food team was also looking forward to continued positive progress in elevating the regional standard to a national level.

In Hong Kong, the Care Food team was also working concurrently with the Hong Kong Accreditation service to pursue relevant certification as an accredited scheme owner on Care Food. The Care Food Team had been engaging with key stakeholders, including the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (CEDB), the Hospital Authority, Hong Kong Q-Mark, and HKQAA, to explore collaborations and promote Care Food, while also contributing to the growth of the silver economy in Hong Kong.

#### To note and approve the Position of Funds

- Ms. Elizabeth Law, Honorary Treasurer, provided an update on the Council's financial status as of November and December 2024. This report included details on reserves, fund balances, budgets, and the current status of ongoing projects. It was also noted that the Tracker Fund had recorded satisfactory performance.

#### To note and approve Agency Membership Application

- Members noted and endorsed the membership applications of the following agencies:
  - Heart-to Heart Life Education Foundation Limited 心繫心生命教育基金有限公司
  - La Violet Charity Foundation Limited 籽識慈善基金有限公司

An ExCo Member had declared a potential conflict of interest and requested to abstain from discussing and voting on an agency's application. The Chairperson acknowledged and approved the request.

#### To note and approve Hon. Bernard Chan for Registration as the Designated Person of the Specified Office as the Social Welfare Ex-officio Member of the Election Committee

- Mr. Chua reported that, regarding the previous email endorsements received in mid-December from the ExCo majority, there had been support for the management's recommendation to propose Hon. Bernard Chan as the Council's representative on the Election Committee (EC). This decision had been made considering that the Chairperson of the ExCo was already an EC member by virtue of being a LegCo member.

With this resolution in place, the necessary registration had been officially submitted to the Registration and Electoral Office (REO). Members in the Meeting noted and formally endorsed the designation retrospectively.

### **MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

#### Feedback on the Extended Governance Meeting on HKCSS Business Plan 2025-26

- Mr. Chua expressed his gratitude to all members of the governance committees for their active participation in the Extended Governance meeting, where insights were shared by three guest speakers: Hon. SHANG Hailong, Member of the Legislative Council of Hong Kong (Election Committee Constituency); Prof. Ir Steve WONG, Chairman of the Environment and Sustainability Committee at The Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce; and Mr. LOK Pak Keung, Robert, Vice President of The Chinese Manufacturers' Association of Hong Kong.

Mr. Chua noted that the guest speakers had provided valuable perspectives on commerce and industry, particularly highlighting the importance of implementing ESG practices, which would facilitate the silver economy and foster collaboration with the welfare sector, and the significance of IT interfaces and AI in various aspects of business and social development. These elements were identified as potential key components for collaboration with the social welfare sector, addressing both challenges and opportunities that NGOs faced in the evolving technological landscape and their digital readiness.

Members were invited to share their views regarding the role the Council should play in future developments while working towards the corporate business plan for 2025-26. In summary, Members highlighted the significance of demographic changes brought about by the

government's Top Talent Pass Scheme, which impacted people's livelihoods and underscored the pressing need for social inclusion, as well as economic development. They expressed appreciation for the guest speakers' insights on the establishment of Hong Kong's New Industrialisation Development, which led to a cooperative platform for industrial partners and the sector, particularly focusing on ESG development and the proactive promotion of the silver economy as a catalyst for economic growth.

The concept of IESG was also notably impressive, with NGOs expressing interest in participating and leveraging opportunities to engage effectively in the imminent wave of ESG. This would guide NGOs on how to play a role and be part of this significant trend, positioning the Council as a vital platform that bridged NGOs and business counterparts. It was also essential for NGOs to be equipped with at least a basic understanding of ESG principles. Moreover, many social factors in relation to welfare could significantly contribute to ESG initiatives. Concerns were also raised about leveraging AI for ESG integration, particularly regarding AI ethics, which had become a widespread concern.

Mr. Chua thanked Members for their valuable comments and assured that the discussion would be considered as useful reference and background for developing proactive strategies to lead and shape the Council's business strategic directions in manoeuvring through the challenges ahead.

#### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

8. Mr. Chua had invited ExCo Members to the Annual HKCSS Spring Social reception on 10 February 2025, scheduled for 4:30 pm at the Council's Auditorium. There was also a visit planned on 7 March to a government-run apartment for senior citizens in Macau to gain insights into elderly housing and the active aging policy in the region. Further details were to be provided in the invitation that would be sent to Members in due course.

#### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

9. The next meeting was scheduled for 18 March 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.