

THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE

Standing Committee on Policy Research and Advocacy
(2018-2019)

Minutes of the Second meeting held on January 11, 2019 (Friday) at 3:00 pm in Room 203, 2/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. Annessa Lui	- Hong Kong Lutheran Social Service
Ms. Karrie Chan	- Hong Kong Christian Service
Dr. Fan Ning	- Health in Action Limited
Mr. Charles Ng	- Christian Family Service Centre
Dr. Tam Yat Hung	- University of Hong Kong
Ms. Cindy Pun	- The Tsung Tsin Mission of Hong Kong Social Service
Mr. Francis Chau	- The Association of Evangelical Free Churches of Hong Kong
Dr. Wong Kwai Yau	- BGCA
Professor Ray Yep	- City University 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
Mr. Keith Wong	- HKCSS
Ms. Natalie Yau	- HKCSS
Mr. Peace Wong	- HKCSS
Ms. Olivia Ip (Recorder)	- HKCSS

Apologies

Dr. Wong Yu Cheung	- The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Ms. Sky Siu	- Kely Support Groups
Ms. Ngai Mei Mui, Angela	- Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups

1. To adopt the agenda of the meeting

The agenda was adopted.

2. To adopt the minutes of last meeting

2.1 The minutes of last meeting were confirmed with the following amendments:

- 2.1.1 At Present item, Mr. Wong Kwai Yau, should read as Dr. Wong Kwai Yau.
- 2.1.2 At In-attendance item, deleted the column of Mr. Peace Wong and Ms. Karen Yiu

2.2 Revised minutes would be sent to members after revision.

3. Co-opt member

- 3.1 Mr. Anthony Wong reported that Professor Ray Yep, City University of Hong Kong and Dr. Wong Yu Cheung, the Chinese University of Hong Kong accepted our invitation to serve as co-opt members for 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 year term.
- 3.2 According to the CHM Terms of Reference, one representative from PRA Standing Committee would be the member of CHM Steering Committee. It was agreed that Ms. Anchor Hung would represent PRA Standing Committee to the CHM Steering Committee.

4. Matters for Discussion

4.1 Major initiatives of the business plan for 2019-2020

Mr Anthony Wong introduced the paper circulated while also reporting the progress of various related items:

4.1.1 Follow up on the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (“CSSA”) reform

- 4.1.1.1 The Government was going to implement the new measure to increase the eligibility age of CSSA for the elderly from 60 to 65 years old. In response to that, the Council submitted a written response to the Government. The Council would follow up on this policy while advocate for further reform on the special allowance/supplement and the standard rate of CSSA.
- 4.1.1.2 Mr. Peace Wong reported that civil society groups and NGOs would engage the related network to follow up on the issue.
- 4.1.1.3 Members also discussed the problem of having the doctor to prove the suitability for work of the CSSA applicants. Social workers might be in a better position to assess the situation of the service users than the doctor.

4.1.2 Research on Youth Mobility and Carer’s Allowance

- 4.1.2.1 Working Group on Social Security and Employment was working on two research studies, namely, Research on Youth Career Mobility and a study on Carer’s Allowance in Hong Kong. Mr. Peace Wong shared the Research on Youth Career Mobility’s secondary data to members. He told that there was a big salary difference between degree and non-degree holders.
- 4.1.2.2 On these two areas, further research were being planned for the coming year.

4.1.2.3 Some members suggested, regarding the youth mobility research, looking for data from tertiary institutions to study their career path. It was also suggested that joint-research with those institutions could be considered.

4.1.2.4 Members were also concerned that there were specific target groups, eg. EM, which were especially disadvantaged. In planning for research and advocacy on this topic, their situation might also be considered.

4.1.3 Community Economy Development

4.1.3.1 “We Design – Grassroots Participation and Community Partnership Program 2019” would be held from March to June 2019 at Kowloon East.

4.1.3.2 There would be a project on Street Market Policy for SSEP in the coming year and one of the focuses would be on the “Hawker License” issues.

4.1.3.3 Effort would be made, after all these activities conducted, to account for the social and economic impacts of CED on the grassroots.

4.1.4 Community Housing Movement (CHM)

4.1.4.1 Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council just launched a new project, and the media coverage was good. In the coming year, the biggest challenge for the team would be to solicit more housing flats.

4.1.5 Modular Social Housing Project

4.1.5.1 Regarding the project at Nam Cheong Street, a re-tendering process was started. Six tenders submissions were received and it was expected that by February, a contractor could be appointed. Meanwhile, Yen Chau Street Site Project - application for short term tenancy was submitted to the Lands Department for approval. Council’s representative would attend Sham Shui Po District Council meeting for consultation and endorsement on January 15, 2019. In the coming year, the CHM would be implemented according to what was originally proposed.

4.1.5.2 In the coming year, a couple of more sites would be explored. It was expected that the construction of more modular social housing units could be started.

4.1.6 Health and Housing Research Projects

4.1.6.1 Mr. Keith Wong told members that Research Team was now working on Primary Healthcare and Rental Market Regulation. And these two areas would form the major works in the coming year.

4.1.6.2 A round table meeting on rental market regulation would be held soon to

identify a suitable research question and plan for advocating rental market regulation in the coming year.

- 4.1.6.3 Working Group on Primary Healthcare was now working on a desktop research on the overseas experience of Singapore, United Kingdom, Japan and Australia in developing their national primary healthcare system. In the coming year, a study tour to Singapore would be organized.
- 4.1.6.4 Members pointed out that there was some discussion about Health Care Voucher. Whether Health Care Voucher was effective should be properly studied, and improvement measures should be proposed.
- 4.1.6.5 A member raised how the sector's concern on Rehabilitation Program Plan and the advocacy for the adoption of International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) should be reflected in the business plan. It was explained by Mr Anthony Wong that our work on advocacy on the platform of RPP was within the scope of the Core Business of Service Development and the Joint Council. PRA would keep an eye on the work and report the progress as needed in this Committee.

5. Any Other Business

Nil.

6. Date of Next Meeting

Proposed next meeting would be held at:

- 1st priority: March 22, 2019 at 10:00am
- 2nd priority: March 17, 2019 at 2:30pm

Post-meeting note:

The meeting was fixed to be held at **March 22, 2019 from 10:00am in Room 1410, 14/F., Duke of Windsor Social Service Building, 15, Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.**

Adopted by : _____
Mr. Edmond Wong Chi Hung
Chairperson

Date : _____