

Family Council
Minutes of 54th Meeting held on 4 August 2023

Date: 4 August 2023 (Friday)
Time: 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Venue: Conference Room 6, G/F., Central Government Offices, Tamar

Attendance

Chairman

Ms PANG, Melissa Kaye

Ex-officio Members

Ms CHAN Yuen-han, Chairperson of the Women's Commission

Dr LI Kwok-tung, Donald, Chairman of the Elderly Commission

Non-official Members

Prof. CHEN Yu-hai, Eric

Mr FONG Yick-jin, Eugene, Convenor, Sub-committee on the Promotion
of Family Core Values and Family Education

Dr HSIN PANG Che-kwan, Gigi

Dr LAM Chi-yan, Kay, Convenor, Sub-committee on Family Support

Mr LAM Sum-lim, Sam

Ms LAU Oi-sze, Alice

Mr LAW Fai, Felix, Deputy Convenor, Sub-committee on the Promotion
of Family Core Values and Family Education

Mr LOU Yiu-tong, Perry

Mr LUK Hua, Warren

Ms PUN Siu-fung, Cindy

Mr WONG Bing-kin, Solomon

Miss WONG Lok-yin, Koby, Deputy Convenor, Sub-committee on Family Support

Mr YOUNG Chi-on, Jeremy

Official Members

Ms Shirley LAM, Permanent Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs
(attending on behalf of Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs)

Ms Terry CHEUNG, Acting Principal Assistant Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Children)
(attending on behalf of Secretary for Labour and Welfare)

Ms Candy CHAN, Principal Education Officer (Special Education)²
(attending on behalf of Secretary for Education)

Secretary

Ms Adia LAM, Acting Principal Assistant Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs (Home Affairs)¹ / Chief Executive Officer (Home Affairs)(¹)¹

In Attendance

Mr Nick AU YEUNG, Deputy Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs (Home Affairs)

(For agenda item 3)

Mr Eddie LEE, Deputy Secretary for Health 2, Health Bureau (HHB)

Dr PANG Fei-chau, Commissioner for Primary Healthcare, HHB

(For agenda item 4)

Mr Eugene FONG, Convenor of Sub-committee on the Promotion of Family Core Values and Family Education

Absent with apologies

Mr LEUNG Yuk-wai, Kenneth, Vice-Chairman of the Youth Development Commission

Prof. Albert LEE

Mr YAU Siu-hung, Kelvin

Welcome Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all to the 54th meeting of the Family Council (the Council), in particular two new Members, namely Dr HSIN PANG Che-kwan, Gigi and Ms LAU Oi-sze, Alice who were appointed to the Council in April 2023 and attended the Council meeting for the first time.

2. The Chairman also welcomed Ms Terry CHEUNG, Acting Principal Assistant Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Children) of the Labour and Welfare Bureau and Ms Candy CHAN, Principal Education Officer (Special Education)² of the Education Bureau.

Item 1 – Confirmation of Minutes of the 53rd Meeting of the Family Council

3. The minutes of the 53rd meeting were confirmed without amendment.

Item 2 – Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

4. The Chairman noted that the Council Secretariat had circulated a progress report to Members for information, and invited Chief Executive Officer (Home Affairs)(1)1 (CEO(HA)(1)1) to brief Members on the report.

In respect of the application of the Family Impact Assessment (FIA) checklist, CEO(HA)(1)1 reported that the FIA had been applied to 1 009 Legislative Council briefs as at 30 June 2023. Besides, with the satisfactory completion of the Family Survey 2021, the Sub-committee on Family Support (Support Sub-committee) agreed to carry out another round of the Family Survey in 2024 and the preparation work was in progress.

5. With regard to the Scheme on Thematic Sponsorship to Support Family-related Initiatives (the Scheme), CEO(HA)(1)1 reported that the sponsored organisations would report the progress of their projects by submitting a half-yearly progress report to the Council Secretariat by end October 2023. CEO(HA)(1)1 also informed the meeting that as at 31 July 2023, the Council’s Facebook page had attracted over 33 000 followers and the average number of “Reaction”, “Comments” and “Sharing” per post was over 330. Besides, the free tram-ride day celebrating the International Day of Families was successfully launched on 14 May 2023. For the dedicated radio segment featuring diversified family-friendly employment measures adopted by local companies, it was premiered in Radio 2 of the Radio Television of Hong Kong (RTHK) on 29 May 2023.

Item 3 –Primary Healthcare Blueprint (Paper FC 8/2023)

6. The Chairman invited Mr Eddie LEE, Deputy Secretary for Health 2 and Dr PANG Fei-chau, Commissioner for Primary Healthcare of the Health Bureau to brief Members on the Primary Healthcare Blueprint (Blueprint) released by the Government on 19 December 2022. The salient points of the briefing were summarised as follows –

- (a) the Blueprint aimed to strengthen Hong Kong’s primary healthcare (PHC) system, set out a series of reform initiatives to formulate the direction and strategies of PHC development in view of the challenges brought about by an ageing population and the increasing prevalence of chronic disease;

- (b) through prevention-oriented, community-based and family-centric strategies which focused on early detection and intervention, it was envisaged to improve the overall health status of the population, provide accessible and coherent healthcare services, and establish a sustainable healthcare system;
- (c) the Government would launch the Chronic Disease Co-Care Pilot Scheme (CDCC Pilot Scheme) from 2023 to provide targeted subsidies to eligible persons for early diagnosis and management of hypertension (HT) and diabetes mellitus (DM) through self-selected family doctors in the private healthcare service sector to address the increasing chronic disease prevalence;

[Post-meeting note: The CDCC Pilot Scheme was launched on 13 November 2023. The list of family doctors participating in the Scheme, details and frequently asked questions of the Scheme were also available on the CDCC Pilot Scheme dedicated website (www.primaryhealthcare.gov.hk/cdcc/en) for public reference.]

- (d) the community-based healthcare consisted of “family doctor for all” concept and various district-based services. Through family doctors in the private sector, the CDCC Pilot Scheme would identify people with high risk of HT and DM early. The Scheme would provide evidence-based screening service and subsidised treatment package for persons with prediabetes, DM and HT in order to provide timely intervention and prevent complications that would otherwise arise from the delayed diagnosis of the chronic diseases; and
- (e) through the assistance of District Health Centres (DHCs)/DHC

Expresses (DHCEs), participants of the CDCC Pilot Scheme could select and be matched with a family doctor who are listed in the Primary Care Directory as well as entered service agreement for CDCC Pilot Scheme, in order to foster continuous and holistic primary care.

7. Members' views and questions were summarised as follows –
 - (a) a Member considered it important for the Government to (i) find out if people, in particular those low-income and elderly people understood the concept of “family doctor for all”; (ii) provide systematic training to family doctors so as to equip them with the necessary specialised medical knowledge; and (iii) work out a plan to migrate DHCEs to DHCs;
 - (b) a Member inquired about the role of family in the PHC system when there was/were family member(s) who required medical attention;
 - (c) a Member commented that (i) the existing “HA Go” and “e-Health” were not commonly used among the grassroots and should be further promoted; and (ii) the services of DHCs and DHCEs should be enhanced to support their triage functions;
 - (d) a Member pointed out that while family doctors played a crucial role in providing major primary care services, everyone should be responsible for and take good care of his/her own health so as to make the PHC system successful and sustainable;
 - (e) a Member reckoned that the public might not understand all the changes and concepts involved in the PHC development, and the Government should consider strengthening its promotion and publicity efforts in this respect;

- (f) a Member was of the view that the CDCC Pilot Scheme should be extended to cover diseases (e.g. gynaecological diseases) other than DM and HT;
- (g) a Member opined that schools and employers could be suitably involved to collect more information from different perspectives so as to develop a more comprehensive family-based healthcare database; and
- (h) a Member stated that the PHC system should take into account the needs of taking care of the mental health of the public.

8. The Chairman thanked Mr Lee and Dr Pang for the briefing, and suggested making further efforts to encourage more family doctors to register under the Primary Care Register. Dr Pang also thanked Members for their comments and said that the Government would consider offering incentives to attract more family doctors to join the PHC system and continue the efforts to build up a district-based support network and database for reaching the target of developing an effective and efficient community-based PHC system. Mr Lee supplemented that the Government was considering to provide screening and referral services in relation to the service needs on mental health.

Item 4 – Promotion of Family-friendly Employment Practices (Paper FC 9/2023)

9. The Chairman invited Mr Eugene FONG, Convenor of the Sub-committee on the Promotion of Family Core Values and Family Education (Promotion Sub-committee) to brief Members on the progress of the new publicity campaign launched by the Council to promote the wider adoption of family-friendly employment practices (FFEPs) in the community. The salient points of the briefing were summarised as follows –

- (a) the Council had all along been making efforts to raise the awareness of employers of the importance of family core values and to foster a pro-family culture and environment. In 2023-24, the Council had launched a new publicity campaign to amplify the publicity impact;
- (b) the publicity campaign included a new series of promotional videos on good FFEPs to introduce different FFEPs adopted by local companies/organisations. The videos featured both employers and benefitted employees of different companies with good FFEPs, in particular, the motives behind the implementation of FFEPs and personal sharing of the benefitted employees, in order to promote the advantages of implementing FFEPs to the community;
- (c) the promotional videos were uploaded onto the Council's website, Facebook page and YouTube channel for viewing by members of the public. The first two episodes were launched in March and June 2023 respectively; and
- (d) the radio segment entitled “「家庭友善在職場」短劇” would be broadcasted in RTHK Radio 2's programme “晨光第一線” between May 2023 and February 2024. Promotional audio clips were also produced for broadcasting at RTHK Radio 2 at different time slots before the release of each episode to attract audience's attention.

10. A Member suggested that suitable non-governmental organisations could be invited to share their good FFEPs in the promotional videos. He also suggested making reference to a similar certification scheme in Australia and launching a new certification scheme which aimed to offer companies/organisations with good FFEPs by the Council.

Item 5 – Progress of Work of the Sub-committees under the Family Council (Paper FC 10/2023)

11. The Chairman invited Mr Eugene Fong to report on the work progress of the Promotion Sub-committee. Mr Fong reported that to promote this year's theme of "Marital Happiness and Harmony", a territory-wide publicity campaign entitled 「家·信守一生」推廣運動 was launched which included various promotional programmes and activities. Among others, the new season of "畢得烏劇場" would be released on RTHK Radio 2 from October 2023. In July and August 2023, four workshops on voice acting, presentation and public speaking skills would be organised for primary/secondary students who would have the chance to take part in the radio drama. A family publicity event would also be held on 24 September 2023 at the auditorium of the Hong Kong Palace Museum. Around 250 members of the public could participate in the event which included sharing by celebrities, stage performance and award presentation to winners of 「愛一世·家書」比賽. Besides, information of the publicity initiatives and audio clips of the radio segments produced under the publicity campaign would be posted onto a dedicated thematic website.

(Action: Promotion Sub-committee)

12. The Chairman invited Dr Kay Lam, Convenor of the Support Sub-committee to report on the work progress of the Support Sub-committee. Dr Lam reported that with reference to the draft project brief prepared by the Council Secretariat, the Support Sub-committee agreed that both general survey and thematic survey would be included to collect relevant information and data on the existing circumstances of families in Hong Kong. For the Thematic Survey, the theme of work-family balance would be adopted and arrangements of the survey, including the survey design and questionnaire design would be largely the same as those of the last Family Survey. Subject to the appointment of the service contractor

of the Family Survey 2024, it was estimated that the fieldwork would be conducted in the first half of 2024.

(Action: Support Sub-committee)

Item 6 – Any Other Business

13. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m. The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for 29 November 2023 (Wednesday).

**Family Council Secretariat
August 2023**