

THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE
Standing Committee on Service Development
 (2017-18)

Minutes of the 3rd meeting held on 20 March 2018 at 2:30pm in Room 1410 of the Duke of Windsor Social Service Building.

Present:	Dr Annissa LUI (Chairperson)	Hong Kong Lutheran Social Service, Lutheran Church - Hong Kong Synod
	Ms Yvonne CHAK (Vice-chairperson)	Hong Kong Christian Service
	Mr LAI Wing Hoi	Caritas – Hong Kong
	Ms LEUNG Yuen Ching, Cindy	Hong Kong Family Welfare Society
	Ms CHOW Mee Tim	Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council Limited
	Ms LAM Yee Mui	The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong
	Ms Vivian LAW	Evangelical Free Church of China - Evangel Children's Home
	Ms Susan SO	Hong Kong Society for the Protection of Children
	Mr CHAN Kwok Bong	The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong / Rep of SC (CY)
	Mr NG Ting Shan	Care for the Elderly Association Limited / Rep of SC (ELD)
	Mrs Winnie WONG	The Hong Kong Society for the Deaf / Rep of SC (Rehab)
	Mr Stephen SUI	Co-opted Member
	Ms Crystal CHENG	HKCSS
In-attendance:	Ms Karen YIU (CO, CY)	HKCSS
	Mr Moses MUI (CO, FC)	HKCSS
	Mr Andy WONG (O, ELD)	HKCSS
	Ms Katie WONG (O, ELD)	HKCSS
	Ms Franki WONG (Recorder)	HKCSS
Apologies:	Ms Anka MA	The Free Methodist Church of Hong Kong
	Prof WONG Fu Keung, Daniel	The University of Hong Kong (Co-opted Member)
	Mr Raymond LAI	The Salvation Army
	Mrs Angela CHIU	Hong Kong Catholic Marriage Advisory Council / Rep of SC (FC)
	Mr KUO Chun Chuen (CO, Rehab)	HKCSS
	Ms Emily LEUNG (CO, Elderly)	HKCSS

1. Confirmation of minutes of the last meeting

Minutes were confirmed without any amendment.

2. Matters arising

2.1. Nomination of co-opted member for 2017-19

On behalf of the Committee, Ms Crystal Cheng extended warm welcome to Mr Stephen Sui for joining the Committee.

2.2. The review of Ordinance and Codes of Practice for Residential Care Homes (Elderly and People with Disabilities)

Regarding to the captioned review, stakeholders had different views on the proposed minimum spacing of each resident of the homes for elders and people with disabilities. Ms Carol Yip, Director of Social Welfare, invited working group members of the captioned to share their views in the working group meeting. The suggested minimum spacing was in the range from 7.5 square meters to 16 square meters. Members understood that it would be a challenge to raise the minimum spacing due to the shortage of premises. They agreed with the working group's suggestions made to SWD, for example, implementing the new standard by phases, adopting grandfather principle and setting up a review mechanism, etc, so as to avoid the negative impact to the existing service users.

Besides the discussion on minimum spacing, the Working Group started the deliberation on minimum staffing requirement. Preliminary suggestions included having additional social workers and nurses for individual care plan, raising the staff ratio, optimizing the duty hours and compulsory continuing professional development of some key staff. The 3rd working group meeting would be held on 18 May 2018. Before that, a focus group would be held on 6 April.

2.3. Adjustment in Fees under Social Welfare Subventions for 2018-19

The Council, together with some Standing Committee members, met with SWD on 30 January 2018, to channel our concerns on the upcoming fee adjustment exercise. SWD sent the official memo to subvented NGOs to announce the final arrangement of the fee adjustment.

3. For discussion

3.1. Budget Speech

The Budget Speech was released in February. Dr CK Law, Secretary for Labour and Welfare, highlighted the budget initiatives under the LWB in the press conference on 2 March 2018. The powerpoint of Dr Law was shared with members for reference. Regarding to the "one school social worker for each school" policy in primary schools, the Council would conduct a sharing session on 29 March to collect views and suggestions on the implementation of the policy from the sector. The number of parent resource centers would be increased to 18 and 5 centers for separated or divorced families would be set up. Members raised the concerns on the availability of the premises.

3.2. 2018 Welfare Agenda and Priorities Setting (WAPS) Exercise

The annual meeting of 2018 WAPS would be held on 15 May 2018. A drafted list of concerns was tabled for members' perusal. Colleagues highlighted the new welfare focus, including enhancing support to carers, service enhancement for ethnic minorities enhancing the social work service at primary schools, increasing the provision of respite service, etc. The finalized list of concerns would be shared with SWD for reference once endorsed by all concerned specialized committees.

3.3. Consultation Paper on the Continuing Powers of Attorney Bill

The Department of Justice (DoJ) launched the public consultation to seek views on the proposed continuing powers of attorney legislation in Hong Kong. The new Continuing Powers of Attorney Ordinance would extend the scope of an enduring power of attorney to include matters relating to the personal care of the donor. Mr Andy Wong briefed members on the details and views collected from the sector. Members agreed to extend the power of attorney to personal care, but reminded that donors should clearly understand their rights and decision of the authorization. Thus, supporting service should be provided for those donors with special needs, for example, sign language interpretation.

4. For Information

4.1. Progress report

The progress of each team was illustrated in the reports. Ms Crystal Cheng highlighted that a series of consultation of Hong Kong Rehabilitation Programme Plan (RPP) was started and encouraged members to participate in the consultation forums. The Council would urge LWB for more communication platforms for the stakeholders.

5. Any other business

5.1. Funding for renting temporary office during renovation of premises

Ms Cindy Leung shared that SWD would only support the welfare rental for temporary office located in the public housing estate during their premise renovation, but they rarely could find the vacant welfare premise. Thus, she suggested lobbying SWD to enhance the flexibility of granting the subsidy to those NGOs which could not find the welfare premise as temporary office as well. Members also shared their difficulties of decanting during the renovation. Members wished that SWD could help exploring temporary premises / vacant schools in some districts for decanting use.

6. Date of next meeting and proposed meeting schedule for 2018

No. of meeting	Date
4.	15 May 2018 (Tue) at 2:30pm
5.	17 July 2018 (Tue) at 2:30pm
6.	18 September 2018 (Tue) at 2:30pm

Adopted By: _____
(Chairperson)

Date: _____