

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

Minutes of 4th Meeting of the Executive Committee for 2024/25 held on Tuesday, 27 May 2025 at 5:00 p.m. at Room 202, 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                   Hon. Bernard Chan  
                  Ms. Queenie Chan                Ms. Chan Siu Lai  
                  Ms. Kitty Chau                    Mrs. Angela Chiu  
                  Mr. Raymond Chiu                Mr. Thomas Chu  
                  Ms. Hsu Siu Man                  Mr. Larry Kwok  
                  Dr. Hon. Lam Ching Choi        Mr. Billie Lau  
                  Mrs. Patricia Lau                 Ms. Lau Sze Fan  
                  Ms. Elizabeth Law                Ms. Anthea Lee  
                  Ms. Carmen Lee                  Ms. Joyce Lee  
                  Dr. Kennedy Liu                  Mr. Henry Ng  
                  Dr. Wan Lap Man

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

**Apologies** :        Mr. Benny Cheung                 Mr. Cooke Cheung  
                          Dr. CC Luk                        Ms. Melissa Pang  
                          Ms. Bonnie So                    Dr. Hon. Tik Chi Yuen

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

1. The minutes of the last meeting dated 18 March 2025 were confirmed with no amendments.

**MATTERS ARISING**

2. No matters arising were reported.

**MATTERS FOR INFORMATION AND APPROVAL**

**To note the Chief Executive's Progress Report**

3. Ms. Grace Chan, Chief Executive, highlighted and provided supplementary information to Members on the progress report.

**3.1 Release of Findings on Mental Health of HKDSE Students**

Ms. Grace Chan reported that the Council held a press conference to announce the findings of the study titled "Research on the Mental Health Status and Help-Seeking Intentions of Secondary School Students Under HKDSE Stress," which was commissioned by the Hong Kong Policy Research Institute. She emphasized the urgent need to address these issues and the importance of timely support services. The press conference received coverage from 14 media outlets, effectively raising public awareness on the topic. Additionally, to encourage collaboration across sectors, the "Youth Co: Lab Hong Kong Dialogue 2025: Our One-Sixth—Youth Mental Health" will also take place at the S+ Summit and Expo.

### 3.2 JC InnoPower Social Welfare Fellowship Programme

Launched in January 2024 and funded by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, the JC InnoPower Social Welfare Fellowship Programme aimed to strengthen senior management leadership in the social welfare sector and improve their ability to develop service, organizational, and sectoral resilience through action learning, talent development, and collective leadership. Mr. Anthony Wong, Business Director, noted that there was uncertainty regarding participation in the programme at Harvard University due to recent disputes between the University and the US government.

### 3.3 S+ Summit cum Expo 2025 and Champions for Good Awards 2025 (20 to 21 May)

Ms. Grace Chan, highlighted that the S+ Summit cum Expo 2025 was successfully held on May 20-21, featuring over 30 symposiums, seminars, and workshops, with 162 exhibitors participating across five themed zones aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals.

Ms. Cheung Lai Wah, Business Director, further reported that the premiere of the Champions for Good Awards took place as a gala dinner on May 21, 2025, during the S+ Summit cum Expo. The ceremony was attended by 308 cross-sectoral stakeholders, including representatives from award-winning organizations and partners of the Council. This event marked a significant milestone for the award scheme, uniting stakeholders from various sectors to witness and celebrate the remarkable achievements of NGOs within the social welfare sector.

Looking ahead, Ms. Cheung Lai Wah noted that the awards would not take place in the upcoming cycle next year. In the meantime, the Council planned to refine the awards' design, enhance judging mechanisms, and introduce innovative elements. A series of learning and exchange activities were also organized to share best practices from the award winners. These initiatives aimed to set benchmarks of excellence in the social service sector.

Dr. Jessica Tam, Business Director, reported on the two-day S+ Summit cum Expo which featured over 140 speakers from abroad and included 34 plenary sessions with inspiring SDG-related talks and workshops. The event had attracted more than 5,000 stakeholders from various sectors to discuss local and regional social issues. Over 160 social welfare organizations, social enterprises, and impact-driven businesses showcased effective solutions to social challenges.

It was noted that the corporate attendees had decreased due to the revamp of the Caring Company Scheme, resulting in reduced involvement because the recognition ceremony was halted. However, activities were anticipated to pick up after the revamp's completion and the introduction of the revised Scheme. Additionally, guided tours with GBA partners were planned to be enhanced to explore future developments. A final evaluation report was scheduled for completion by July and would be shared with Members of ExCo.

In conclusion, Ms. Grace Chan, on behalf of the Council, sincerely thanked all agency members and ExCo members for their attendance and support at the S+ Summit cum Expo 2025.

### 3.4 Caring Company Scheme Revamp

Dr. Jessica Tam, Business Director, presented the revamping of the Caring Company Scheme (CCS) and its new logo. She outlined the objectives of the revamp, including stakeholder surveys and interviews. Ms. Tam highlighted key changes, such as a performance-based logo awarding mechanism in three stages and a focus on assessing economic, social, and environmental impacts using localized International Standards.

Big-data analytics were adopted to provide benchmarking reports on corporate sustainability for participating NGOs and businesses.

To qualify for the new scheme, NGOs and businesses were required to complete Forms A and B, each weighted equally for cross-partnership and sustainable development. The application period for 2024/25 was set to open in October 2025. The new Form B, including business sustainability and e-payment functions, would launch in July, allowing interested NGOs and corporations to trial the form in advance. Capacity-building workshops were planned to help attendees navigate the updated application process.

In response to a question about whether larger NGOs would be favored, it was assured that the system would ensure fairness regardless of NGO size.

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

4. Ms. Elizabeth Law, Honorary Treasurer, updated the Council's financial status as of March and April 2025. The report included details on reserves, fund balances, budgets, and the current status of ongoing projects. It was noted that the reported figures were still subject to final audit adjustments and consolidation. Aside of a note that was made regarding the financial situation of ITRC, the report on the Positions of Funds was received and endorsed by Members without further questions.

#### To note and approve the Proposed Changes to be made to the Current Quotation and Tender Ceilings

5. Concerning the letter from SWD dated April 30, 2025, regarding the new procurement procedures for the "Productivity Enhancement Programme", the management proposed updating the Council's guidelines on current quotation and tender ceilings, pending approval from ExCo. Table A presented a comparison of the current and proposed quotation and tender ceilings.

Members acknowledged and endorsed the proposed quotation and updated tender ceilings as outlined in Table A.

#### To note and approve the Annual Election Procedure and Schedule for HKCSS AGM 2025

6. Ms. Grace Chan, Chief Executive, announced that the HKCSS Annual General Meeting 2025 was scheduled for November 11, 2025, Tuesday, at the Council's Auditorium. The election for the new governance for the terms 2025-2027 would begin on June 6, 2025, following the prescribed schedule presented to Members for feedback and endorsement.

Members acknowledged and endorsed the appointment of the Election Committee, with Mr. Kennedy Liu serving as Chairperson and Mr. Larry Kwok as a member. The election arrangements and schedule for nominations and the election of new governance for 2025-2027 were also approved by Members.

Ms. Cheung Lai Wah, Business Director, mentioned that electronic voting procedures were being considered to reduce human error in the voting process. Details would be presented to the Election Committee and Auditors before finalizing the implementation of electronic voting. Ms. Grace Chan expressed her gratitude to Members for their support, and the membership unit would commence preparations.

## **MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

### **The HKCSS Provident Fund and Life Insurance Plan**

7. It was noted that before discussions began, a Member declared his interests in the issue and sought approval from the Chairperson to abstain from the discussion, which was acknowledged and confirmed.

Ms. Cheung Lai Wah, Business Director, delivered a presentation in two parts. Part One addressed HKCSS's role as the Main Contract Holder for participating NGOs, reporting on the current status and developments of the Plan. Part Two focused on HKCSS as an employer, specifically on selecting a broker for staff under the ORSO (Occupational Retirement Scheme). Detailed information was presented for both parts, outlining the Council's roles and responsibilities.

After lengthy deliberation, Ms. Cheung Lai Wah thanked all Members for their input and the management was committed to addressing the issue for both stakeholder groups while keeping Members updated.

## **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Government Measures to be Implemented by Working Group on Promoting Silver Economy**

8. Ms. Grace Chan, reported that the Deputy Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr. Cheuk Wing-hing, held a press conference on May 27 to announce 30 measures from the Working Group on Promoting the Silver Economy. A summary paper of these measures was circulated at the meeting for Members' reference.

The silver economy presented significant business opportunities. Through collaboration with the Government, including the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) and the Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC), the Council aimed to expand the silver economy and enhance the quality of life for the elderly in Hong Kong, reaching into the Greater Bay Area and international markets. The Council would also work with the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau (CEDB) to promote Care Food and host the Silver Summit in November during Gerontech and Innovation Expo cum Summit (GIES). Further details would be shared once available.

## **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

9. The next meeting was scheduled for 29 July 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.