

**THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE**  
**Minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of**  
**The Standing Committee on Sector and Capacity Development (2021-22)**

Date : 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 (Monday)  
 Time : 14:30 pm – 15:30 pm  
 Format : Hybrid (on-site and online)

**Present:**

Ms. Yvonne YEUNG (Chairperson)	Hong Kong Young Women's Christian Association
Mr. Charles CHAN	The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong
Ms. Queenie CHAN	Evangelical Lutheran Church Social Service - Hong Kong
Mr. CHAN Wai-leung	Caritas - Hong Kong
Ms. Anthea LEE	The Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention, Hong Kong
Ms. Cross LI	Hong Kong Christian Service
Dr. Annissa LUI	Hong Kong Lutheran Social Service, The Lutheran Church - Hong Kong Synod
Mr. Walter TSUI	CareER Association Limited
Ms. WONG Sau-wa	The Church of United Brethren in Christ, Hong Kong Limited – Social Service Division
Mr. Raymond CHIU	Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service

**In attendance (Specialized Committee on Sector Finance):**

Ms. Yvonne CHAK	Hong Kong Christian Service
Ms. CHAN Siu-lai	The Salvation Army
Mr. KWOK Lit-tung	Christian Family Service Centre
Mr. Henry NG	Chinese Evangelical Zion Church Social Service Division
Ms. Susan SO	Hong Kong Society for the Protection of Children
Ms. Noel YEUNG	Kwun Tong Methodist Social Service

**In attendance (Staff):**

Mr. Cliff CHOI (Secretary)	HKCSS
Ms. CHEUNG Lai-wah	HKCSS
Ms. Stella HO	HKCSS
Ms. Jasmine LAM	HKCSS
Ms. Vicky LI	HKCSS
Ms. Hindy KAI (Recorder)	HKCSS

**1. Confirmation of the agenda**

The Agenda was confirmed unanimously by the Committee.

**2. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting (Appendix 1)**

The Minutes was confirmed unanimously by the Committee.

**3. Matters Arising**

Blue Sky Energy Technology Ltd had successfully secured a funding to help 3 NGOs to adopt smart energy solutions. Interested NGOs could contact Mr. Cliff CHOI for information.

**4. Highlights of Work Units (Appendix 2)**

Ms. Vicky LI reported that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Executive Leadership Development Programme (ELDP) was successfully launched in July 2021. Meanwhile, two new agencies have confirmed to conduct the NGO Organizational Health Assessment (OHA) by 2021. For NGOs Salary Survey 2021, more than 100 agency representatives have enrolled in the information session to be held on 27 September 2021.

**5. Discussion Item**

**5.1 Training Need Survey**

Ms. Vicky LI briefly introduced the proposal of conducting the Training Need Survey this year to collect insights of training needs in NGOs. The Survey would figure out the training needs of respondents in relation to their ranks, scope of work, etc., and thus help HKCSSI plan for training programmes in the future. HKCSSI sought the views from members towards: 1) elements to be added to the Survey which would be beneficial to the developmental needs of NGOs; 2) motivation or incentives to encourage survey participation.

The categories to be studied in the Survey were fine. Members agreed that the Survey should focus on exploring the training needs of professional staff and staff in managerial levels. The Survey could help identify the essential knowledge and capability of middle and senior management that could help NGOs to prepare for their succession and staff promotion plans. Individual reports to NGOs would be a good incentive for NGOs.

Members also raised their concerns towards the programme planning of HKCSSI. HKCSSI was suggested to explore opportunities in collaborating with other professional bodies in welfare sector on professional enhancement programmes and to differentiate HKCSSI from other training institutes.

HKCSSI was suggested to seek advice from members of the HKCSS Institute Steering Committee on the above.

**5.2 Proposed Budget Cut by 1% from 2022 to 2023**

Members of Specialized Committee on Sector Finance joined the meeting.

Mr. Cliff CHOI and Ms Cheung Lai Wah briefed the issue and action taken. Due to the Financial Secretary announced that government recurrent expenditure would be trimmed by 1% in 2022-23 in his 2021-22 Budget, HKCSS had raised the sector's concerns and opposition against the cut to welfare service subventions through different channels. Yet, the response of the authority towards full waiver of the cut was unfavorable. HKCSS was advised to provide strong arguments of partial waiver for authority's consideration. Three arguments for partial

waiver was going to propose: 1) waiver applied to small NGOs; 2) waiver applied to livelihood services, such as residential care and community care services; 3) waiver applied to PE cost, which was about 80% of recurrent subvention baseline allocation.

Members raised their concerns that the cut would seriously affect the daily operation of agencies as the budget cut was considerably a permanent action to recurrent subvention baseline allocation. As the Lump Sum Grant Review had confirmed that the subvention benchmark would not be improved, thus the cut would impose adverse impact on service quality and job cut. Some members suggested that the sector should request for the resume when the economy recovered.

Mr. Cliff CHOI added that the last petition of Lump Sum Grant Review and FSA related activities was shelved due to unsatisfactory response. The authority had further clarified the use of extra resources and maximum proportion of LSG to be used for FSA-related activities. The policy was not to restrict the use of external resources in FSA-related activities but to set the limit of proportion of LSG to be used for FSA-related activities. Members agreed that the calculation of LSG cost allocation should be simplified with the lowest percentage of limit to increase the flexibility of use of resources.

The issue would be further discussed in the Agency Heads Meeting. A joint petition or a letter would be sent to the authority to express the strong views on waiver of budget cut with arguments supported.

**6. A. O. B.**

Nil

**7. Date of Next Meeting of Next Term**

TBC