

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

**10 July 2012 (Tuesday) at 10:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 2, G/F, Central Government Offices**

**Present**

Dr LAM Ching-choi	(Acting Chairman)
Mr Bunny CHAN Chung-bun	
Ms Maggie CHAN Mei-kit	
Ms Anna May CHAN Mei-lan	
Dr Dorothy CHAN YUEN Tak-fai	
Ms LAM Shuk-yee	
Mr Christopher LAW Kin-chung	
Mr Hansen LEE Hong-kong	
Mr Edmond LEE Man-bun	
Dr LEUNG Wing-tai	
Mrs Agnes MAK TANG Pik-yee	
Mr Joseph MAN Hung-yee	
Mr Jovy SUEN Leung-kwong	
Mrs Teresa TSIEN WONG Bik-kwan	
Mr Michael WONG Yick-kam	
Mr Charles YANG Chuen-liang	
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)
Ms Irene YOUNG	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)
Mrs Polly CHAN	Principal Assistant Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Welfare)4 (PAS(W)4)
Mr Stephen SUI	Commissioner for Rehabilitation (C for R)

Social Welfare Department (SWD)

Mr Patrick NIP	Director of Social Welfare (DSW)
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**Absent with apologies**

Prof CHAN Yuk-shee  
Mr David FONG Man-hung  
Dr IP Yan-ming  
Ms Theresa TAO Chee-ying  
Dr Sandra TSANG Kit-man  
Mr Ben WONG Chung-mat

**Discussion Item: 2013-14 Welfare Services Suggestions and Priorities  
[SWAC Paper No. 03/2012]**

Members were briefed on the paper on 2013-14 Welfare Services Suggestions and Priorities.

2. Members asked the following questions/ offered the following comments –

- (a) The Administration should review the mechanism of the Lump Sum Grant (LSG) Subvention System;
- (b) The rapid development of information and communication technologies had brought about substantial changes to welfare services, and such technologies could be used to capture statistics which would be useful for social welfare planning;

- (c) The Administration should consider upgrading the service standard of private residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) with a view to enhancing their attractiveness to potential users and reducing elders' waiting time for subsidised places. The shortage of manpower, particularly healthcare workers, in the welfare sector was a concern for RCHEs;
- (d) Many elders, in particular those who were healthy, well educated and having professional experience, were willing to contribute to the community and could play an important role in the provision of social welfare services. Ethnic minorities were also valuable resources for the society in promoting globalisation and multiculturalism;
- (e) Education programmes should be organised to encourage youths in exploring various career paths. Involvement of the business sector for placement opportunities could also be considered; and
- (f) The health conditions of persons with disabilities could deteriorate quickly in the process of ageing, hence requiring enhanced care and support. The provision of barrier-free environment for persons with disabilities would also be important to facilitate them to live independently and fully integrate into the community.

3. The Administration gave the following response –

- (a) A consultancy study on the development of a Best Practice Manual for NGOs on various management issues of the LSG Subvention System would be completed by year end; and
- (b) SWD had been conducting a review on the IT Strategy for the social welfare sector. The Administration would also consider integrating the pilot cyber youth outreaching project into the mainstream youth services in the long run as the feedback received so far had been positive.