

The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

Standing Committee on Policy Research and Advocacy (2021-22)

Minutes of the 4th meeting held on May 20, 2022 (Friday) at 10:00am through zoom.

Present:

Ms. Sky Siu (Chairperson)	-	KELY Support Group
Ms. Iris Liu (Vice-Chairperson)	-	International Social Service Hong Kong Branch
Mr. David Fung	-	St. James' Settlement
Mr. Jim Hoe	-	Sai Kung District Community Centre Limited
Ms. Yvonne Chak	-	Hong Kong Christian Service
Dr. Wong Yu Cheung	-	Caritas Institute of Higher Education
Dr. Paul Wong	-	University of Hong Kong
Dr. Flora Ko	-	School of Professional Education and Executive Development, Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Apologies

Mr. Keswick Chuk	-	Evangelical Lutheran Church Social Service - Hong Kong
Dr. Raymond Tam	-	Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Department of Applied Social Sciences
Ms. Cindy Pun	-	Tsung Tsin Mission of Hong Kong Social Service
Mr. Benson Ng	-	Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Lady MacLehose Centre
Ms. Sisi Liu	-	Hong Kong Federation of Women's Centres
Ms. Christa Cheung	-	Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups

In-attendance

Mr. Anthony Wong	-	HKCSS
Mr. Peace Wong	-	HKCSS
Ms. Karen Yiu	-	HKCSS
Ms. Olivia Ip (Recorder)	-	HKCSS

1. To adopt the agenda of the meeting

The agenda of the meeting was adopted.

2. To confirm the minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting would be circulated to the members after revision.

3. To discuss and endorse the final draft of Annual Submission 2022

- 3.1 The final draft of Annual Submission 2022 circulated to members before the meeting.
- 3.2 Mr. Anthony Wong and Mr. Peace Wong presented the recommendations of the document to members and reported that those proposed in the past but not accepted by the government, would still be included in the Annual Submission 2022.

Recommendations that the government had committed and implemented had been deleted.

3.3 Members comments were as follows:

3.3.1 Government should take the lead in promoting and recruiting more disabled people for employment, and should provide employment supported elements.

3.3.2 Government should refer to and made use of the successful examples and experience of skills transfer or knowledge transfer in the welfare sector to the government department and recommended to employers, drove the change and promoted to various sectors.

3.3.3 In point 6, the suggestion on TELE-PRACTICE should include all other social services in addition to supporting the elderly and the disabled person.

3.3.4 Government should provide resources to ngos for organizing relevant training for staff.

3.3.5 Set up 18 districts community base pharmacy:

- Members agreed strengthening the function of DHC pharmacy to serve community pharmacies, strengthen the role of pharmacists, and make suggestions on taking and using medicines, and play reconciliation role.
- Consider providing traditional Chinese medicine service.
- To expand the scope of the fund rather than set up another fund so that it could support related community-based service projects.
- Reviewing residential facilities for the elderly, integrated community care services, and formulate long-term social welfare development plans.

3.3.6 Racial Inclusion

- Member suggested providing cultural sensitivity training with credit bearing within the university. Empowering university students to better serve ethnic minorities in their future careers in relevant disciplines.
- The government had done a series of publicity work after recruiting ethnic minorities earlier. It was proposed that the government should recruit ethnic minorities to join various public services, in

addition to Police, which could promote more inclusiveness.

- Government should set up Lump Sum Grant review system, representatives from NGOs should be involved.

3.3.7 Mr. Anthony Wong would revise the paper and sent to members for recommendation to the ExCo. It would then be submitted to EXCO members for endorsement. (Post-meeting note: The ExCo discussed the Annual Submission in its meeting in May. The comments were further incorporated in the Annual Submission subsequently and the paper was endorsed by circulation in June 2022)

4. Any Other Business

4.1 Since there were many similar recommendations between the Annual Submission and Welfare Agenda, Mr. Anthony Wong asked members at the meeting whether we should continue to submit the Annual Submission to the Chief Executive of HKSAR.

4.2 Members expressed their expectation that:

4.2.1 HKCSS was a very good platform to communicate with relevant government departments on behalf of NGOs. They found that it was still rather difficult for NGOs to make good and direct contact and engagement with relevant government departments as the Council had been doing.

4.2.2 Member reflected that despite the Committees in the Council had had a lot of discussions and given a lot of input in the past. The recommendations usually did not receive good feedback by the government.

4.2.3 Members expected however that the Council should make good use of their recommendations, and expected that the Annual Submission could be distributed or discussed with the relevant departments in addition to submitting to the Chief Executive of HKSAR.

4.2.4 Members expressed their support for continuing making policy submission to the government or the Chief Executive, thereby maintaining the channel of communication with the government.

5. Date of Next Meeting

Date of next meeting would be processed through email or whatsapp.

Adopted by: _____
(Sky Siu, Chairperson)

Date: _____