

Minutes of the First Meeting of the
Social Welfare Committee
under Eastern District Council

Date : 27 February 2024 (Tuesday)

Time : 2:30 pm

Venue : Eastern District Council Conference Room

Present

Mr TING Kong-ho, Eddie, MH	Mr LAM Wing-shing	Ms TSANG Cheuk-yi
Mr TING Wong, Kacee	Mr LAM Wing-cheung	Ms CHIK Kit-ling, Elaine
Mr WONG Chi-chung	Mr CHAU Chi-yan, Benny	Mr CHENG Chi-sing, MH
Ms HO Sau-yin, Zareenah (Chairlady)	Ms LIN Cai-ying	Ms LAU Suk-yin
Mr YUEN Kin-chung, Kenny	Mr HUNG Chi-kit	Ms LAU Dana Sing-she
Ms LI Lee	Mr HUNG Lin-cham, MH, JP	Mr LAU Hing-yeung, MH
Ms NG Ching-ching	Mr HUNG Chiu-kwan	Mr LAI Nuen-san
Ms LEE Ching-har (Vice-chairlady)	Mr KWOK Ho-king, Calvin	Mr LU Xiaofeng, Anthony
Mr HO Ngai-kam, Stanley	Mr KWOK Wing-kin	
Mr LAM Sum-lim, MH	Mr CHAN Hoi-wing, Joseph	

In Regular Attendance (Government Representatives)

Miss CHIU Man-nga, Jasmine	Assistant District Officer (Eastern)1, Eastern District Office
Ms NG Yan-mei, Monie	Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Eastern District Office
Miss NGAI Ka-man, Carman	Senior Liaison Officer (4), Eastern District Office
Mr TSANG Kwok-hung, Kenneth	Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Eastern/Wan Chai)3, Social Welfare Department

In Attendance by Invitation (Representatives from Bureaux and Organisation)

Ms CHAN Wai-kei, Victoria	Director (District Health Centre Team), Primary Healthcare Office, Health Bureau
Mr WU Yeung-key, Jimmy	Chief Manager (Primary Healthcare Office)1C, Health Bureau
Ms Zoe MA	Project Coordinator (Eastern District Health Centre Express), The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation

Secretary

Ms NG Sze-chung, May	Executive Officer I (District Council)3, Eastern District Office
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Opening Remarks

The Chairlady welcomed all Members, representatives from the bureau, departments and organisation to the meeting.

Agenda 1. List of Government Representatives in Attendance at Social Welfare Committee (SWC) under Eastern District Council
(SWC Paper No. 1/2024)

2. The SWC noted the Paper.

Agenda 2. Invitation for Nomination of District Council Member to the Committees under the Eastern and Wan Chai District Social Welfare Office
(SWC Paper No. 2/2024)

3. The representative of the Social Welfare Department (SWD) briefed Members on Paper No. 2/2024.
4. The Chairlady announced the recommended list as follows:

Names of Committees	Required No. of Member for Recommendation	Names of the Recommended Members
Eastern and Wan Chai District Welfare Strategy and Development Committee	1	Ms Zareenah HO
Eastern and Wan Chai District Co-ordinating Committee on Family and Child Welfare Services	1	Ms LEE Ching-har
Eastern and Wan Chai District Co-ordinating Committee on Elderly Service	1	Mr LAU Hing-yeung
Eastern and Wan Chai District Co-ordinating Committee on Rehabilitation Service	1	Mr HUNG Chi-kit

Action

Names of Committees	Required No. of Member for Recommendation	Names of the Recommended Members
Eastern and Wan Chai District Local Committee on Services for Young People	1	Mr Joseph CHAN

5. The Chairlady asked the Secretary to submit the above list to the Eastern & Wan Chai District Social Welfare Office (E/WDSWO) of the SWD for consideration.

(Post-meeting note: The Secretariat had submitted the above list to the E/WDSWO of the SWD on 27 February 2024 for consideration.)

Agenda 3. Enhancing Cooperation with Eastern District Health Centre Express to Promote Chronic Disease Co-Care Concept **(SWC Paper No. 3/2024)**

6. The Chairlady welcomed the representatives of the Health Bureau (HB), SWD and Eastern District Health Centre Express (DHCE) of the Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation (the Operator) to the meeting. The SWC noted the written reply of the Department of Health (DH). Mr Kacee TING briefed Members on Paper No. 3/2024.

7. The views and enquiries of Members about the agenda item were summarised as follows:

- (a) Members opined that it was hard to rely solely on the DHCE in North Point to cope with the huge demand for primary healthcare services in view of the severe ageing population in the Eastern District. Members would also like the authority to consider expanding the service coverage and setting up more DHCEs for the public convenience as the DHCE was located in a commercial area far from the residential area.
- (b) The permanent Eastern District Health Centre (DHC) to be commissioned shortly was located in Siu Sai Wan and rather inconvenient to some Eastern District residents. Therefore, Members opined that the DHC should be close to the MTR station.

Action

- (c) Members would like the authority to take the lead to further enhance the overall advocacy and publicity of DHCEs, actively liaise with different stakeholders such as District Council (DC) members, local organisations and community groups (e.g. clansmen associations and women's associations), and provide appropriate training, form joint outreach teams and set up street counters so as to introduce to the residents the services and assist the elderly with little digital literacy in signing up for membership. Meanwhile, Members would like the authority to provide stakeholders with leaflets and souvenirs to assist in public distribution and publicity.
- (d) Members suggested that general out-patient service (including evening consultation service) and dental care service for the elderly be further enhanced to reduce the waiting time for public healthcare services.
- (e) Members enquired about the target number of service recipients of the DHCE and whether it had sufficient capacity to cope with the increased service demand resulting from the active promotion.
- (f) Members suggested the authority and Lands Department explore and identify suitable roadside locations and footbridges for displaying publicity banners, and make optimal use of the vacant government properties in the district for setting up service points.
- (g) Members suggested producing information cards on primary healthcare services and exploring the use of intelligent chatbots on social and communication platforms to answer public enquiries instantly.

8. The representatives of the bureau, department and organisation noted Members' views and suggestions, and responded to their views and enquiries as follows:

HB

- (a) The existing DHCE at the commercial building in North Point was interim in nature while the full-fledged permanent Eastern DHC was expected to commence operation in Siu Sai Wan in 2025. The

Action

operation contract would also require the operator to set up satellite centres and service points in various sub-districts in addition to the core centre to further attend to the healthcare needs of the local residents.

- (b) The HB would continue to proactively promote the DHCEs to the public through different publicity channels (such as advertisements on television, cinemas, bus bodies and mascot design) and would work closely with different community partners to enhance the promotion of district-based primary healthcare services for the benefit of the needy residents in the Eastern District. The DHC would have sufficient resources to meet public demand.

SWD

- (c) The SWD would provide information such as the lists of elderly centres and district community support service units for elders in the district, their contact details and service provision to the DC members and Care Teams in a timely manner for reference.
- (d) The SWD had consolidated the Eastern District service profile with a list of welfare service units managed or funded by the SWD on its webpage for the convenience of the local residents to locate and liaise with suitable welfare service units.

The Operator

- (e) The Eastern DHCE had recorded about 6 900 registered members since its commission in October 2021 while the Chronic Disease Co-care Pilot Scheme had recruited more than 1 000 Eastern District residents for diabetes mellitus and hypertension screenings since its launch in November 2023. It was viewed that the satisfactory result was attributed to the higher number of local residents with higher educational attainment and knowledge on using the Internet for information acquisition.
- (f) Apart from placing advertisements on social platforms such as Facebook and Instagram, the Operator would continue to arrange publicity vans to different locations, conduct physical talks and promotional activities on physical and mental health on a regular basis. It also expected to carry

Action

out further promotion in future through the strong district network of DC members and Care Teams, and would proactively study the suggestion on forming joint outreach teams to register for eligible residents.

HB/DH/SWD

9. The SWC agreed to follow up on the agenda item upon further progress.

Agenda 4. Progress Report of Matters Arising from Previous SWC Meetings under Eastern District Council

(SWC Paper No. 4/2024)

- (i) *“Request for Additional Residential Care Home for the Elderly in Eastern District”*

10. The SWC noted the department’s written reply.

SWD

11. The agenda item would be followed up on upon further progress.

Agenda 5. Any Other Business

12. There was no other discussion item for the SWC.

Agenda 6. Date of Next Meeting

13. The second SWC meeting would be held at 2:30 pm on 23 April 2024 (Tuesday).

14. The meeting ended at 3:39 pm.

Eastern District Council Secretariat
April 2024