

**Minutes of the  
Social Welfare Advisory Committee (SWAC) Meeting**

**2 October 2013 (Wednesday) at 3:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 3, G/F, Central Government Offices**

**Present**

Mr Vincent LO Wing-sang	(Chairman)
Ms Maggie CHAN Mei-kit	
Ms Anna May CHAN Mei-lan	
Dr Dorothy CHAN YUEN Tak-fai	
Dr Crystal CHENG Lai-ling	
Dr Roy CHUNG Chi-ping	
Mr Laurence HO Wing-him	
Ms LAM Shuk-yee	
Mr Hansen LEE Hong-kong	
Mr Edmond LEE Man-bun	
Mr Joseph MAN Hung-yee	
Mr Jovy SUEN Leung-kwong	
Ms Theresa TAO Chee-ying	
Mrs Teresa TSIEN WONG Bik-kwan	
Mr Michael WONG Yick-kam	
Mr Charles YANG Chuen-liang	
Ms Sania YAU Sau-wai	
Miss Helen KWAN	(Secretary)

**In Attendance**

**Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB)**

Miss Annie TAM	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare (PSLW)
Ms Doris CHEUNG	Deputy Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Welfare)1 (DS(W)1)
Mr Donald CHEN	Deputy Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Welfare)2 (DS(W)2)

Ms Wendy LEUNG	Principal Assistant Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Welfare)1 (PAS(W)1)
Mrs Elina CHAN	Principal Assistant Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Welfare)3 (PAS(W)3)
Mr Stephen SUI	Commissioner for Rehabilitation (C for R)

Social Welfare Department (SWD)

Ms Carol YIP	Director of Social Welfare (DSW)
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**Absent with apologies**

Mr David FONG Man-hung  
Dr IP Yan-ming  
Mr Christopher LAW Kin-chung  
Mr Laurence LI Lu-jen  
Mrs Agnes MAK TANG Pik-yee  
Dr Sandra TSANG Kit-man

**Discussion Item: 2014-15 Welfare Services Suggestions and Priorities  
[SWAC Paper No. 04/2013]**

Members were invited to provide comments on the paper on “2014-15 Welfare Services Suggestions and Priorities”. Members asked the following questions/ offered the following comments –

- (a) The Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses (the Special Scheme) would be very effective in addressing the issue of shortage of welfare premises. Welfare facilities should be incorporated into new development projects such as new public housing as far as possible to tackle the shortage of welfare premises;
- (b) The Administration should consider enhancing the Lump Sum Grant (LSG) Subvention System to provide more support to non-governmental organisations (NGOs);

- (c) The shortage of physiotherapists and occupational therapists was a concern for the welfare sector, and more training programmes for healthcare professionals should be organised;
- (d) It was also important to create career paths and change the perceptions of young persons, parents, teachers and society as a whole on different career paths in the welfare sector; and
- (e) A separate social security scheme should be developed to assist able-bodied recipients of the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme in securing paid employment.

2. The Administration gave the following response –

- (a) Development/ redevelopment plans under the Special Scheme should provide a net increase in the provision of one or more services as stipulated in the invitation letter. LWB would facilitate such projects as appropriate including to allow for more flexible use of the Lotteries Fund and to provide assistance to NGOs during the planning and development process;
- (b) The Administration had been involved in the discussions with NGOs and the Hong Kong Council of Social Service following the review of LSG Subvention System in 2008, and the need for enhancement of the subvention mode would continuously be reviewed;
- (c) SWD had, since 2006, commissioned the Hospital Authority to organise enrolled nurses training programmes for the social welfare sector. The Steering Committee on Strategic Review on Healthcare Manpower Planning and Professional Development was established under the Food and Health Bureau to conduct a strategic review on healthcare manpower planning and professional development. The number of training places for allied health professionals including physiotherapists and occupational therapists had been increased. The Administration would continue to liaise with the welfare sector on the manpower issue;

- (d) The Administration would implement other measures to attract new recruits and provide them with a career. One example was the development of the Qualifications Framework for personal care staff; and
- (e) While the CSSA Scheme was provided as a safety net for those in need, the Administration was committed to helping CSSA recipients to achieve self-reliance. The Self-reliance Scheme under the CSSA Scheme had been providing a range of one-stop integrated employment assistance services to assist able-bodied CSSA applicants overcome work barriers and enhance their employability to find paid employment.

SWAC Secretariat  
March 2014