

Family Council

Progress of Work of the Sub-committees under the Family Council

PURPOSE

This paper briefs Members on the progress of work of the two Sub-committees under the Family Council (the Council).

SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE PROMOTION OF FAMILY CORE VALUES AND FAMILY EDUCATION

2. The Sub-committee on the Promotion of Family Core Values and Family Education (the Promotion Sub-committee) met on 28 August 2019 to discuss the progress of the production of the Storybook of “The But’s Family” and the implementation plan of the Council’s Facebook page and related family activities.

Storybook of “The But’s Family”

3. As one of the highlights of the Council’s 2019/20 publicity campaign, a Storybook of “The But’s Family” will be published by late 2019 with the purposes of cherishing family love and care. The storybook will be suitable for reading by kids aged two to six under the guidance of parents, teachers or elder family members. Apart from the story plot, learning points and reflective questions would be included in the storybook to enrich the learning experiences. Nine winning entries from “The But’s Family Inter-school Colouring Competition for Kindergarten Students and Picture Composition Competition for Primary School Students” would also be suitably incorporated in the storybook. The storybooks would be widely distributed to kindergartens, primary schools, public libraries, resource centres of Social Welfare Department and Family Planning Association, Children’s Hospital, as well as libraries of the Education Faculty of tertiary institutions free of charge. In

addition, e-version of the storybook would be produced and uploaded onto the Council's website.

4. The Promotion Sub-committee noted through the presentation made by EVI Services Limited at its meeting held on 28 June 2019 details of the proposed storyline and content, as well as the publicity plan of the storybook. With the comments given by the Promotion Sub-committee, EVI Services Limited agreed to review and suitably incorporate such comments into the storybook and its publicity plan.

Council's Facebook Page and Related Family Activities

5. The Council's Facebook page was launched in August 2017 with the objective of building up the reach-out capability of the Council on social media. Apart from the Council's website, i.e. the Happy Family Info Hub, the Council's Facebook page also serves as an effective and interactive platform for disseminating family-related information and publicising the work and activities of the Council to the community.

6. At the Promotion Sub-committee meeting held on 28 August 2019, ET Business College briefed the Sub-committee members on the implementation plan of the Council's Facebook page and the selection of family activities for the coming year until August 2020. The Promotion Sub-committee agreed on the proposed implementation plan and offered suggestions to help boost the interaction with the followers and visitors of the Council's Facebook page and to maximise the publicity impact of the related family activities.

SUB-COMMITTEE ON FAMILY SUPPORT

7. The Sub-committee on Family Support (the Support Sub-committee) met on 22 August 2019 to discuss the commissioning of the Consolidation Exercise of Family Surveys conducted since 2011, and the implementation of two sponsored projects under the 2017-18 Pilot Scheme on Thematic Sponsorship to Support Family-related Initiatives.

Consolidation Exercise for Family Surveys

8. Taking into account the comments made by the Support Sub-committee on the proposed objectives, scope, work plan and deliverables of the Consolidation Exercise at its meeting held on 30 May 2019, the Council Secretariat has suitably revised and beefed up the details of the Consolidation Exercise, and prepared a draft project brief of the Consolidation Exercise for inviting quotations from potential bidders.

9. At its meeting held on 22 August 2019, the Support Sub-committee discussed and endorsed the revised objectives, scope and work plan of the Consolidation Exercise as well as the requirements of the research team which will be included in the project brief of the Consolidation Exercise. With the requirement of conducting more in-depth comparisons and analyses, the Consolidation Exercise is expected to commence by the end of 2019 for completion in the third quarter of 2020, i.e. duration of about six to nine months.

2017-18 Pilot Scheme on Thematic Sponsorship to Support Family-related Initiatives

10. With a view to creating a pro-family environment and supporting family-related initiatives, the Support Sub-committee agreed at its meeting on 17 November 2015 to launch a two-year pilot scheme to provide one-off sponsorship to registered organisations, statutory bodies or recognised community organisations to support non-profit making and worthwhile family-related initiatives. For the 2017-18 Pilot Scheme with the themes of “Step and Split Families”, “Parent Education – Parenting Stress” and “Support for Carers”, four projects were approved and all of them had been completed in June 2019.

11. The Support Sub-committee noted through the presentations made by St. James’ Settlement and The Salvation Army at its meeting held on 22 August 2019 that the projects done by these two sponsored organisations had achieved the objectives of understanding better the needs of children with special educational needs and their parents, as well as providing tools to improve communication among family members. The Support Sub-committee considered that the services and activities covered by the projects, such as counselling services, play therapy, drama and production of micro movie were all helpful to the participants. The sharing of the project results through various channels such as booklets and YouTube channel was considered useful.

ADVICE SOUGHT

12. Members are invited to note the progress of the Sub-committees. The Sub-committees will continue to oversee their respective programmes and activities. Members are welcome to convey their comments and suggestions to the Secretariat.

**Family Council Secretariat
September 2019**