

# THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE

Service Development (Family & Community)

## **Specialized Committee on Family and Community Service**

Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of the Specialized Committee on Family and Community Service (2020-21) held on January 13, 2021 (Wednesday) via ZOOM platform.

### **Present**

Ms Eliza LAM (Chairperson)	Caritas – Hong Kong
Mrs Angela CHIU (Vice-chairperson)	Hong Kong Catholic Marriage Advisory Council
Mr Tom MA (Vice-chairperson)	The Salvation Army
Ms Scarlet POON	Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service
Ms Carmen LIAU	Breakthrough Limited
Ms Agnes LEUNG	Evangelical Lutheran Church Social Service – Hong Kong
Ms Florence KONG	Hong Kong Christian Service
Mr YIP Kin-chung	Hong Kong Evangelical Church Social Service Limited
Dr Margaret WONG	Hong Kong Shue Yan University
Ms Cindy YIU	New Life Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association
Ms LAM Yee-mui	The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong
Ms Judy CHAN	Hong Kong Family Welfare Society
Ms Iris LIU	International Social Service Hong Kong Branch
Ms CHENG Miu-nar	Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers
Mr Raymond WONG	St James' Settlement
Ms Wendy WONG	Yang Memorial Methodist Social Service
Ms Florence CHENG	Aberdeen Kai-Fong Welfare Association Social Service
Mr Moses MUI	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Mr W S CHAN	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Ms Qubie TANG	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Ms Blanche KI	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Ms Noel CHOW (recorder)	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

Specialized Committee members and staff members of the meeting introduced themselves to each other via ZOOM.

### **1. Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting**

The draft minutes of the meeting held on November 11, 2020 was circulated by email on January 4, 2021 and was confirmed with nil amendment.

### **2. Matters Arising**

#### **2.1 Cooptation of Members**

As agreed in the last meeting, the practice of co-opting representatives from the Network on Community Development Service, the Network on Ethnic Minorities Service and the Network on Substance Abuse Service would be continued. Ms Florence Cheng, Aberdeen Kai-Fong Welfare Association Social Service would be the representative from Network on Community Development. Further recommendation of cooptation could be made throughout the year.

*(Post-meeting note: Ms Sky Siu, KELY Support Group Limited and Ms Carol Ng, Hong Kong Lutheran Social Service, Lutheran Church - Hong Kong Synod have been nominated as co-opted members representing Network on EM Service and Network on Substance Abuse Service respectively.)*

## **2.2 Updated Structure of Specialized Committee**

Paper 1, Structure of Specialized Committee on Family and Community Service has been sent to members for reference. Mr Moses Mui briefed members the composition of networks/working groups with their meeting dates, chairpersons and responsible staff identified.

## **2.3 Working Group on Supporting Divorced Families**

Ms Wendy Wong reported the change of name of this Working Group, which was previously known as Working Group on Maintenance Issue, to reflect its expanded work focus. They would hold their next meeting on February 22, 2021, 2:30 pm. It was also shared that the Working Group on Promotion of Parental Responsibility of SWD would focus on education to social workers and teachers.

Mr Moses Mui added that the HKU study report has not been released yet. On the other hand, to keep up the discussion on the legal reform, a ZOOM meeting with the Law Society of Hong Kong would be held on February 5, 2021. Members of the Working Group on Supporting Divorced Families as well as the Specialized Committee would attend this meeting regarding the matter.

## **2.4 Working Group on Carer Service and Policy**

Mr Tom Ma reported the updated membership of the Working Group including Ms Agnes Leung. The next meeting would be held after that of the Task Force on Carer Service and Policy under the Standing Committee.

Mr W S Chan presented a discussion paper 加強對照顧者社區層面的支援 (paper 2) in the meeting. Highlights of service recommendation including 「聚腳點」 and 「照顧者社區支援社工隊」 were shared. Further details of the service recommendation will be worked out once it is confirmed to be raised in the coming WAPS 2021.

Members also shared their views and experiences in this matter in the meeting. And they were cordially invited to join in the next meeting of Working Group for further discussion.

## **3. Consultation on Paper on Sentencing and Related Matters in the Review of Sexual Offences**

Mr W S Chan summarized the main points of the Consultation Paper with a powerpoint presentation (paper 3). He briefed that there were 30 offences to be reviewed, renamed or added, in which 14 of them do not relate to existing law. The sentences and record disclosures were also concerned.

An online seminar on this subject matter would be held on February 3, 2021. The registration link would be sent to all SC-FC members. While speakers from legal professional will be invited in the seminar, managerial and frontline staff in the sector were encouraged to participate in order to understand more about the consultation paper. It is expected consolidated views on the matter would be prepared and submitted to the Law Reform Commission of Hong Kong. The deadline of consultation would be February 11, 2021.

*(Post-meeting note: detail of the seminar has been sent to members by email on January 22, 2021.)*

#### **4. Key Initiatives for 2021-2022**

##### **4.1 Innovative Practice on Parent Education – JC Project IDEAL**

Paper 4 were sent to members prior to the meeting. Ms Blanche Ki briefed members on the Project with powerpoint presentation on the following areas:

- Transformative approach: **I**nspiration, **D**evelopment, **E**mpowerment, **A**utonomy and Transformative **L**earning
- Project rationale: transformative learning platform for parents and knowledge sharing and capacity building for NGOs
- Project objective: education of parenting knowledge and skills
- Project component: continuing Happy Family Month with thematic community programs
- The 10 partner NGOs
- Public education and cross-sector initiatives

It was suggested that Parent and Teacher Association (PTA) and can be considered as collaborating partner for the Project.

##### **4.2 Post-pandemic Community Recovery**

Members shared their views on the impact of pandemic over the past year as well as the service needs identified, with the following key points summarized:

- Enhance interpersonal communication and social skills;
- Rebuilt parenting knowhow;
- Support for the unemployed (especially for those industries heavily attacked by the pandemic);
- Tangible resources for needy families (i.e. solicit resources from private foundations and donors and mapping out the service gaps);
- Streamline the operation of emergency funds (e.g. Rainbow Fund); and
- Support for NGOs (i.e. HR issues related to work-from-home, use of technologies under the new normal etc)

It was also suggested to consolidate and publicize the efforts of the NGOs sector during pandemic so as to let the general public get to know the sector's contribution.

**5. LSG Review – Service Review**

Mr Moses Mui highlighted the latest update of LSG review. Members noted that a cross-service task force will be set up in the Council to follow up the review of notional staff establishment. Ms Eliza Lam will join the Task Force on behalf of the Specialized Committee. More details on the work plan will be updated

**6. Progress Update**

Paper 5, Progress Report from November 2020 to January 2021 of Family and Community Service was sent to members for reference. The following items were included:

- Hong Kong Dialogue - Cultivating a Multi-culturally Inclusive Society
- Local Standard of Community Development Practice
- Jockey Club FamConnect Project

**7. Any Other Business**

Members were noted that there were game boxes, funded by the Community Chest, from Caritas – HK for distribution.

**8. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting would be held on March 10, 2021 (Wednesday) at 2:30 pm in Room 1410, Duke of Windsor Social Service Building or by ZOOM platform.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 pm.

Adopted by

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Chairperson  
on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2021