

The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Policy Research & Advocacy
Specialized Committee on Social Development (2020/2021)
Minutes of the 4th Meeting

Date: 27th May, 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
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. Wo Ping WONG	- The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

In attendance:

Ms. Natalie YAU (Recorder)	- The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Ms. Connie CHEN	- The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Mr. Dennis LAM	- 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

Ms. Natalie YAU reported that several work tasks had been completed. Firstly, Issue 29 Policy Bulletin titled Tenancy Control of Subdivided Units (SDUs) were published in March. A Policy Seminar on the same topic was organized on 23Mar, inviting legislative councilor, scholars and social service units as speakers to discuss on the issue. The position paper on Tenancy Control of SDUs

recommended and confirmed by the members, was approved by the PRA Standing Committee, and then was submitted to the LegCo and the Transport and Housing Bureau in March.

Secondly, from the Policy Bulletin Editorial Board's suggestions, the next 2 issues would cover on the topic "Primary Healthcare" and "Migration", with recent policy windows and social phenomenon. The two issues would be published in November 2021 and March 2022 respectively.

Thirdly, two sessions of Needs Assessment Training Workshops involving a total of 20 participants were held on 18Mar, demonstrated with the Excel data analysis skills to practitioners serving family caregivers of adults with disabilities. Practitioners were able to pick up the skills in managing their own survey dataset, and showed their satisfaction towards the event.

3.2 Centre for Social Impact

Ms. Natalie YAU reported that the 1st Annual Conference on Policy Research and Advocacy were successfully held on 15 March, with Mr Chiu-ying Lam as the keynote speaker, 7 local NGO speakers and 190 participants joining the event. The event brought forward their research and advocacy experiences and satisfactory feedback were received.

4. Matters for Discussion

4.1 Release of SDU research theme B1 Housing Choice

Ms. Natalie YAU gave a presentation on the preliminary findings of the captioned research. The household and housing characteristics on overall samples and 4 sub-groups were described. The multiple regression model in explaining SDU market rent was presented. Members agreed to streamline major messages and findings when it was to be released through press conference.

(After meeting notes: the research was released on 4 July through press conference, to highlight the needs of SDU households with children and singleton, and to demonstrate the method in detecting SDU market rent. Major recommendations of the position paper on SDU Tenancy Control were highlighted.)

4.2 2nd Annual Conference on Policy Research and Advocacy (2022) and post-conference workshop

The annual plan on policy/ practice research and advocacy was presented. Members agreed to organize the annual conference, with a post-conference workshop to introduce the applications of innovation research and big-data methods.

4.3. Sustainable Development of Primary Healthcare Service and Policy in Hong Kong

Ms Connie Chen presented the annual plan of the topic, that a research using Census data to explore deprived groups of ‘health inequality’ in Hong Kong, and a primary data collection research on SDU health, would be formulated. Policy seminar and sharing sessions on social-medical collaborations would be held to the sector. An issue of Policy Bulletin would be published by the end of the year. The annual plan was adopted by committee members without further comments.

5. Any other business

5.1 Substitution Arrangement of Withdrawn Member

Members agreed that there would be no substitution arrangement of the withdrawn member, Mr Billie LAU, as there was only short period of remaining terms of the SCSD.

5.2 Mission, Vision and Goal of Social Development in the next stage

Members agreed that the main foci identified at the Social Development in recent years: housing and health of grassroots, should be carried forward as major subject areas of PRA of the Council. Members were affirmative to the previous effort of Social Development in successfully identifying and prioritizing major problems and trends faced by the society, and in formulating strategies and methods for possible solutions.

6. The date of next meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 16:30.