

**Minutes of the
Social Welfare Advisory Committee (SWAC) Meeting
held on 20 August 2025 at 4:00 p.m.
in Conference Room 6, G/F, Central Government Offices**

Present

Dr KO Wing-man	(Chairman)
Dr Sanly KAM Shau-wan	
Mr Frederick LAI Wing-hoi	
Ms Anthea LEE Shuk-wai	
Dr Wingco LO Kam-wing	
Mr Francis NGAI Wah-sing	
Dr PAN Pey-chyou	
Dr Chloe SUEN Yin-wah	
Miss SZE Lai-shan	
Dr Ricky SZETO Wing-fu	
Dr Rizwan ULLAH	
Mr John WONG Chung	
Prof Frances WONG Kam-yuet	
Mr Barry WONG Man-sing	
Ms Wendy YUEN Miu-ling	

In Attendance

Labour and Welfare Bureau

Ms Alice LAU	Permanent Secretary for Labour and Welfare
Mr David LEUNG	Deputy Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Welfare) 1
Mr CHONG Wing-wun	Deputy Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Welfare) 2
Mr Tony YIP	Principal Assistant Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Welfare) 1
Mr Kevin LI	Principal Assistant Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Children)

Ms Elania LUK	Assistant Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Rehabilitation) 1
Miss Amy LAI	Assistant Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Welfare) 1B (Secretary to SWAC)
Ms Jasmine LO	Executive Officer (Welfare) 1A
Miss Clare KWOK	Executive Officer (Welfare) 1B

Social Welfare Department

Mr Edward TO	Director of Social Welfare
Ms Maggie LEUNG	Deputy Director of Social Welfare (Services)
Ms Wendy CHAU	Assistant Director of Social Welfare (Family and Child Welfare)

Absent with apologies

Miss CHOW Tsz-ki
 Ms HSU Siu-man
 Prof Patrick IP
 Ms Alice LAU Oi-sze
 Prof Petrus NG Yat-nam
 Ms Rebecca TSAI Ching-yu
 Prof Hector TSANG Wing-hong

Item 1: 2026-27 Welfare Services Suggestions

2. At the Chairman's invitation, Government representative briefed Members on the paper, and Members offered the following views and suggestions –

(a) Elderly Services

i. The Government should establish an integrated centre

to disseminate comprehensive cross-border elderly care information for the convenience of retired elderly residing in the Greater Bay Area.

- ii. The Government should integrate and coordinate the development of the silver economy, gerontechnology products, and the provision of elderly services in light of the ageing population.
- iii. The Government should encourage the re-employment of the elderly by creating designated job positions or offering tax incentives. This would enable the elderly to continue contributing to society, cultivating a sense of self-worthiness, and unleashing the productivity, benefiting the labour market and society as a whole.
- iv. The Government should establish a steering committee to progressively promote regular exercise in a safe manner of the elderly. Considering varied levels of health conditions and mobility of the elderly, sports programmes should be tailored to suit their needs. Trainings could be provided to physiotherapists, doctors, nurses, sports coaches, social workers, and volunteers such that they may guide the elderly to exercise safely without injuring themselves.
- v. The Government should leverage the District Health Centres as platforms to facilitate coordination across different parties such as the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, the District Elderly Community Centre and different sports associations to promote regular exercise of the elderly and the Government should provide sports coaching with case manager on a pilot basis.
- vi. The Government should introduce more different age-groups tailored for the elderly in various sports events so as to encourage their participation, and thus, a sense of achievements deriving from sports activities.

(b) Strategic Planning for Welfare Services

- i. The Government should (a) take forward initiatives that did not require additional funding; (b) enhance existing

welfare services to match the needs of the community; (c) further facilitate the synergy effect among different parties; (d) accord priority to projects which address ageing population and support youth employment, or projects which are self-sustainable; and (e) consolidate resources of similar welfare services to achieve higher effectiveness.

- ii. The Government should leverage support from the business sector in financing the projects, promote innovative projects and foster cross-sector collaboration to create bigger impacts.

(c) Others

- i. The Government should review the fees charged for subvented welfare services to ensure the financial sustainability of the non-governmental organisations (NGOs).
- ii. The Government should enhance the collection and integration of clinical data to match with social welfare demands better, thus promoting medical-social collaboration.
- iii. The Government should identify families with various special needs and appoint a dedicated social worker to provide all-rounded support for such families.
- iv. The Government should encourage provision of breastfeeding facilities and promote family-friendly employment culture.

3. Government representative thanked Members' views and made the following responses –

- (a) The Government would continue to review resources at hand, facilitate public-private cooperation, encourage participation of the business sector in welfare projects such as the Strive and Rise Programme which helps underprivileged students to broaden their horizon and set goals for the future, and explore how the Community Care Fund may support launching of pilot schemes so as to maximise the effectiveness of the services with limited

resources.

- (b) The Government would continue to bring in suggestions on welfare initiatives, policies and measures for discussion with different policy bureaux/departments and NGOs as appropriate in meetings of various advisory and statutory bodies.
- (c) The Government would continue to encourage employers to implement good human resource management practices, comply with relevant labour legislation, and formulate family-friendly policies such as by awarding “Good Employer Charter” to promote work-family balance.

4. The Chairman thanked Members for their views, and invited the Government to consider their comments.

Item 2: Preparation for the Implementation of the Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse Ordinance and the Setting-up of the Community Parents and Children Centres

5. At the Chairman’s invitation, Government representatives briefed Members on the paper.

6. Members commended the Government’s efforts in the preparatory work for the implementation of the Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse Ordinance (the Ordinance) and the setting-up of Community Parents and Children Centres. Members noted that the Guide for Mandated Reporters was useful in guiding specified professionals with materials such as the decision trees, supplementary analytical frameworks and sample case scenarios.

7. Government representatives encouraged Members to access the reference materials and information provided for specified professionals and participate in the child protection online training on the designated e-learning platform.