

(Translation)

Minutes of the 11th Meeting of
Social Services and Community Information Committee (3/17-18)

Date : 8 September 2017
Time : 2:30 p.m.
Venue : Main Conference Room, Tsuen Wan District Office

Present:

Members

Mr MAN Yu-ming, MH (Chairman)
Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis (Vice Chairman)
Mr KOO Yeung-pong, MH
Mr LI Hung-por
Mr CHAN Chun-chung, Jones
Mr CHAN Sung-ip, MH
Mr WONG Ka-wa
Mr WONG Wai-kit
Mr CHOW Ping-tim
Mr CHENG Chit-pun
Mr LO Siu-kit, MH

Co-opted Member

Ms LAW Ka-tun

Government Representatives

Ms LEE Lai-kiu, Winnie	Senior Liaison Officer (2), Tsuen Wan District Office
Ms LUI Ka-wing	Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (TW/KwT)3, Social Welfare Department
Miss LAM Shuk-fan, Janice	Senior School Development Officer (TW)1, Education Bureau
Mr FAN Yat-man	Community Relations Officer, Independent Commission Against Corruption

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat

Representatives

Miss LAM Siu-yung, Daisy	Senior Executive Officer (District Council), Tsuen Wan District Office
Mr WAN Chun-hei, Leo (Secretary)	Executive Officer (District Council)3, Tsuen Wan District Office

Absent:

Member

Mr KOT Siu-yuen

The Meeting

I Opening Remarks and Introduction

The Chairman welcomed the Members and representatives from the government departments to the 11th meeting of the Social Services and Community Information Committee (SSCIC).

2. The Chairman reported that for Members' information, Mr KOT Siu-yuen was absent with apologies.

3. The Chairman reminded Members that according to section 28 of the Tsuen Wan District Council Standing Orders, unless otherwise agreed by the Chairman, each Member could speak and make supplementary remarks once for each agenda item at the meeting. Each Member could speak up to three minutes each time.

II Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes of the Meeting held on 14.7.2017

4. The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously confirmed by Members without amendment.

III Item 2: Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

5. The Chairman said that there were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

IV Item 3: Request to Enhance the Creche or Child Nursery Service (SSCIC Paper No. 12/17-18)

6. The Chairman stated that the Vice Chairman submitted the paper and welcomed Ms LUI Ka-wing, Assistant District Social Welfare Officer (TW/KwT)3 (ADSWO(TW/KwT)3), who especially attended this meeting on behalf of the Social Welfare Department (SWD).

7. The Vice Chairman introduced the paper.

8. ADSWO(TW/KwT)3 of the SWD responded as follows:

- (1) she understood that there was a pressing demand for the child care services for children aged 0 to 2 in the community. The SWD would actively consider increasing the number of the relevant service places;
- (2) overall speaking, to assist the parents who could not take care of their children temporarily because of work or other reasons, the SWD had all along been subsidising the non-governmental organisations to provide the child care services for young children. These services were divided into six areas, including the standalone child care centres and child care centres attached to kindergartens for children aged under 3, occasional child care service, extended hours service and mutual help child care centres for children aged under 6, as well as the Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project (NSCCP) for children aged under 9;
- (3) there were one subsidised standalone child care centre, two privately-run standalone child care centres as well as 21 subsidised and non-subsidised

child care centres attached to kindergartens in Tsuen Wan, providing a total of 1 588 service places;

- (4) the child care centres operated on a fee-charging basis. Low income families with financial needs and children receiving the full-day child care service could apply for the Kindergarten and Child Care Centre Fee Remission Scheme from the Student Finance Office of the Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency;
 - (5) most of the services provided by the kindergartens were free of charge under the Quality Kindergarten Education Scheme in 2017/18;
 - (6) there were service places under the occasional child care service, extended hours service, mutual help child care centres and NSCCP for Tsuen Wan and there were still unused service places; and
 - (7) Members were encouraged to recommend the above services to the residents, including the occasional child care service, extended hours service, mutual help child care centre and NSCCP. Members could contact the SWD to obtain more information for promotion if necessary.
9. The views, enquiries and suggestions of Members were summarised as follows:
- (1) there were child care services organisations in his constituency, in which more grassroots residents resided. However, there were less than 30 service places which catered for their needs. He thus enquired whether the SWD could increase the number of service places provided by the relevant organisations to individual districts according to the demand from individual district (Mr WONG Ka-wa);
 - (2) he enquired about the service places of the child care services in Tsuen Wan, the amount of subsidy received by the relevant kindergartens, the number of respective service places and the distribution of the relevant kindergartens for further discussion on this subject matter (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);
 - (3) he opined that there was a pressing demand for the child care services in the district and suggested that the SWD should actively consider creating these services on the government land, e.g. in the newly-built community hall facilities on Lot No. 393 in the district or Tsuen King Circuit Market which was to be closed soon (Mr WONG Wai-kit);
 - (4) he enquired about the application procedures for the child care services and the processing time required. He opined that if additional service places of the child care services could be provided for Tsuen Wan currently, such increase should be arranged first (Mr KOO Yeung-pong); and
 - (5) he opined that the provision of additional service places might need to tie in with the overall population policy in Hong Kong, such as the birth rate and population aged 0 to 2 as released by the Census and Statistics Department recently (Mr KOO Yeung-pong).
10. ADSWO(TW/KwT)3 of the SWD responded as follows:
- (1) there was no central waiting list for various child care services as mentioned above. The residents who wished to apply for the child care services could enrol in the centres or kindergartens providing the services. The

application procedures would vary, subject to the application arrangements of the respective centres or kindergartens;

- (2) currently, there were one subsidised standalone child care centre which provided 76 service places, two privately-run standalone child care centres which provided a total of 336 service places and 21 kindergartens attached with child care centres which provided a total of 1 176 service places in the district;
 - (3) the age requirement for admission to the kindergartens attached with child care centres would vary, subject to the arrangements of the respective kindergartens. Overall, the service targets of the child care centres should be the children aged under 3;
 - (4) regarding the child care services for children aged 0 to 2, besides the 76 service places as mentioned above, over 20 service places were provided by a kindergarten in Shek Wai Kok. There were about 100 service places in total in Tsuen Wan;
 - (5) the child care service for students was believed to be the after-school child care services for the older students but such services were not among the six areas of the child care services as mentioned above. There were subsidised places under the after-school fee-charging child care services. The SWD would conduct an overall review on the waiting situation of the subsidised places in each district once every six months and increase the number of the service places provided for individual districts by the relevant organisations according to the demand of respective districts;
 - (6) regarding the long-term development of the child care services, in December 2016, the SWD had commissioned the Department of Social Work and Social Administration of the University of Hong Kong to study the long-term direction of the child care services of Hong Kong and reviewed the manpower planning, objectives, targets as well as the supply and demand of the relevant services by drawing reference to overseas experience; and
 - (7) the SWD would actively consider increasing the places of the child care services and identify venues suitable for provision of the services, including the newly-built community centre or Tsuen King Circuit Market.
11. The views, enquiries and suggestions of Members were summarised as follows:
- (1) he was well aware that there were child care services for young children in the district and appreciated the schools which provided the services for the district but there were too few service places. He opined that there was a very pressing demand for the services from members of the public (Mr CHAN Chun-chung, Jones);
 - (2) there were locations for provision of additional services by the department in the district. He hoped that the SWD would relay Members' views and allocate corresponding resources (Mr CHAN Chun-chung, Jones);
 - (3) he hoped that after the meeting, the SWD would submit the information in written form as reported at the meeting for Members' reference (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);

- (4) he hoped that the SWD would provide the information on the amount of subsidy received by the relevant kindergartens and the admission criteria of the kindergartens, so as to see whether the public funds was used properly and whether the Government's regulatory mechanism was effective (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);
- (5) currently, there was an imbalance in the relevant policies. He wished to see whether there was also an imbalance in the relevant policies in other districts (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);
- (6) he hoped that the SWD would provide the information for Members as early as possible to facilitate discussion of Members, so as to enhance the policies and services in the district (Mr CHOW Ping-tim);
- (7) if the SWD was unable to solve the problem concerned within a short period of time, he hoped that the SWD would consider increasing the number of service places for the districts that were currently providing the child care services (Mr WONG Ka-wa);
- (8) as the captioned matter was related to the population policy which was relatively extensive, he hoped that the SSCIC would consider making enquiries to the Development Bureau (DEVB) and Planning Department (PD) in writing to understand whether space was reserved in the future planning of Hong Kong for the relevant departments to provide such services (Mr WONG Ka-wa);
- (9) as the young children currently patronising the child care services would quit only when they exceeded the age limit, there were even fewer service places actually available. The gap between the demand for and places of these services was huge (the Vice Chairman);
- (10) compared to the old days, the current social environment and the demand for the child care services had become different. She agreed that the relevant policies were not highly developed in Hong Kong. She hoped that the SWD would relay the respective views to the departments responsible for the relevant policies (the Vice Chairman); and
- (11) as Tsuen King Circuit Market, which would soon be closed, covered an extensive area, she suggested that the SWD should actively consider providing the child care services there so as to provide additional service places (the Vice Chairman).

(Note: Mr CHOW Ping-tim left the meeting at 3:00 p.m.)

12. ADSWO(TW/KwT)3 of the SWD responded as follows:

- (1) the SWD would provide supplementary information to Members after the meeting;
- (2) regarding the admission criteria and arrangements, the admission to the kindergartens attached with child care centres should be open to the public. If the residents wished to apply for the child care services, they could make application to the centres or kindergartens providing the services;
- (3) the Child Care Centres Advisory Inspectorate of the SWD was responsible for the supervision of the child care centres according to the Child Care

Services Ordinance and Child Care Services Regulations. The subsidisation and admission criteria of the kindergartens fell beyond the ambit of the SWD;

- (4) regarding the site selection of child care centre, the sites in residential areas and accessible locations were more suitable for establishing child care centres and the sites in close proximity to a park or playground were even better. The SWD would actively take into consideration the locations suggested by Members; and
- (5) the SWD noted Members' concern on the undersupply of the child care service places and would relay Members' views to the respective service unit of the SWD for follow-up.

13. The Chairman said he had received parents' requests for assistance and referrals to the child care centre were successfully made. It was believed that the application for the child care services was open to the public. He thought that the child care services were very important and hoped that the SWD would actively consider providing additional services at the locations proposed by Members because there were insufficient places for the relevant services in Tsuen Wan and even fewer service places of child care services for various areas in Tsuen Wan. Moreover, in order to duly cope with the residents' demand for the child care services in the long run, he suggested that the SWD should provide the more centralised large-scale services.

14. The views, enquiries and suggestions of Members were summarised as follows:

- (1) as the Members' proposal in writing to the DEVB and PD was related to the respective planning work and the situation of the people of other ages and sectors waiting for the services they needed was associated to the district planning, he suggested that the Members who were interested in following up on the captioned matter could submit paper to the Community Building, Planning and Development Committee (CBPDC) for further discussion (Mr LO Siu-kit);
- (2) the manpower resource dwindled because of the aging population in Hong Kong. He believed that some labour force could be released if the provision of proper nursery services for women was ensured (Mr LI Hung-por); and
- (3) nowadays, the birth rate had become lower when compared to the past. Therefore, the enrolment rates of primary schools and kindergartens were also correspondingly lower. In view of this, he opined that the kindergartens and child care centres might have room for provision of additional services. Hence, he suggested that the SWD could give further consideration in this direction (Mr LI Hung-por).

15. The Chairman opined that Members' suggestions on the child education services were of reference value and hoped that the SWD would consider the views from Members and residents. Besides, as the captioned matter was related to the planning for Tsuen King Circuit Market and Lot No. 393, he asked Members to submit paper to the CBPDC for follow-up.

(Note: Mr LI Hung-por and Mr WONG Ka-wa left the meeting at 3:10 p.m.)

V Item 4: Application for District Council Funds by District Organisations
(SSCIC Paper No. 13/17-18)

16. The Secretary introduced the paper.

17. The Chairman said that the Secretariat had received a total of four applications for District Council funds submitted by local organisations and the sum of the applications amounted to \$60,705. According to the SSCIC's Guidelines on the Application for Funds, the funding ceiling for each funding application from a local organisation was \$20,000 and the original amount of funds available for allocation at this meeting should be 40% of the annual funding provision (i.e. \$48,000) for Support for Activities by Local Organisations. As the balance (i.e. \$25,378.5) of the previous funding period would be available for use in the current funding period, the amount available for allocation at this meeting was \$73,378.5.

18. Mr CHAN Sung-ip declared interest as the Consultant of the Yuen Yuen Institute - Tsuen Wan West Neighbourhood Elderly Centre. The Chairman determined that the Member who had declared an interest could remain in the meeting as an observer but he could not discuss or vote on the matter.

19. After discussion and voting, the SSCIC approved four funding applications as follows:

	<u>Name of Activity</u>	<u>Applicant Organisation</u>	<u>Amount Approved (\$)</u>
(1)	Tsuen Wan Centre Fun Day for Elders (Venue: Royal Palace Chinese Restaurant)	Tsuen Wan Centre Recreation Club	6,175.00*
(2)	Healthcare and Volunteer Training Programme for the Elderly (Venue: Conrad College Limited and elderly community centres in Tsuen Wan district)	Conrad College Limited	2,070.00*
(3)	Cantonese Opera Concert for Elders (Venue: Princess Alexandra Community Centre)	Red Plum Blossom Cantonese Opera Club	10,095.00*
(4)	Cantonese Operatic Songs Concert (Venue: Auditorium of Tsuen Wan Town Hall)	The Yuen Yuen Institute - Tsuen Wan West Neighbourhood Elderly Centre	17,930.00*

* The amount would be determined by the Audit Group at the meeting to be held after this SSCIC meeting.

VI Item 5: Application for District Council Funds as regards Activities Co-organised by the Working Group on Integrated Community Service and District Organisations

(SSCIC Paper No. 14/17-18)

20. The Secretary introduced the paper and read out the list of Members who were concurrently the Members of the Working Group on Integrated Community Services, so as to indicate that they had made declaration on their membership. The membership list was set out in Annex I.

21. The Chairman declared interest as the Director of the Tsuen Wan Kwai Tsing Residents Association. As the Chairman and Vice Chairman had declared an interest, Members agreed that Mr CHAN Sung-ip took over the chair temporarily. The Acting Chairman determined that Members who had declared an interest could remain in the meeting as observers but they could not discuss or vote on the matter; and that the Members who were concurrently the Members of the Working Group on Integrated Community Services could discuss and vote on the matter.

22. After discussion and voting, the SSCIC approved three funding applications as follows:

	<u>Name of Activity</u>	<u>Applicant Organisation/ Co-organiser</u>	<u>Amount Approved (\$)</u>
(1)	DIY Classes and Spreading Warmth in Tsuen Wan	Teen Home	20,000.00
(2)	Celebration for Christmas Carnival cum Evening Variety Show in Lei Muk Shue	Tsuen Wan Kwai Tsing Residents Association	56,000.00
(3)	Shek Wai Kok Celebration for Chinese New Year Carnival cum Evening Variety Show	Tsuen Wan Kwai Ching District Women's Association	56,000.00

VII Item 6: Application for District Council Funds as regards Activities Co-organised by the Working Group on Age-friendly Community and Rehabilitation and District Organisations

(SSCIC Paper No. 15/17-18)

23. The Secretary introduced the paper and read out the list of Members who were concurrently the Members of the Working Group on Age-friendly Community and Rehabilitation, so as to indicate that they had made declaration on their membership. The membership list was set out in Annex I.

24. As the Chairman and Vice Chairman had declared an interest, Members agreed that Mr CHAN Sung-ip took over the chair temporarily. The Acting Chairman determined that the Members who were concurrently the Members of the Working Group on Age-friendly Community and Rehabilitation could discuss and vote on the matter.

25. After discussion and voting, the SSCIC approved one funding application as follows:

<u>Name of Activity</u>	<u>Applicant Organisation/ Co-organiser</u>	<u>Amount Approved (\$)</u>
(1) Cantonese Operatic Songs Concert	Tsuen Wan District Elderly Welfare Association	150,000.00

(Note: Mr CHENG Chit-pun left the meeting at 3:20 p.m.)

VIII Item 7: Work Progress Report of various Working Groups under the Committee

(A) Working Group on Integrated Community Services

26. The Vice Chairman reported that as at 8 September 2017, the applications for District Council Funds for a total of 24 activities had been submitted by the Working Group and endorsed by the SSCIC, including six educational programmes, 11 youth activities, three community promotion activities, three community hall activities and one activity on women matters.

(B) Working Group on Age-friendly Community and Rehabilitation

27. Mr WONG Wai-kit reported that the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) had approved the additional funding application for public education activities on rehabilitation in 2017-18. The relevant activity was Fun Drawing in Community II and wall paintings would be created in the pedestrian subway at Shek Wai Kok Estate. Moreover, as at 8 September 2017, the applications for District Council Funds for a total of 16 activities co-organised by the Working Group and district organisations had been submitted by the Working Group and endorsed by the SSCIC, including four elderly activities, one elderly care activity, ten rehabilitation activities and one age-friendly community activity. Besides, in order to report the progress of the Age-friendly Action Plan to the World Health Organisation on a regular basis, the Working Group had prepared the Progress Report of Tsuen Wan District Age-friendly City Initiative with the assistance of the relevant staff members from the Tsuen Wan District Council (TWDC) and Lingnan University. This report covered the respective work and follow-ups on the eight areas of the age-friendly community.

IX Item 8: Any Other Business

28. Mr KOO Yeung-pong said that many districts had produced their own promotional videos. He thought that the Government had sufficient resources for relevant productions, e.g. the Information Services Department (ISD) and the TV Division of Radio Television Hong Kong. He opined that the introduction on the

history and tourist attractions of Tsuen Wan district could be made through the ISD and the 18 districts could also consider on producing the promotional videos. He hoped that the Chairman would relay his views, so that members of the public could get to know more about Tsuen Wan district when visiting the TWDC's website.

29. The Chairman noted the Member's suggestion. However, it would take time to study whether the promotional video of Tsuen Wan district could be produced because various departments would be involved.

30. Members noted the contents of the following information paper:

- (1) Financial Statement of the Funds Allocated to Social Services and Community Information Committee as at 24 August 2017 (SSCIC Paper No. 16/17-18).

31. The Acting Chairman reminded Members that the next meeting was scheduled for 10 November 2017 and the deadline for submission of paper was 26 October 2017.

X Adjournment of Meeting

32. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Tsuen Wan District Council Secretariat
13 October 2017

**Membership lists of the Working Groups under
Social Services and Community Information Committee in 2016-19**

**Working Group on Integrated Community
Services**

Convenor : Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis
Vice Convenor : Mr KOO Yeung-pong, MH
Members : Mr LI Hung-por
: Mr WONG Wai-kit
Mr KOT Siu-yuen
Mr CHOW Ping-tim
Ms LAW Ka-tun

**Working Group on Age-friendly Community and
Rehabilitation**

Convenor : Mr WONG Wai-kit
Vice Convenor : Mr CHAN Chun-chung, Jones
Vice Convenor : Mr CHOW Ping-tim
Members : Mr MAN Yu-ming, MH
Mr KOO Yeung-pong, MH
Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis
Mr WONG Ka-wa
Mr KOT Siu-yuen
Mr CHENG Chit-pun
Mr LO Siu-kit, MH
Ms LAW Ka-tun

Audit Group

Convenor : Mr MAN Yu-ming, MH
Vice Convenor : Ms LAM Yuen-pun, Phyllis
Members : Mr LI Hung-por
: Mr CHAN Chun-chung, Jones
Mr WONG Wai-kit
Ms LAW Ka-tun

Note: The tenure of the Co-opted Members is from 11 March 2016 to 31 December 2017.