

THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE

Service Development (Family & Community)

Specialized Committee on Family and Community Service

Minutes of the 5th Meeting of the Specialized Committee on Family and Community Service (2019-20) held on July 8, 2020 (Wednesday) via ZOOM platform.

Resent

Ms Eliza LAM (Chairperson)	Caritas-HongKong
Mr Charles NG (Vice-chairperson)	Christian Family Service Centre
Mrs Angela CHIU (Vice-chairperson)	Hong Kong Catholic Marriage Advisory Council
Mrs Doris LEE	Harmony House Limited
Ms Florence KONG	Hong Kong Christian Service
Ms Charrix LEE	Hong Kong Family Welfare Society
Ms Polly PANG	Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Lady MacLehose Centre
Ms LAM Yee-mui	Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong
Ms Iris LIU	International Social Service Hong Kong Branch
Mr Tom MA	The Salvation Army
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
Mr Kenny NG	Community Development Alliance
Ms Carol NG	Hong Kong Lutheran Social Service
Ms Sky SIU	KELY Support Group Limited
Mr Moses MUI	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Ms Lynn LAW	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Mr CHAN Wing-sun	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Ms Blanche KI	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Ms Vivian KWONG	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Ms Noel CHOW (recorder)	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

Apologies

Ms Lea YIP	Breakthrough Limited
Ms KEUNG Choi-yin	Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council Limited
Dr Margaret WONG	Hong Kong Shue Yan University

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting

The draft minutes of the meeting held on May 13, 2020 was circulated by email on March 26, 2020 and was confirmed with nil amendment:

2. Matters Arising

2.1 Welfare Agenda & Priorities Setting (WAPS) 2020

Paper 1: 2020 福利議題及優次建議書 were sent to members via email prior to the meeting. Members were noted that this final submission had been sent to SWD in June 2020.

Ms Eliza Lam shared her views on the organization of WAPS, in particular the use of zoom platform. Mr Moses Mui added that there was a record-breaking participation by using the ZOOM platform.

Ms Carol Ng updated that SWD will allocate additional manpower of 2 peer support workers for each of the 13 CCPSA s with effective from October 2020, in response to the agenda of supporting drug abusing parents.

Some members shared that there was usage drop of the women shelters in recent months due to COVID-19. Mr Chan Wing-sun supplemented that the Network on Domestic and Sexual Violence would further follow up the impact of COVID-19 on shelter services such as intense turnover and insufficient days of distancing.

Members noted that there would be a progress report prepared by SWD in late 2020, in order to follow up the items raised in WAPS.

2.2 Working Group on Maintenance Issue

Paper 2: 香港社會服務聯會 交立法會福利事務委員會與民政事務委員會聯席會議 討論「家庭議會的工作進度(包括支援離異家庭及追討贍養費的事宜)」(2020年6月8日) and 綜合社會保障援助計劃贍養費的處理 was sent to members for information.

Mr Moses Mui reported that the Working Group has held its last meeting on May 19, in which members have discussed the initial recommendations of HKU consultant team. It was opined that the proposed loan scheme should not be supported while the liability should fall onto the maintenance payer, but not the payee who is the “victim” indeed. Yet, further discussion could be only continued after release of the final report of the study which might be ready by end of 2020.

Regarding the referral mechanism between SWD field units and Legal Aid Department, Mr Moses Mui reported that an information sheet on such mechanism was eventually issued and uploaded to SWD website in June 2020. Ms Eliza Lam encouraged members to share the information with their frontline colleagues and observe the implementation. Cases could be collected and channeled to SWD if it is not implemented well. It was suggested to share the information to our Network on IFSCs or other related members.

2.3 Working Group on Carer Service and Policy

Mr Chan Wing-sun briefed members the progress of the Working Group consisted of Mr Charles Ng, Mr Kenny Ng, Mr Tom Ma and Ms Polly Pang with a projecting a draft of 「以照顧者為本」的照顧者政策策略框架、行動計劃 (2至3年). Members noted that Mr Kenny Ng has been joining the related task group under Standing Committee on behalf of this Specialized Committee.

Regarding the definition of carer or the scope of concern, it was agreed that care takers of children living in deprived families (such as single parent, low income, EM and new arrival etc) should also be covered in the policy discussion, while different advocacy strategies could be considered based on the priority set among the sector.

2.4 Outbreak of COVID-19

Members noted that SWD has been keeping dialogue with the Council regarding the service resumption under the pandemic, and the latest meeting was held on June 23. Members shared their views and observations on the recent community outbreak and its impact on service operation.

3. Information

3.1 Best Practice Award 2021

Mr Moses Mui shared that the organizing committee (OC) for the Best Practice Award 2021 will be formed shortly. And members also noted that a review of the Best Practice Award will be conducted while it has been organized for 10 times over the two decades. Therefore, the related work of the OC would start earlier than ever. After deliberation, Ms Charrix Lee would join the OC on behalf of this Specialized Committee.

3.2 New Project on Parent Empowerment

Members noted that the new project on parent education funded by the Hong Kong Jockey Club would be launched in September 2020. Through collaboration with CUHK (Prof To Siu-ming) and 10 partnering NGOs, a series of pilot programs will be implemented by using transformative learning approach. Further information would be shared in the upcoming briefing session for NGOs. Members will be kept updated during the project implementation in the coming 3 years.

5. Progress Update

Paper 3: Progress Update of Family and Community Service (May to July 2020) was sent to members for information.

The following items were included:

- i) Professional Exchange and Capacity Building in Drug Treatment Service
- ii) Strengthen Support on Parental Substance Abuse Service
- iii) Working Group on Carer Service and Policy

Ms Vivian Kwong reported that the Drug Conference 《戒毒服務交流研討會 2020》 was organized from June 2-3. By using the ZOOM platform, speakers and moderators were invited to deliver their presentations at Council while all participants attended online. While it was the first time for the Council to run such a large scale webinar, a lot of learnings were gained. In general, the conference has been run smoothly with satisfactory feedback received from speakers and participants. .

6. **Any Other Business**

Nil.

7. **Date of Next Meeting - September 9, 2020**

The next meeting would be held on September 9, 2020 (Wednesday) at 2:30 pm in Room 1410, Duke of Windsor Social Service Building.

Mrs Eliza Lam invited all members to a lunch gathering before the next meeting. Further details to be confirmed.

There being no other business and the meeting was adjourned 4:50 pm.

Adopted by

Chairperson
on the _ day of _ 2020