

THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE
Executive Committee 2017/18

Minutes of the 4th Meeting of the Executive Committee for 2017/18 held on Monday, 28 May 2018 at 5:00 p.m. in Room 201, 2/F., Duke of Windsor Social Service Building, 15 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

Present : Ms. Elizabeth Law (Acting-Chairperson)
Ms. Susan Chan Mr. Francis Chau
Mr. Benny Cheung Ms. Wendy Cheung
Mr. Andy Ho Mr. Larry Kwok
Mr. Kwok Lit Tung Dr. Lam Ching Choi
Mr. Otto Lau Ms. Irene Leung
Ms. Becky Luk Dr. CC Luk
Mr. Joseph Man Mr. Ng Shui Lai
Hon. Shiu Ka Chun Mr. Edmond Wong
Ms. Kathy Wong Mr. Stephen Yau
Ms. Yvonne Yeung Ms. Amarantha Yip
Dr. Alice Yuk

In-Attendance : Mr. Chua Hoi Wai, Chief Executive
Ms. Crystal Cheng, Business Director
Mr. Anthony Wong, Business Director
Mr. Cliff Choi, Business Director

Apologies : The Hon. Bernard Chan Dr. Fung Cheung Tim
Mr. Kennedy Liu Dr. Annissa Lui
Ms. Bonnie So Mr. Stephen Wong
Ms. Noel Yeung

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

1. Minutes of the last meeting dated 26 March 2018 were confirmed.

MATTERS ARISING

2. Dialogue session with the Secretary for Education: Mr. Chua, Chief Executive, updated that the dialogue session would be postponed to late 2018.
3. Appointment of Management Contractor of the Project on Modular Social Housing (the Project): Mr. Chua reported that the appointed management contractor had requested for a name change and the Letter of Award be assigned to the sister company, which as they explained, was well-experienced in public works and in a better position to perform all obligations under the contract. After discussion, Members noted and endorsed the arrangement.
4. Submission Status of Annual Reports and Audited / Certified Accounts by Agency Members: Mr. Chua reported that among the 10 temporarily suspended member agencies in March for failing to submit annual reports and/or audited/certified accounts as required, 3 of them had provided the annual reports and hence, fulfilled membership obligation. The management therefore sought for official endorsement from ExCo Members to remove them from the list of temporary suspension. Members noted and endorsed.

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION AND APPROVAL

To note the Chief Executive's Progress Report

5. Members noted the Chief Executive's Progress Report and Mr. Chua provided supplementary information on below items.

- Survey on Mental Illnesses and Suicidal Cases from School Social Work Service: Mr. Chua highlighted that the number of school social workers who had participated in the survey represented 90% of secondary schools in Hong Kong and that after the Council's release of the findings and recommendations, SWD noted and had responded that enhancement measures to school social work service would be considered.
- Research and Advocacy for Social Development: Mr. Chua highlighted that a press conference was held on 23 May to release the findings of Social Development Index (SDI) 2018, media attention was drawn and the Council had responded to related enquiries. Mr. Chua further noted that member agencies would soon be invited to take part in another 2 surveys related to NGOs' governance, namely, 1) Hong Kong NGO Governance Health Survey and 2) Survey on Financial Reserves of Social Service Agencies. A memo providing more details would be sent to member agencies and Mr. Chua appealed to Members in supporting these initiatives to improve governance standard of NGOs in Hong Kong.
- Modular Social Housing Project: Mr. Chua reported that a meeting on 8 May with members of Sham Shui Po District Council (DC) had been arranged. A presentation on the modular social housing project was made and feedback from members of DC was positive. The Project team was working closely with the government and different partners for support and advice.
- A Proposed Base for Capacity Development for Self-financed NGOs cum Co-located Offices in Shatin: Mr. Chua reported that after rounds of discussion, the Council had secured a venue in Yu Chui Shopping Centre in Shatin under a lease with Link REIT. The proposed purpose of the venue would either be a co-working office, a base with communal facilities for NGOs or a showroom for gerontech. Mr. Chua noted that upcoming short-term tenancy on few other potential sites would be explored. Given the proposed purpose was intended for welfare use that might deviate from the existing provision on its usage, an application to the Lands Department was made seeking for permission before the Project could further proceed. Mr. Chua would keep Members updated of the latest situation once available.
- Gerontech and Home Care Equipment Rental Service Pilot Project: Mr. Chua reported that an Expression of Interests call was sent to all member agencies and the response was satisfactory. The Council would work with interested members in finalizing the output parameters, work flow and detailed budget. Related to Gerontech, the Council was working with the government regarding the plan to establish a new fund of \$1 billion subsidizing elderly and rehabilitation service units on technology products. A Member echoed that there were actual and sometimes emergency needs from rehab and elderly groups for gerontech products, in particular for after-sales service. Hence, it would be very helpful if the Council could provide a platform of support.

A Member also suggested the Council to continue following up for further progress after the submission to Education Bureau the final report of 'The Committee on Prevention of Student Suicides' in 2016. Regarding the Project on Community Housing Movement, another suggestion was noted that the Project had made a good start in supporting urgent housing needs of disadvantaged groups, it would be an opportunity for the Council to consider expanding the impact with more in-depth and far-reaching collaborative options, in particular to explore for higher engagement with NGOs and the community at large, such

that a more facilitating atmosphere could be developed.

Mr. Chua thanked Members for the comments which would be seriously taken into consideration.

To note the Position of Funds

6. Members noted the position of funds with no further enquiries. The position of LSG Reserve and Provident Fund Reserve were noted. With no particular usage being suggested at the Meeting, the reserves would be retained to support the Council's normal business operation.

To note and approve the Annual Election Procedure and Schedule for 2018 AGM

7. Mr. Chua reported that the Council's 2018 AGM together with the NGO Governance Platform Project Forum were scheduled to be held on 9 November at the Council's Auditorium. Members were invited to endorse the formation of Election Committee, the appointment of Mr. Kennedy Liu and Mr. Larry Kwok serving on the Election Committee and the follow-up election arrangements of the new governance for 2018-2020. Members noted and endorsed.

To note and approve the Setting up of a New Bank Account for GIES 2018

8. Members noted and approved to set up a new bank account for GIES 2018.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

2018 Annual Submission to Chief Executive of HKSAR

9. Mr. Anthony Wong, Business Director, was preparing for 2018 Annual Submission and the contents had been discussed at different teams, networks and committees. A draft summary of 14 recommendations on policy measures for 2018-19 had been compiled and Mr. Wong invited ExCo Members to give comments. With further views to be collected, a full report finalized would then be circulated to ExCo for final endorsement, and eventually for submission to the Chief Executive.

According to the summary, the core issues concerning the sector being listed were: LSG, RPP, ethnic minorities, carer support, district health centre, elderly with dementia, day and residential respite services, IHC service, primary and secondary school social work support, social housing, social security system, community economy, and public housing estate community support teams. Members noted and had given comments summarized as follows:

- There was a suggestion to emphasize the need of enhanced care and support services for ageing PWDs, sufferers of Autism, and their carers.
- A need for long term planning on available sites for welfare purposes, hence a review on overall planning of GIC sites would be important.
- The need for support services addressing the children's needs, in particular in relation to the setting up of Children's Commission, and enhanced support services for women and family, should be highlighted. There was also a suggestion to review the role of ICYSC and to encourage close liaison of school social work with ICYSC, which could be another supporting option in building students' resilience from different aspects.
- In addition to service-based and resource-based improvement measures, there was also a need for overall sector capacity building.
- The final report should be structured with more coordinated and targeted recommendations, rather than a perception of providing fragmented and numerous solutions.

Mr. Chua thanked Members for advice and the final contents would be more condensed and well targeted. A final report once revised would be circulated to Members for final endorsement.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A Staff Case Update (in Confidential Session)

10. Mr. Chua updated Members on the recent court judgment of the staff case, the follow-up legal actions, as well as the fees and costs to be incurred or claimed, should the leave to appeal be granted. Mr. Chua highlighted that following the current practice, Chairperson and office-bearers would be consulted for advice on any decisions to be made and all ExCo Members would be kept abreast of updated situation.

Council's Participation in 1) Hong Kong NGO Governance Health Survey and 2) Survey on Financial Reserves of Social Service Agencies

11. Mr. Chua invited Members to join a briefing session of the Surveys on 29 May, and also sought for Members' consent for the Council to participate in the Surveys. With no objection raised, it was confirmed that the Council would take part in both Surveys and Mr. Chua would proceed to invite Office-bearers and one of the Members of ExCo to assist in taking part in the Health Survey on behalf of the Board.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

12. The next meeting was scheduled for 30 July 2018 at 5:00 p.m. at Room 201 of Duke of Windsor Social Service Building.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.