

The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Policy Research & Advocacy
Specialized Committee on Social Development (2020/2021)

Minutes of the 3rd Meeting

Date: 5th March, 2021 (Friday)
Time: 14:30 – 16:30
Venue: Zoom (Remote meeting)

Present:	Ms. Ivy LEUNG (Chairperson)	- Christian Family Service Centre
	Mr. Po Shan TANG (Vice Chairperson)	- Kwun Tong Methodist Social Service
	Mr. Billie LAU	- Evangelical Lutheran Church Social Service
	Ms. Emily LEE	- Hong Kong Young Women's Christian Association
	Dr. Margaret WONG	- Hong Kong Shue Yan University
	Mr. Mike CHEUNG	- Hong Kong Christian Service
	Mr. Anthony Wong	- The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
	Mr. Wo Ping WONG	- The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
In attendance:	Ms. Natalie YAU	- The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
	Ms. Connie CHEN	- The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
	Mr. Dennis LAM (Recorder)	- The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

1 To receive the agenda

The agenda was adopted without amendment.

2 To confirm minutes of last meeting

The minutes were confirmed without amendment.

3 Business Update

3.1 Policy Research and Advocacy

The upcoming activities including Policy Seminar and Need Assessment Training Workshop were reported to the committee. Issue 29 Policy Bulletin titled Tenancy Control of Subdivided Units will be published within March.

3.2 Centre for Social Impact

Ms. Natalie YAU reported that the 1st Annual Conference on Policy Research and Advocacy will be held on 15 March 2021, at 9:00 – 13:00. The event was promoted to the public and related stakeholders across different channels.

4. Matters for Discussion

4.1 Discussion of Tenancy Control and Rental Allowance Position Paper

The recommendation on the position paper of SDU Tenancy Control was further discussed at the meeting. 2 points of amendments have been made: (1) Adding that regulating rent level as one of the policy parameters, and (2) revising that the proposed name of the rental support service as ‘social service team’, to stress on its presence as a specific social service.

The revised version is made with addressing members’ shared view that the Council should support regulating rent level. Members also incorporated worries or uncertainties about the impact on the grassroots in terms of supply and quality. The previous established conviction of the Council that rent regulation should try to balance the interest of the landlord and the grassroots tenants was re-stated. Thus, regulating rent level has to be done with care and precision.

(After meeting notes: the revised recommendation on the position paper of SDU Tenancy Control was circulated to the members and confirmed by email.)

4.2 Discussion of Rental Allowance Position Paper

The recommendation on the position paper of Rental Allowance was confirmed by the members.

4.3. Discussion of Business Plan for 2021-2022

The Business Plan of sub-team of Social Development 2021-2022 was adopted by committee members without further comments.

5. **Any other business**

No other businesses were raised by the committee members.

6. **The date of next meeting**

The meeting was adjourned at 16:30. The next meeting will be 27 May, 2021 at 1430.