

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 (2023-24) held on Mar 13, 2024 (Wednesday) at Room 201, 2/F, Duke of Windsor Social Service Building, 15 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

Present

Ms Agnes LEUNG (Chairperson)	Evangelical Lutheran Church Social Service – Hong Kong
Ms Monica CHEUNG (Vice-chairperson)	Caritas – Hong Kong
Ms Judy CHAN	Hong Kong Family Welfare Society
Mr Jonathan CHAN	Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Lady MacLehose Centre
Mr Kerin CHAM	International Social Service Hong Kong Branch
Ms Cindy YIU	New Life Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association
Dr Anna CHOI	The University of Hong Kong
Ms Lincole CHAN	Salvation Army, The
Ms Joyce TSE	Christian Family Service Centre
Ms May LAU	Chow Tai Fook
Ms May Lee	Sidebyside
Ms Phoebe WAN	Wofoo Social Enterprises Limited
Ms Irene SO	ZeShan Foundation
Ms Terry TSUI	Hong Kong Children & Youth Services
Ms Carrie CHUNG	Yang Memorial Methodist Social Service
Mr Mike CHEUNG	Hong Kong Christian Service
Dr Janet LEUNG	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Ms Jessica TAM	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Mr Peace WONG	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Ms Jobe HSU	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Mr Jim HOE	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Ms Qubie TANG	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Ms Kylie WONG (recorder)	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Ms Eureka TUET	The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

Apologies

Mr Yip Kin Chung	Hong Kong Evangelical Church Social Service Limited
Ms Cecily MA (Vice-chairperson)	Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong
Ms Angela CHENG	Society for the Aid and Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers
Ms Carmen LIAU	Breakthrough Limited
Ms Doris LEE	Harmony House Limited

Ms. Agnes Leung welcomed Mr. Peace Wong, Chief Officer (Family and Community Service), to the meeting. In the spirit of collaboration, all

members took turns to introduce themselves and share insights into the operations and initiatives of their respective organizations.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Last Meeting

The draft minutes of the meeting held on January 16, 2024, was circulated by email on March 6, 2024, and was confirmed.

2. For Discussion

2.1 Welfare Agenda & Priorities Setting 2024 (Paper1)

During the meeting, members engaged in a lively discussion and provided the following opinions and suggestions:

- I. It was proposed that the six draft issues in the document could be reorganized into four categories to better understand the specific outcomes that the family team aims to achieve.
- II. It was suggested to consolidate the draft issues related to ethnic minorities into one to enhance persuasiveness and understanding. Additionally, increasing the proportion of ethnic minority colleagues was recommended, along with the development of an EM (Ethnic Minorities) service model.
- III. It was suggested that the lack of supervisory staff at the Integrated Family Service Centers should be addressed.
- IV. Considering the abundance of existing caregiving programs, this area might not require immediate government attention.
- V. It's advised to clearly define what a community living room is and consider integrating more social work team components into it.

Mr. Peace WONG distilled these inputs into three primary concerns for the Welfare Agenda & Priorities Setting 2024:

- 增加非政府機構綜合家庭服務督導人手
- 支援少數族裔使用主流服務
- 加強對居於不適切居所市民的支援

Ms. Jessica TAM emphasized that the primary goal is to highlight the Welfare Agenda and Priority Setting 2024 to the Social Welfare Department. She noted that other issues can also be brought to the attention of various government departments through alternative

avenues.

3. For Information

3.1 Progress update (January to March 2024) (Paper2)

The Progress Report from Jan to Mar 2024 of Family and Community Service was sent to members for information on March 6, 2024. Ms Qubie TSANG & Mr Joe HOE highlighted the gist in the meeting.

3.2 Business Plan 2024-2025 (Paper3)

Mr. Peace WONG introduced the upcoming year's business plan for the Family & Community team, outlining the main Core Business Objectives as follows:

- I. Advocate for the Long Term and Sustainable Welfare Development
- II. Enhance and Demonstrate the Effectiveness of Social Services
- III. Engage Supporters and Promote User Rights and Participation

4. Matters Arising

4.1 Working Group on Mandatory Reporting System (Paper4)

Mr Kerin CHAM reported that the social services sector of the professional consultative panel is currently working on a guidebook. This guidebook's draft is expected to be presented to the Legislative Council in April of this year. The Social Welfare Department aims to use this guidebook to guide the professionals to make the right decisions. It is expected that the Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse Bill will be approved by December of this year.

Furthermore, an online training program (Child Protection Online Training) has been launched to provide training, reference materials, and assist professionals in early detection and reporting of child abuse cases, and it has already received registrations from over ten thousand individuals.

Ms Judy CHAN added that the guidebook should be made applicable to all relevant individuals. The professionals are looking forward to the department providing a flowchart or decision tree to assist in determining

whether a case needs to be reported. The Social Welfare Department has received a significant number of cases and hopes to identify the most commonly occurring types of cases for reference.

Ms Judy CHAN will share the draft of the guidebook with members soon. The professional consultative panel will have second meeting on Apr, Ms. Judy CHAN and Mr. Kerin CHAM will provide us with their updates and insights in the next SCFC meeting.

(Post-meeting Addendum: On March 13, 2024, Mr. Jonathan Chan sent an email to all members detailing the meaning of “implementation of a mandatory reporting system 18 months after the promulgation of a new law”.)

5. Any Other Business

5.1 S+高峰會暨博覽

Ms. Eureka TUET announced that the S+ Summit & Expo will be held at the Hong Kong Exhibition and Convention Centre on May 2-3, 2024. This event is a strategic initiative by the Executive Council to establish a collaborative forum for diverse stakeholders. The aim is to engage in meaningful dialogue and create actionable strategies that contribute to building a sustainable society, further solidifying Hong Kong's role as a philanthropic leader in the region. Anticipated to attract over 4,000 participants from various sectors, the summit and expo will be a pivotal occasion for tackling both local and broader social issues. Ms. Eureka sincerely invites all members to attend the S+ Summit and Expo.

6. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on **May 22, 2024 (Wednesday) at 2:30 pm in Room 201**, Duke of Windsor Social Service Building.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Adopted by

Chairperson

on the _____ day of _____ 2024