

## THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE

Service Development (Family & Community)

### **Specialized Committee on Family and Community Service**

Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the Specialized Committee on Family and Community Service (2017-18) held on March 7, 2018 (Wednesday), 2:30 pm at Room 1401, 14/F, Duke of Windsor Social Service Building, 15 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

#### **Present**

Mrs Angela CHIU (Chairperson)	Hong Kong Catholic Marriage Advisory Council
Ms Wendy WONG (Vice-chairperson)	St James' Settlement
Mr Kenny NG (Vice-chairperson)	Community Development Alliance
Mr Charles NG	Christian Family Service Centre
Mrs Doris LEE	Harmony House Limited
Mrs Cross LEUNG	Hong Kong Christian Service
Ms Charrix LEE	Hong Kong Family Welfare Society
Mr CHAN Ching-wa	Hong Kong SKH Lady MacLehose Centre
Ms Eliza LAM	Caritas – Hong Kong
Ms HSU Siu-man	The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups
Ms Jessie YU	Hong Kong Single Parents Association
Mr Kerin CHAM	International Social Service Hong Kong Branch
Ms Ramy CHAK	The Salvation Army
Dr FAN Ning	Health in Action Limited
Mr Anthony WONG	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Mr Moses MUI	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Ms Lynn LAW	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Mr W S CHAN	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Mr Billy WONG	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Ms Noel CHOW (recorder)	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

#### **Apologies**

Ms Mable KWOK	Aberdeen Kai-fong Welfare Association Social Service
Ms Tammy SO	Hong Kong Young Women's Christian Association
Mr Daniel CHU	Yang Memorial Methodist Social Service
Ms YUEN How-sin	Community Drug Advisory Council
Mr Daniel MA	Yan Oi Tong

#### **1. Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting**

The draft minutes of the meeting held on January 3, 2018 was circulated by email on February 1, 2018 and was confirmed with nil amendment.

#### **2. Matters Arising**

Advocacy on Maintenance Board and Specialized Service for Divorced Families There were three papers for members' reference:

- i) 財政預算案 (2018-2019), paragraph 177 to 180, family and community service related items of the budget speech were extracted as paper 1;

- ii) 立法會福利事務委員會跟進法律改革委員會《子女管養權及探視權報告書》及相關支援措施, discussion paper of March 12, 2018; and
- iii) 星島日報 article entitled 《擬設五輔導中心,協助離異家庭》 dated March 1, 2018.

The first one was sent out while the last two was tabled in the meeting.

Mr Billy Wong updated members the progress of Council's advocacy since last meeting, including meeting with SWD on February 12, 2018. Referring to paper 1 (paragraph 178), it was highlighted that extra manpower would be added to SWD IFSCs and FCPSUs, and 5 centres for co-parenting support would be set up. Yet, details of resource allocation needed to be further clarified with SWD.

Referring to the LegCo paper, Mr Moses Mui supplemented that the government has decided to halt up the law reform after the consultation. Meanwhile, the government has committed to strengthen the support measures for divorced families.

Although most of the suggestions of Council's proposal was accepted, members showed concern on the coordination among the 5 new centres and existing IFSCs and FCPSUs. Moreover, public education on co-parenting needed to be further strengthened to change people mindset. The above concerns will be channeled to SWD through different channels, such as LegCo welfare panel meeting on March 12, SWAC working group meeting on March 26, and liaison meeting with SWD.

Regarding the issue of maintenance, members were noted that HAB (through Family Council) was now undergoing the vetting process in commissioning consultancy study on the subject. Members agreed that a designated working group would be formed under the Specialized Committee to follow up the issues of maintenance including deliberating details of the proposed maintenance board and liaison with the consultant team. Members were invited to join the working group.

Mr Anthony Wong informed members that the Council would submit a report on CEDAW (消除一切對婦女歧視公約), in which the recommendation on maintenance board could be added in.

### **3. Recent Child Abuse Incident**

Paper 2: 香港社會服務聯會向立法會福利事務委員會就「兒童保護政策及程序」提交的意見(2018年1月19日) was sent to members for reference.

Mr Moses Mui highlighted the content of the paper, which was mainly focused on recommended improvements on existing services for child protection.

Members shared their views and insight in the meeting. After discussion, the main concerns on the recommendation were:

- i) further discussion on mandatory reporting should be facilitated in the sector;
- ii) designated team for assessment and investigation;

- iii) parent education as preventive strategy; and
- iv) social perception on child protection/child abuse (e.g. corporal punishment).

While members were noted that the subject of child protection would be followed up by the Council's Specialized Committee on Children and Youth Service, it is agreed that cross-service discussion should be facilitated.

Mr Anthony Wong updated members that the Commission on Children to be set up would be another platform to follow up the related issues in various aspects: research, advocacy, education and training.

#### **4. Welfare Agenda & Priority Setting 2018**

There were three papers sent to members for reference:

- i) Paper 3a: 福利議題及優次會議 (WAPS)與家庭及社區服務相關之主要建議撮要及政府回應 (2013-2017);
- ii) Paper 3b: Work schedule; and
- iii) Paper 3c: 2018年各地區福利規劃研討會識別到的首三個福利優次項目.

Mr Moses Mui highlighted the government's response towards the agenda raised in previous years (2013-2017).

After thorough discussion, members confirmed the following 3 priority items (related to family and community service) for the WAPS 2018:

- i. 加強支援少數族裔
- ii. 設立公共屋邨社區支援服務
- iii. 強化濫藥家人的支援

Draft papers (with recommendations) would be circulated to members by email for further comment by end of April 2018.

*(Post-meeting note: draft papers for the 3 items were sent to members by email on April 16, 2018, for comment.)*

#### **5. Business Plan 2018-2019**

Paper 4: Business Planning 2018-2019 of Service Development Core Business was sent to members for endorsement.

Mr Moses Mui highlighted the content of the business plan. In particular, the below 2 subsidized international events were proposed:

- i) World Community Development Conference in Ireland; and
- ii) 20th Annual Conference of the International Society of Addiction Medicine in Korea.

Project item 10, to explore the needs and policy implications of remarried families, would be discussed in next meeting.

#### **6. For Information**

Budget Speech 2018

Further to paper 1 in agenda 2, a press release 社聯回應《2018/19年度財政預算案》 dated February 28, 2018 was tabled for members information. Mr Moses Mui highlighted the major concerns in particular on the school social work services in primary schools and kindergartens.

#### Annual Submission to HKSAR CE 2018

Members were noted the Council's annual submission to CE of HKSAR Government will be prepared and followed up by the Standing Committee (Policy & Research Advocacy). And it was suggested to raise the following items in the submission:

- i) support for ethnic minorities; and
- ii) support service for careers.

#### Calling Papers for Asian Family Summit (AFS)

The AFS would be held from August 19 to 22, 2018 in Hong Kong. An invitation letter from the AFS Organizing Committee dated March, 2018 was tabled. Mr Moses Mui added that the deadline for submission of abstract would be March 31, 2018 while the deadline for early bird registration would be April 30, 2018.

### **7. Progress Update**

The Progress Report (January - March 2018) of the Family and Community Service was tabled for members' information. The following items are included:

- i) Advocacy on specialized support for divorced families;
- ii) Symposium and Workshop on Combating Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence from Gender Perspective;
- iii) Review on processing of compassionate rehousing (CR) cases;
- iv) Strengthening the support for ethnic minorities;
- v) LegCo Subcommittee on Rights of Ethnic Minorities;
- vi) Seminar on Supporting Non-Chinese Speaking Students in Kindergarten to Learn Chinese; and
- vii) Jockey Club FamConnect Project.

Mr W S Chan supplemented there were many positive feedback on the Symposium on Combating Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence from Gender Perspective, especially the wide topic coverage.

### **8. Any Other Business**

#### CIFA-Net

The 19th issue of the Newsletter of Consortium of Institutes on Family in the Asian Region was tabled. Members were encouraged to submit article to the editorial group through email.

#### The 7th Conference cum Workshop on Practice and Research for Social Service Excellence

Full memo with detailed rundown was tabled for members' reference.

### Scenario

The 58th issue of the Newsletter of the Hong Kong Council of Social Service was distributed. The feature was co-parenting.

### Jockey Club Child-focused Co-parenting Project

Mr Moses Mui invited members to participate in organizing community education activities of the project. A full-detailed guideline was distributed. He also reminded the video clip 分身爸打 would be a very useful tool.

### 8.5 New Book 《城市·城事》

Mr Charles Ng circulated a newly published booklet of Christian Family Service Centre and described the content to members.

## 9. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting would be held on May 9, 2018 (Wednesday) at 2:30 pm in Room 1410, Duke of Windsor Social Service Building.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Adopted by

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Chairperson  
on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2018