

Family Council

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

PURPOSE

This paper invites Members to note the progress of work of the 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) held a meeting on 23 April 2015. In brief, the Promotion Sub-committee deliberated on the framework of the study on “Parenting Practices in Hong Kong” (the study), and the publicity plans for the promotion of family education package for families with newborn babies as well as the promotion of family core values.

Study on “Parenting Practices in Hong Kong”

3. The Central Policy Unit reported to the Promotion Sub-committee that the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (the PolyU) had been commissioned to conduct the study with the following objectives –

- (a) to identify current situation of parenting practices in Hong Kong;
- (b) to examine the effects of different parenting practices on children’s developmental outcomes, including academic motivation, physical health and mental health;

(c) to explore the effects of family demographics, family structure and family functioning on parenting stress and parenting practices in Hong Kong; and

(d) to make recommendations on family services.

The Promotion Sub-committee had endorsed the research framework and time schedule. The study is expected to be completed in March 2016. The PolyU will report progress to the Promotion Sub-committee as and when appropriate.

Publicity Plans on the Promotion of Family Education Package for Families with Newborn Babies and Promotion of Family Core Values

4. The Promotion Sub-committee noted that the family education package for families with newborn babies (the package) has already been uploaded onto the Happy Family Info Hub. Initial response was positive. Publicity programmes to be organised in collaboration with Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) are set out as follows -

- (a) launching ceremony held on 17 May 2015 (Sun) at 3:00 p.m. at Discovery Park, Tsuen Wan (荃灣愉景新城);
- (b) radio programmes entitled “BB 初體驗” and “湊 B 秘笈” will be broadcast from mid-May to August 2015 and from August 2015 to January 2016 respectively; and
- (c) fun days involving the participation of families with newborn babies in June and July 2015.

Together with the Boys and Girls Clubs Association of Hong Kong, a series of 18 workshops will be organised starting from June 2015 onwards¹. Souvenirs including mommy tote bag, plastic folder and USB drive will be distributed to participants of the workshops. On a related note, baby journals² (寶寶成長日記) will be distributed to mothers-to-be registered at the Maternal and Child Health Centres for antenatal service from mid-June 2015 to mid-June 2016.

¹ A total of 18 workshops will be organised in 18 districts. The workshops aim to provide tips on “parenting”, “marital relationship” and “inter-generational support”.

² The baby journals aim to provide tips to parents of newborn babies and record important milestone events of the newborn babies.

Publicity Plan on Promotion of Family Core Values

5. The publicity campaign on the promotion of family core values will be jointly organised by the Council, the Commission on Youth, the Elderly Commission and the Women's Commission. The Promotion Sub-committee also discussed the publicity plan prepared by RTHK. Apart from the launching ceremony to be held in August 2015, there will be interactive radio programmes, cooking contest as well as finale variety show to reinforce the family core values of "Love and Care", "Respect and Responsibility" as well as "Communication and Harmony".

6. Arising from the discussion on conflict management within the family at the 24th Council meeting held on 12 February 2015, the Promotion Sub-committee was invited to brainstorm ideas on how to strengthen education on conflict management. After deliberations, the Promotion Sub-committee considered that it was more important to bring positive thinking to family as well as the community. To address family conflict at root, it was appropriate for the Council to launch large-scale publicity campaign to promote family core values across generations on a sustainable basis.

SUB-COMMITTEE ON FAMILY SUPPORT

7. The Sub-committee on Family Support (FS Sub-committee) met on 28 April 2015. The FS Sub-committee discussed initiatives on Comprehensive Child Development Service and the framework of the Family Survey 2015 (the Survey).

Further Enhancing Support for Families and Strengthening Inter-sectoral and Inter-disciplinary Collaboration under Comprehensive Child Development Service

8. The FS Sub-committee welcomed the measures jointly implemented by the Department of Health, the Hospital Authority and the Social Welfare Department to further enhance support for families and strengthening inter-sectoral and inter-disciplinary collaboration under the Comprehensive Child Development Service (CCDS). Having noted that the enhanced services helped early identification and timely intervention for needy children and families, the FS Sub-committee considered it important to incorporate outcome measurement as well.

Framework of Family Survey 2015

9. The FS Sub-committee noted that Policy 21 was commissioned to conduct the Family Survey 2015 (the Survey), and endorsed the questionnaire design, format of focus group discussions as well as time schedule of the Survey. Policy 21 was expected to submit the Survey report in December 2015 for deliberations by the FS Sub-committee.

WAY FORWARD

10. 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
May 2015**