

THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE
Service Development (Family & Community)
Specialized Committee on Family and Community Service (SCFC)

Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the Specialized Committee on Family and Community Service (2024-25) held on March 12, 2025 (Wednesday) at Room 201, 2/F, Duke of Windsor Social Service Building, 15 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

Present

Ms. Angela CHIU (Chairperson)	Hong Kong Catholic Marriage Advisory Council
Ms. MA Yeuk-nung, Cecily (Vice-chairperson)	Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong
Ms. CHEUNG Wai-ling, Monica (Vice-chairperson)	Caritas – Hong Kong
Ms. TSE So-hung, Joyce	Christian Family Service Centre
Ms. SEE Man-yan	Chinese Young Men's Christian Association of Hong Kong, Jordan Centre
Dr. CHAN Siu-ming	City University of Hong Kong
Mr. NG Kwan-lim, Kenny	Community Development Alliance
Mr. FAN Man Tao, Frankie	Evangelical Lutheran Church Social Service - Hong Kong
Mr. YIP Kin Chung	Hong Kong Evangelical Church Social Service Limited
Ms. Apple TSOI	Hong Kong Federation of Women's Centres
Ms. LEUNG Tsui Wan, Tracy	Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council Limited
Mr. CHEUNG Muk Yan Mike	Hong Kong Christian Service
Ms. NG Suet-kam	Hong Kong Lutheran Social Service, LC-HKS
Ms. YIU Yan-yee, Cindy	New Life Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association
Dr. Chan Ying, Crystal	The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Ms. LEE Shuk Yee Charrix	The Hong Kong Family Welfare Society
Ms. CHAN Fei, Faye	The Neighbourhood Advice-Action Council
Ms. LEE Koon Mei May	The Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention, HK
Ms. LAM Yick Man	St. James' Settlement
Ms. Jessica TAM	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Mr. Peace WONG	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Mr. Alex YEUNG	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Ms. Qubie TANG	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Ms. Alice LAW	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Ms. Sandra WONG (Recorder)	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

Apologies

Ms. Fiona, FONG So-pik	Heep Hong Society
Mr. CHAM Kwok Wing Kerin	International Social Service Hong Kong Branch
Ms. CHAN Yu-ling, Lincole	The Salvation Army

1 Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting – January 22, 2025

The draft minutes of the meeting held on January 22, 2025 was circulated by email on March 7, 2025 and was confirmed.

2 Reporting Items

2.1 Joint Parental Responsibility - Capacity Training

Ms. Qubie Tang reported that HKCSS held a sharing session to foster understanding of the Children Proceedings (Parental Responsibility) Bill for separated, divorcing or divorced parents. The Bill aims to reform laws concerning parental responsibilities and rights, with the best interests of children as the paramount consideration.

Members noted that the session provided a platform for professionals from various backgrounds, such as lawyers and social workers, to share their knowledge and experiences from multiple perspectives.

2.2 Focus Group on Mandatory Reporting

Ms. Angela Chiu reported that the focus group invited members to share their feedback on Mandatory Reporting. Members noted that the focus group mainly focused on the definition of different categories of child abuse and discussing varying risk boundaries.

As the Bill involves stake holders from multiple professions, members further suggested that the Social Welfare Department could organize more intra-industry exchange sessions.

2.3 Submit Position Paper on Regulatory Regime on Basic Housing Units (Paper 1)

Mr. Peace Wong reported that HKCSS had held two roundtable meetings to discuss the proposed regulatory framework for Basic Housing Units. Deliberations in the meetings were consolidated in the position paper of HKCSS and was subsequently submitted to the government.

2.4 Progress Report (January 2025 to March 2025) (Paper 2)

Progress Report from January 2025 to March 2025 of SCFC was sent to Members for information.

I. Combating Image-Based Sexual Violence: Public Awareness

IBSV will be the cover story for Scenario (《社情》) Issue 86. Experts and practitioners have been interviewed provide diverse perspectives and raise public awareness on the issue.

II. 2025 National Symposium on Drug Abuse Prevention and Control

The St. Francis University in Hong Kong will host the "2025 National Seminar on Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment" from October 22-24, 2025. It is expected that more than 200 local and 100 international delegates would join the event. HKCSS is calling for paper and the deadline for abstract submission is on March 28, 2025.

III. Carer Agenda Group Visit – JC Carer Space

On February 19, seven members of the Carer Agenda Group visited the Jockey Club Carer Space in Fanling to exchange on good practices for carer support, and explore collaboration opportunities. The visit facilitated productive dialogue and information sharing.

IV. Family Centric Financial Literacy Project Supported by DBS

CPs will start to launch their services on March. A workshop for Community Partners (CPs) will be held on March 7, 2025, to provide family-centric financial knowledge, communication skills and a family resilience service model. An educational tool to support service design will be developed by the end of March.

Additionally, 16 district-based public education events on financial literacy will be organized in the coming year.

V. Questionnaire on Ethnic Minority District Ambassador (EMDA) Scheme

Following the continuation of the Ethnic Minority District Ambassador (EMDA) Pilot Scheme, three questionnaires were developed to collect feedback from Supervisors, Ambassadors and EM Network members. Data analysis will be conducted in March 2025 and further discussed with SWD and sector stakeholders.

VI. Community Development Resources Book

Collection of papers for a resource book on social workers' practical experience in Community Development is underway. Over 40 abstracts have been submitted to the

editorial board, which will be reviewed and the selected authors will be further invited to submit full papers. The resource book is expected to be published in Q2 next year.

3. Discussion Items

3.1 Eviction of the Underprivileged Group under the “Combat Tenancy Abuse” Policy

Mr. Peace Wong reported that HKCSS met with Legislative Councilor Mr. Tik Chi-yuen to raise concerns about underprivileged groups being forced to move out due to the "Combat Tenancy Abuse" policy, and a meeting with the Permanent Secretary for Housing is scheduled for April 3, 2025. Members suggested that more specific situations and solutions should be raised at the upcoming meeting. Mr. Peace Wong reported that HKCSS had conducted a survey about the current situation of for the IFSC in handling evicted cases and will share the data in the meeting.

3.2 Service Implication of Budget Cut in current Budget Speech

Ms. Jessica Tam reported that following the Budget Cut in the Budget speech, SWD had announced the relaxation of certain restrictions on to reclaiming unused reserves and the removal of cost apportionment.

Ms. Jessica Tam noted that HKCSS had prepared a position paper for submission to SWD based on these changes. The position paper highlights discussions on daily operations, potential exemptions, and the management of FSA and non-FSA services. It also called for clearer government guidance and further relaxation of restrictions on self-financing services. She invited members to provide more specific initiatives in response to the relaxation.

Mr. Peace Wong encouraged members to provide comments and advice in specific on family and community development services for further considerations.

3.3 Collaboration with Care Teams

Members shared that they welcome the transfer of cases from Care Teams and had positive experience of collaborating with them. However, they expressed the need for more coordination. Mr. Peace Wong has reported that a sharing session about the collaboration of the Care Team and NGOs in the Southern will be held in the coming months.

3.4 Issues of Concern in the Coming Consultation for Policy Address

Ms. Angela Chiu announced that a district forum on the upcoming Policy Address will be held in May. She encouraged members to participate in various consultation meetings.

4. Any Other Business

4.1 S+ Summit

Ms. Jessica Tam promoted the upcoming event, the 'S+ Summit and Expo', scheduled to be held at the Hong Kong Exhibition and Convention Centre on May 20-21, 2025. Guided tours can be organized for committee members to provide a more in-depth understanding of the topics. Further information has been shared via the WhatsApp group.

5. Date of Next Meeting – Proposed Meeting Schedule (Paper 4)

The next meeting would be held on **May 14, 2025 (Wednesday)**, 10:00 a.m. at Room 201, Duke of Windsor Social Service Building.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Adopted by

Chairperson

on the _____ day of _____ 2025