

THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE  
Standing Committee on Service Development  
 (2018-19)

Minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019 at 2:30pm in Room 1410 of the Duke of Windsor Social Service Building.

Present:	Ms Yvonne CHAK (Chairperson)	Hong Kong Christian Service
	Ms MA Lai Wah, Anka	The Free Methodist Church of Hong Kong
	Ms CHAN Lai Kwan, Queenie	Evangelical Lutheran Church Social Service-HK
	Ms CHOW Mee Tim	Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council Limited
	Mr CHU Muk Wah, Daniel	Yang Memorial Methodist Social Service
	Ms LEUNG Yuen Ching, Cindy	Hong Kong Family Welfare Society
	Mr LAI Kwan Ho, Raymond	The Salvation Army
	Ms LAW Mei Chun, Vivian	Evangelical Free Church of China- Evangel Children's Home
	Mr NG Ting Shan	Care for the Elderly Association Limited / Rep of SC (ELD)
	Ms Crystal CHENG	HKCSS
In-attendance:	Mr KUO Chun Chuen	HKCSS
	Ms Emily LEUNG	HKCSS
	Ms Teresa So (Recorder)	HKCSS
Apologies:	Mr LAI Wing Hoi (Vice-Chairperson)	Caritas – Hong Kong
	Mrs WONG HO Kit Yuk, Winnie	The Hong Kong Society for the Deaf (Rehab)
	Ms LEUNG Wai Ling, Rachel	Heep Hong Society
	Ms CHUNG Mei Ling	Hong Kong Lutheran Social Service, LC-HK (CY)
	Ms LAM Yee Wan, Eliza	Caritas-Hong Kong (FC)
	Mr Ling Kar Kan	Co-opted Member
	Mr Stephen SUI	Co-opted Member
	Ms Karen Yiu	HKCSS
	Mr Moses Mui	HKCSS

## 1. Confirmation of minutes of the last meeting

The minutes were confirmed with the following amendment in the last paragraph of item 4.3:

*“Cheung Lai Wah of HKCSS presented some focus groups would be formed so as to collect opinions from different social services. NGO’s concerns and SWD’s recommendations were based on three aspects: 1) FSA related; 2) cost apportionment; and 3) calculation of central administrative support/subvention. A casebook was proposed to illustrate different scenarios of the cost apportionment. ”*

## 2. Matters arising

### 2.1 Task group on manpower shortage

The Government needed to increase the provision of school places for Occupational Therapy (OT) and Physiotherapy (PT) programmes in order to ensure the stable manpower provision of frontline staff. At the same time, it was necessary for the Government to provide subsidization for self-financing undergraduate students so as to alleviate the financial burden on them. Regularization of MOT and MPT courses would be the core concerns in the discussion.

Views on increment of salary and the importation of frontline care workers were shared in the meeting. A member shared that a few NGOs willing to adjust frontline staff’s salary. The salary of frontline staff did not completely follow the master pay scale and some of them were often underpaid. A member pointed out improving the remuneration packages for frontline staff such as workman and personal care worker. Convinced discourses were needed to be figured out before asking the increment of salary. A member suggested taking the Qualifications Framework as a reference. The issue would be further discussed in the task group of manpower shortage.

The importation of workers was inevitable if there was no improvement in the increment of salary. We needed to consider different factors such as culture, language and facilities. Members agreed we should construct an approach to illustrate the hardship of manpower shortage before asking the importation of workers. Crystal encouraged members to: 1) learn experiences from the private residential care homes on importation of workers; 2) collect related data and information on this issue; and 3) meet with the Social Welfare Department. A member highlighted that we needed to review related documents on manpower shortage and the importation of workers so that we can present our arguments effectively.

### 2.2 Task group on premise (including Special Site Scheme)

The Government was planning to allocate \$20 billion to purchase 60 properties for providing over 158 welfare facilities, including day child care centres, neighbourhood elderly centres and on-site pre-school rehabilitation services. Crystal highlighted the advantages of the purchasing premises were: to ensure service stability, meet pressing needs, etc.

Crystal also contacted the Government officials for fighting Project Management post in the Special Site Scheme. A member pointed out it was difficult for the Government to free up vacant lands for redevelopment because some of the vacant lands had been reserved by the Social Welfare Department, the Education Bureau or other concerned bureaus. Members also mentioned other vacant lands, which had not been occupied and were far away from urban areas.

Crystal shared that the Land Supply forum and Special Site Scheme sharing sessions would be held on 18 June 2019 and 21 June 2019 respectively. Mr. Michael Wong Wai-lun,

Secretary for Development Bureau, would be invited to participate in the former forum. Whereas three representatives from different NGOs of the Special Site Scheme would be invited to share their experiences in this sharing session. Members were encouraged to join the two events and express their concerns.

### **3. Discussion**

#### **3.1 Evaluation on 2019 WAPS**

The 2019 Welfare Agenda and Priorities Setting (WAPS) Exercise was held on 15 May 2019. About 630 enrollments had been received, including 112 representatives from the LWB and SWD, various related advisory committees, NGOs and service users. Generally, members satisfied with the smooth rundown. Members highlighted that the Government officials were helpful and they showed passion in responding participants' questions and concerns. However, a member pointed out it was challenging to have an in-depth discussion due to the time constraint. The 2019 WAPS paper would send to members for further comments once ready.

#### **3.2 Drafted Report on The Review of Ordinance and Codes of Practice for Residential Care Homes (Elderly and Rehabilitation Services)**

Crystal reported the progress and recommendations of the Working Group on the Review of Ordinances and Codes of Practice for Residential Care Homes. She highlighted the key elements of 19 recommendations of the report.

Views on Recommendation 5 were highlighted: To upgrade the statutory staffing requirements in respect of high care level and medium care level homes. A member emphasized it was difficult to scheduling and manning the manpower due to the manpower shortage. A member suggested the Government should provide more resources to NGOs for unexpected expenditure of increasing manpower to meet the new requirement.

Considerations on Recommendation 19 were emphasized: To include offences relating to health care service (including drug management, use of restraints and protection of privacy). A member pointed out the Government needed to define "Offences" and "Privacy" very carefully so that the frontline staff were able to provide health care service with clear criteria and guidelines. Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance was brought into force in 1996 to protect the privacy interests of individuals in relation to their personal data. Thus, members doubted whether "protection of privacy" was necessary to be included in the amendments.

### **4. For Information**

#### **4.1 Progress of 2019 Best Practice Awards**

91 projects had been received this year. The first round adjudication had been conducted in April 2019 with 27 projects were selected to the final round of assessment. The final adjudication would be held in July. The final result would be released in September 2019. The first round assessment result was sent to members for their information.

#### **4.2 Progress report**

A full report had been sent to members, and they were encouraged to go through the documents.

### **5. Any other business**

#### **5.1 News Bulletin of Physiotherapy(Aug 2019- Jul 2020)**

NGOs were encouraged to submit an article which might cover the physiotherapy

development, innovative technology development, rehabilitation service, PT service, etc. Articles would be issued bimonthly at the News Bulletin of the Physiotherapy Association.

5.2 Change of staff

Crystal and Emily expressed their gratitude and appreciation to members for their support and contribution. They would resign from the Hong Kong Council of Social Service in July and June respectively. Members showed heartfelt wishes to them.

**6. Date of next meeting and proposed meeting schedule for 2019**

<b>No. of meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
5.	23 July 2019 (Tue)
6.	24 September 2019 (Tue)

Adopted By: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Chairperson)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_