

**Sha Tin District Council**  
**Minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of**  
**the Education and Welfare Committee in 2018**

**Date** : 2 January 2018 (Tuesday)  
**Time** : 2:30 pm  
**Venue** : Sha Tin District Council Conference Room  
 4/F, Sha Tin Government Offices

<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Title</u></b>	<b><u>Time of joining the meeting</u></b>	<b><u>Time of leaving the meeting</u></b>
Ms LAM Chung-yan (Chairman)	DC Member	2:30 pm	3:01 pm
Mr WONG Fu-sang, Tiger (Vice-Chairman)	"	2:30 pm	3:01 pm
Mr HO Hau-cheung, SBS, MH	DC Chairman	2:30 pm	2:50 pm
Mr PANG Cheung-wai, Thomas, SBS, JP	DC Vice-Chairman	2:30 pm	3:01 pm
Mr CHAN Billy Shiu-yeung	DC Member	2:30 pm	3:01 pm
Mr CHAN Kwok-keung, James	"	2:55 pm	3:01 pm
Ms CHAN Man-kuen	"	2:30 pm	3:01 pm
Mr CHAN Nok-hang	"	2:32 pm	3:01 pm
Mr CHING Cheung-ying, MH	"	2:35 pm	3:01 pm
Mr CHIU Chu-pong, Sunny	"	2:42 pm	3:01 pm
Mr CHIU Man-leong	"	2:30 pm	3:01 pm
Mr HUI Yui-yu, Rick	"	2:30 pm	2:35 pm
Mr LEUNG Ka-fai, Victor	"	2:37 pm	3:01 pm
Mr LI Sai-hung	"	2:30 pm	3:01 pm
Mr LI Sai-wing	"	2:34 pm	2:56 pm
Mr LI Wing-shing, Wilson	"	2:30 pm	3:01 pm
Mr MOK Kam-kwai, BBS	"	2:32 pm	3:01 pm
Ms PONG Scarlett Oi-lan, BBS, JP	"	2:30 pm	3:01 pm
Mr PUN Kwok-shan, MH	"	2:30 pm	3:01 pm
Mr SIU Hin-hong	"	2:30 pm	3:01 pm
Mr TING Tsz-yuen	"	2:30 pm	3:01 pm
Mr TONG Hok-leung	"	2:36 pm	2:56 pm
Ms TUNG Kin-lei	"	2:30 pm	3:01 pm
Mr WAI Hing-cheung	"	2:30 pm	3:01 pm
Mr WONG Ka-wing, MH	"	2:30 pm	3:01 pm
Ms WONG Ping-fan, Iris	"	2:30 pm	2:58 pm
Mr YAU Man-chun	"	2:30 pm	3:01 pm
Mr YIP Wing	"	2:30 pm	3:01 pm
Mr YIU Ka-chun	"	2:30 pm	3:01 pm
Ms YUE Shin-man	"	2:52 pm	3:01 pm
Mr YUNG Ming-chau, Michael	"	2:30 pm	3:01 pm
Mr MOK Man-lok, Mannix (Secretary)	Executive Officer (District Council) 1 / Sha Tin District Office		

**In Attendance**

Mr CHAN Ping-ching, Roy	Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (Shatin) 1 / Social Welfare Department
Ms CHIU Lo-man	Senior School Development Officer (Sha Tin) 4 / Education Bureau
Ms LAU Yuk-yee, Lydia	Housing Manager (Tai Po, North and Sha Tin) 1 / Housing Department
Ms CHENG Ka-po, Theresa	Chief Liaison Officer / Sha Tin District Office
Ms CHAN Sum-yee, Rita	Senior Liaison Officer (East) (Acting) / Sha Tin District Office
Mr HO Kin-nam, David	Senior Executive Officer (District Council) (Acting) / Sha Tin District Office

**In Attendance by Invitation**

Ms CHAN Wing-man, Kelly	Social Work Officer 1 (Planning and Coordinating) / Social Welfare Department
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**Absent**

Mr LAI Tsz-yan	DC Member	(Application for leave of absence received)
Mr LEE Chi-wing, Alvin	”	( ” )
Mr MAK Yun-pui	”	( ” )
Mr NG Kam-hung	”	( ” )
Mr WONG Hok-lai	”	( ” )
Mr WONG Yue-hon	”	( ” )
Ms TSANG So-lai	”	(No application for leave of absence received)

**Action**

The Chairman welcomed members and representatives of government departments to the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Education and Welfare Committee for the year.

**Application for Leave of Absence**

2. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had received applications for leave of absence in writing from the following members:

Mr Alvin LEE	Official commitment
Mr MAK Yun-pui	”
Mr NG Kam-hung	”
Mr WONG Yue-hon	”
Mr LAI Tsz-yan	Other reasons
Mr WONG Hok-lai	”

3. Members unanimously approved the applications for leave of absence submitted by the members above.

**Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting Held on 31 October 2017**

(EWC Minutes 6/2017)

4. Members unanimously confirmed the above minutes.

**Matters Arising**

**Responses of the Relevant Government Departments to Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting**

(Paper No. EW 1/2018)

5. The views of Mr Michael YUNG were summarised below:

- (a) according to his understanding, the temporary school premises of English Schools Foundation (ESF) would be in use starting in early January 2018, and thus he would like to know how ESF would strictly enforce the “zero vehicle policy” ;
- (b) at the end of December 2017, ESF invited members to visit the school premises of HK & KLN CCPA Ma Chung Sum Secondary School (Ma Chung Sum) and said that one of the lifts was not functioning. He understood that Chevalier (HK) Limited, the company responsible for the lift’s maintenance, had advised the school to purchase a new lift, since the company had stopped producing the relevant parts to replace those previously oxidised after water leakage in the lift shafts. He opined that the problem lay in the Education Bureau’s lack of proper management of vacant school premises. Thus a few million dollars had to be spent to replace the lift when the problem could have been solved with a maintenance fee of a few thousand dollars, resulting in a waste of public funds. With one lift short, transport and delivery was also made more difficult. He asked how the EDB would handle the issue and inspect school facilities once it reopened the idle school premises; and
- (c) although the EDB had provided the number of upper kindergarten students, it did not provide the breakdown of the numbers of primary schools in School Nets 88, 89 and 91. If the EDB was unable to provide such numbers, it would be impossible to know the number of upper kindergarten students in each School Net. As parents would usually want their children to study in a kindergarten in their home district, they would be able to learn more about the number of borrowed places in each School Net if they were provided with the figures of different School Nets.

6. The Chairman asked ESF about its progress of setting up a community liaison group and whether members would be invited to visit the temporary school premises in Sun Chui Estate when they opened in the future.

7. Ms CHIU Lo-man, Senior School Development Officer (Sha Tin) 4 of the EDB gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) expected to move into the temporary school premises on 10 January 2018, Island School would implement at once a policy that forbade students to travel to and from school by private vehicles or taxis. It had informed all teaching staff, parents and students about the policy and required all students to travel to and from the temporary school premises by school bus or public transport. At

present, around 40% of the students had confirmed their preference for school bus, while the rest had opted for public transport;

- (b) Island School would assign teaching staff to maintain order and monitor the situation in the vicinity of the school premises. If students were identified to have violated the policy, they would receive a warning letter from the school. Serious violation would warrant suspension from extra-curricular activities. Besides, to avoid overlapping school hours with neighbouring counterparts and to reduce traffic flow in the vicinity, Island School would adjust its school hours, with class starting at 7:45 am and ending at 2:45 pm (2 pm on Wednesdays);
- (c) ESF planned to set up a community liaison group and invite different stakeholders, including District Council members and residents living near the school premises, to join to discuss regularly their concerns and give ESF their opinion. ESF expected to start setting up the community liaison group and invite the relevant stakeholders to join the group in the second term and commence work in the third term in the 2017/18 school year;
- (d) generally speaking, the EDB would carry out proper maintenance work before lending vacant school premises to public sector schools. In respect of the problem concerning the lift in the former Ma Chung Sum temporary school premises, the EDB would reply after learning more from ESF and the relevant personnel within the EDB; and

(Post meeting-note: Regarding the borrowing of two vacant school premises by ESF as the temporary school premises for Island School, ESF was responsible for the refurbishment works of the vacant school premises. The EDB had spoken to ESF about the maintenance issue of the lift in the former Ma Chung Sum school premises, and ESF said that as Island School did not have an urgent need for the lift or a sufficient budget to cover lift maintenance expenses, there was no plan to repair the lift at this stage.)

- (e) regarding the number of upper kindergarten students, since the Primary One Admission (POA) School Net was only applicable to the POA System, the EDB did not further break down the number of kindergarten students by School Net. There might not be any direct relationship between the number of kindergarten students and the number of POA students, as not all students participating in the POA System would have attended kindergarten and kindergarten students might not attend school in their home School Nets.

8. Members noted the above paper.

### Question

Question to be Raised by Mr CHAN Billy Shiu-yeung on “Day Respite Service for Elderly Persons” and “Residential Respite Service for Elders”  
(Paper No. EW 2/2018)

9. The views of Mr Billy CHAN were summarised below:

- (a) it would be difficult to adopt appropriate measures to improve services without the information on waiting numbers and waiting times. Given a keen demand from the elderly for day respite service, he believed the existing quota of 20 was insufficient; and
- (b) in response to question (b), the Social Welfare Department (SWD) said a quota of 150 for day care services for the elderly would be allocated to the Sha Tin District, whereas the Pilot Scheme on Community Care Service Voucher for the Elderly (Pilot Scheme) would provide 5 000 vouchers to the 18 districts, of which the Sha Tin District might only be allocated over 300. He questioned if the amount was sufficient, as currently there were over 100 000 elderly people living in Sha Tin. He knew the SWD was launching the Pilot Scheme on Living Allowance for Carers of Elderly Persons from Low Income Families, but as the application threshold was rather high, and members of the public currently receiving the Old Age Living Allowance (OALA) were not eligible to apply, he asked if the SWD would consider lowering the application requirements or increasing the allowance amount.

10. Mr SIU Hin-hong said, with the ageing population, society's demand for respite services would continue to grow. He suggested providing members of the public that needed to take care of the elderly with allowances for day care or night care services, so as to encourage the public to take care of their elderly family members. He knew that similar schemes were already in place in a lot of countries.

11. The Chairman asked if there was any quota left for the Pilot Scheme and day care services. The SWD provided a range of service vouchers, but members of the public might not clearly understand how to use them. Besides, knowing that the Government had launched the First Phase of the Pilot Scheme in 2013, she asked when the Second Phase would commence and how the SWD would review the Scheme.

12. Ms Kelly CHAN, Social Work Officer 1 (Planning and Coordinating) of the SWD gave a consolidated response as follows:

- (a) the mode of service of the Day Respite Service for Elders (DRSE) and the Residential Respite Service for Elders (RRSE) differed from that of the long term care services in allocating services not based on a central waiting list. Thus the SWD did not have the relevant figures. She would relay members' opinion to the SWD. With regard to the Sha Tin District, the SWD website provided relevant information on the vacancy position. For instance, the website showed that there were places available for DRSE and RRSE in the Sha Tin District in mid-October and late December;
- (b) there was a fixed amount of quotas for DRSE and RRSE, meaning that these quotas were reserved for providing respite services and could not be allocated to the elderly on the waiting list. Currently, the four subvented homes and four day care centres for the elderly in the Sha Tin District had designated respite quotas, while other day care centres for the elderly would provide casual

vacancy quotas, i.e. respite services provided with service quotas that were temporarily vacant due to various reasons. If members of the public learnt online that there was no vacancy in the designated quota for respite service on a certain day, the elderly and their family members could contact social workers for assistance to seek other support services, such as casual vacancy quotas, self-financed services, integrated home care services, emergency placement, etc.;

- (c) regarding the Community Care Service Voucher for the Elderly (Voucher), the Second Phase of the Pilot Scheme had already commenced in October 2016. The Voucher was only meant for the elderly who were on the Central Waiting List for Subsidised Long Term Care Services waiting for subsidised community care services and/or residential care services without receiving any of those services yet. There were 200 day care places presently in the Sha Tin District for the use of the elderly with the Voucher. According to the figures from the previous month, there were still available places currently. Furthermore, the Chief Executive's latest *Policy Address* mentioned that the total number of the Voucher across the whole territory would be increased from 5 000 to 6 000. The SWD would conduct an on-going review on the Pilot Scheme, including to collect opinions from referring social workers, the elderly and recognised service providers participating in the Pilot Scheme;
- (d) one of the eligibility criteria of the Pilot Scheme on Living Allowance for Carers of Elderly Persons from Low Income Families was that the applicants had to be carers of the elderly who were not receiving OALA. The SWD had commissioned a research centre to conduct an opinion survey and an assessment study on the scheme; and
- (e) with regard to members' suggestion on increasing various allowances for the elderly's family members, she said she would relay their views to the SWD for consideration.

### **Information Paper**

Number of Newly Arrived Mainland Children Admitted to Public Sector Primary and Secondary Schools in Sha Tin District Provided by the Education Bureau  
(Paper No. EW 3/2018)

- 13. Members noted the above paper.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

- 14. The next meeting was scheduled to be held at 2:30 pm on 6 March 2018 (Tuesday).
- 15. The meeting was adjourned at 3:01 pm.

Sha Tin District Council Secretariat  
STDC 13/15/35

February 2018