

THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE

Service Development (Family & Community)

Specialized Committee on Family and Community Service

Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the Specialized Committee on Family and Community Service (2021-22) held on March 16, 2022 (Wednesday) via ZOOM platform.

Present

Mrs Angela CHIU (Chairperson)	Hong Kong Catholic Marriage Advisory Council
Ms Iris LIU (Vice-chairperson)	International Social Service Hong Kong Branch
Ms Agnes LEUNG (Vice-chairperson)	Evangelical Lutheran Church Social Service – Hong Kong
Ms Scarlet POON	Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service
Ms Carmen LIAU	Breakthrough Limited
Ms Florence KONG	Hong Kong Christian Service
Mr YIP Kin-chung	Hong Kong Evangelical Church Social Service Limited
Ms Judy CHAN	Hong Kong Family Welfare Society
Ms HSU Siu-man	The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups
Ms Cecily MA	The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong
Ms Monica CHEUNG	Caritas – Hong Kong
Ms Joyce TSE	Christian Family Service Centre
Ms Priscilla LEUNG	The Salvation Army
Mr Raymond WONG	St James' Settlement
Ms Carrie CHUNG	Yang Memorial Methodist Social Service
Ms Cindy YIU	New Life Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association
Ms Florence CHENG	Aberdeen Kai-Fong Welfare Association Social Service
Ms Carol NG	Hong Kong Lutheran Social Service, Lutheran Church – HK Synod
Ms Faye CHAN	The Neighbourhood Advice-Action Council
Mr Raymond LAI	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Ms Angie CHAN	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Ms Qubie TANG	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Mr Toby YIP	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Ms Noel CHOW (recorder)	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting

The draft minutes (revised version) of the meeting held on January 19, 2022 was circulated by email on February 8, 2022 and was confirmed with the following amendment:

- i) ... 2nd Meeting of the Specialized Committee on Family and Community Service (2021-22) held on January 19, 2022 (Wednesday) ...
- ii) Attendance: Ms HSU Siu-man, The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups

2. Matters Arising

2.1 Working Group on Mandatory Report System

Ms Iris Liu reported the progress of the Working Group. Ms Angie Chan added that references of overseas experience, namely, Australia, Canada and Ireland were shared at a share room for related services workers to understand more about the operation of MRS. The Family and Community Service team would arrange the uploading of such information to HKCSS website for public to view later. Mr. Raymond Lai added that Ms Karen Yiu, Chief Officer (Children and Youth Service) of the Council would be in charge to collect all the related views and recommendations channeled to the Council regarding the Mandatory Report System Consultation Paper.

Members recommended Legal advice and sharing should be arranged before government consultation started. SC-FC would channel those suggestions to the Standing Committee on Service Development.

2.2 Working Group on Carer Service and Policy

Ms Agnes Leung shared the agenda items of the last meeting of the Working Group with Mr Toby Yip's supplement.

The Hong Kong Council of Social Service (HKCSS) and PolyU Jockey Club Design Institute for Social Innovation (JCDISI) co-organise the "Community Support for Carers" Programme 『照顧者』社區應援—好橋招募計劃. The submission was ended on February 11, 2022. There were 14 submissions and 7 had been selected to participate in design thinking workshops to further develop the innovation idea by design thinking approach. There was a final pitching on April 22, 2022 for selecting 3 operation projects.

The Working Group planned to raise the public awareness over carers and identify carers at risk in the community. In order to facilitate the formation of carer community support team, exploration of service model would be studied.

The event 照顧者研究初部結果分享會 organised by HKCSS was held on February 9, 2022. 10 aspects of policy recommendation were shared by the PolyU Consulting Team of the "Consultancy Study on Needs and Support Required of Carers of Elderly Persons and of Persons with Disabilities in Hong Kong".

After exchanging views, members agreed to identify the carer needs and service provision from community-based perspective.

3. For Discussion

3.1 Welfare Agenda & Priorities Setting (WAPS) 2022

Paper 1: 家庭及社區服務專責委員會 2022 福利議題及優次建議書 (草擬) was sent to members by email.

3 agendas were proposed to the Specialized Committee:

- i) 有關少數族裔服務:
 - a) 建構一個共融工作環境幫助少數族裔脫貧
 - b) 於公共事業提供全面的翻譯服務
- ii) 加強對濫藥孕婦及父母的支援
- iii) 推動建立社區為本支援照顧者服務

Members shared their views with the proposed agendas and would be followed up by related networks to prepare factsheets.

Other concerned agendas will be considered for annual submission to Chief Executive, HKSAR government in 2022:

- i) 支援離異家庭面對被拖欠贍養費問題
- ii) 加強少數族裔婦女家暴及性暴力受害人支援
- iii) 家庭服務網上服務能力建設分享及培訓
- iv) 加強家庭及親職教育

Moreover, members showed their concerns on raising resources for extra information technology and manpower needs during and post-pandemic family service in the meeting. They also showed concern about the support needs of low-income families and reconstruction of community support network for post pandemic period. It should be highlighted in WAPS and the annual submission by HKCSS. Mrs Angela Chiu recommended IFSC Network could further discuss on the service needs of families for post-pandemic period and make recommendations.

4. Pandemic Related Issues

Ms Angie Chan briefed members the special service provisions delivered by the Family and Community Team during the 5th wave of COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr Raymond Lai highlighted the work done / special projects of the Council as follows:

- i) Recruitment of additional short-term manpower from tertiary education to address the manpower shortage problem in residential care homes suffering from COVID-19 pandemic so as to maintain basic quality of care;
- ii) Distribution of RAT kits to needy groups of users through elderly, rehabilitation, family and community development service units;
- iii) *Door-to-door Vaccination Service* funded by The Hongkong Bank Foundation has been launched to help the home-bound elderly people and persons with disabilities (PWDs) to get vaccinated by medical professionals at home;
- iv) Discussion with SWD regarding the operation arrangement of subvented service operators during the proposed Compulsory Universal Testing with Social Welfare Department; and
- v) Review the support of residential care homes for better infection control measures and operation during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Members suggested to strengthen the care support for the follow-up services for COVID-19 patients, including promotion of medical information as well as setting up designated hotlines for the public.

5. Business Plan for 2022-2023

Paper 2: Draft of Service Development (Family & Community) Business Plan 2022–2023 was sent to members for reference. Ms Angie Chan guided members through the core business objectives, key result areas and projects with detailed explanation. Enhancements and updates would be made when necessary.

6. Progress Update

Paper 3: Progress Report from January to March 2022 of Family and Community Service was sent to members for information. The following items were included:

- Social Innovation Symposium
- Follow-up on Tenancy Control of Subdivided Units
- NGO Innovation Hub (NIH)
- 2022 National Symposium on Drug Abuse Prevention and Control
- SC-FC Working Group on the Proposed Mandatory Reporting System
- Specialized Co-parenting Support Centre (SCSC) Virtual Agency Visit
- Working Group on Survey on NGO IFSC Workload
- Professional Traineeship Programme for the Ethnic Minorities
- Collaboration to Produce Information Kit to EM Community
- Anti-pandemic Information Delivery to Ethnic Minorities

Mr Toby Yip and Ms Qubie Tang highlighted the gist in the meeting.

7. Any Other Business

7.1 Further to the incident at a child residential home, members showed concerns on the service provision standard of residential homes. Basic requirements of resources, especially reasonable manpower allocation was considered very crucial. More alarming cases were reflected during the pandemic. Therefore, review studies in various mandates and perspectives would be needed for further recommendation.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on May 18 (Wednesday), 2022 at 2:30 pm in Duke of Windsor Social Service Building or by ZOOM platform.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Adopted by

Chairperson
on the _____ day of _____ 2022