

THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE
Standing Committee on Policy Research and Advocacy
(2018-2019)

Minutes of the Third meeting held on May 7, 2019 (Tuesday) at 3:00pm in Room 103, 1/F., Duke of Windsor Social Service Building, 15, Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong

Present

Mr. Wong Chi Hung, Edmond (Chairperson)	- Caritas – Hong Kong
Ms. Hung Tak Fung, Anchor (Vice-Chairperson)	- Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation
Dr. Fan Ning	- Health in Action Limited
Dr. Annissa Lui	- Hong Kong Lutheran Social Service
Dr. Wong Kwai Yau	- BGCA
Mr. Charles Ng	- Christian Family Service Centre
Ms. Cindy Pun	- The Tsung Tsin Mission of Hong Kong Social Service
Ms. Sky Siu	- Kely Support Groups
Mr. Francis Chau	- The Association of Evangelical Free Churches of Hong Kong
Mr. Bill Lay	- Caritas – Hong Kong (Representative of Specialized Committee on Social Development)
Mr. James Tsim	- Hong Kong Christian Service (Representative of Specialized Committee on Social Security and Employment Policy)

In-attendance

Mr. Anthony Wong	- HKCSS
Ms. Karen Yiu	- HKCSS
Mr. Moses Mui	- HKCSS
Mr. Keith Wong	- HKCSS
Mr. Peace Wong	- HKCSS
Mr. Charles Ho	- HKCSS
Ms. Olivia Ip (Recorder)	- HKCSS

Apologies

Professor Ray Yep	- City University of Hong Kong
Dr. Wong Yu Cheung	- The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Ms. Ngai Mei Mui, Angela	- Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups
Ms. Karrie Chan	- Hong Kong Christian Service
Dr. Tam Yat Hung	- University of Hong Kong

1. To adopt the agenda of the meeting

The agenda was adopted.

2. To adopt the minutes of last meeting

The minutes of last meeting were confirmed with no amendment.

3. Matters for Arising

3.1 Business Plan for 2019-2020

Nil.

4. Matters for Discussion

4.1 To endorse the draft Annual Submission:2019

4.1.1 Mr. Anthony Wong reported that some of the previous proposed items, had not been responded by the government, would still be included in the attached draft 2019 Annual Submission.

4.1.2 With the following comments, members endorsed the draft.

4.1.2.1 Service for the elderly – DECC/NEC

- Dr. Fan suggested to set up case management system, because service users and carers would have intensive service needs, such as economic difficulties, mental health problem, they might not want to let people know or tell someone, they needed to go different locations to receive service, if set up Case Management System, ngos could provide service to them.
- The Chairman recalled last meeting that members had commented there was very limited space in some service centres, and could not accommodate too much service users, members suggested to request extra manpower resources and enlarged service unit space in the 2019 Annual Submission and also requested quick response from the government.
- Ms. Annissa Lui said that the Government would implement the work of ESBP, she suggested requesting the Government to response their ESBP work that would be definitely implemented. She also suggested increasing “self-finance NEC” into the Annual Submission. Mr. Anthony Wong would discuss this suggestion with Ms. Emily Leung of Elderly Service.

4.1.2.2 CSSA Reform

- Mr. Wong Kwai Yau suggested adding disregarded earning for youth initial entry into the workplace.
- Mr. Anthony Wong reported that Dr. CK Law had promised to meet the representatives on discussing CSSA in summer.

4.1.2.3 Carers allowance

- Mr. Peace Wong reported that government decided to make the carers allowance and disabled person allowance constant. This programme plan was planned to be released by this year end.
- It was suggested that One Thousand Dollars Carer’s Allowance could be used in other place, such as economic assistant grant, not only for training purpose. Members also commented that the

government should do more publicity programs; existing public information is currently insufficient.

4.1.2.4 Indecent housing units

- Mr. Moses Mui highlighted the definition of indecent housing units to members. Social workers tried to find out the problematic families and provided service help. It was recommended to establish district-level social service teams to provide community support for different problems families living in indecent housing units. Each team could be 4 social workers.
- Ms. Cindy Pun reacted that it was difficult to link up households who living in inadequate housing conditions (劏房戶). After discussion, members supported establishing long-term service team.

4.1.2.5 Ethnic Minorities (EM)

- Ms. Sky Siu supported the recommendation and explained that most EM would have their ideals, most of them had certain level of education, they might not read Chinese writing, it might lead them problem on finding jobs or communicate with local person. If they could employ as a peer counselors or trainer, they could exhibit their strengths.
- Mr. Bill Lay suggested NGOs could apply Social Welfare Development Fund and open a job placement for EM applicants.

4.1.2.6 Rehabilitation Service

- Ms. Anchor Hung suggested writing more in the Rehab Program Plan.

5. Matters for Reporting

Due to time constraints, progress reports would be submitted in writing via email to all committee members.

6. Any Other Business

Nil.

7. Date of Next Meeting

To be confirmed. Meeting was subsequently scheduled for 3pm, 28 Oct 2019.

Adopted by : _____
Mr. Edmond Wong Chi Hung
Chairperson

Date : _____