

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 9 May 2018 to discuss the progress of 2017/18 Family-Friendly Employers Award Scheme (Award Scheme) and the provision of family activities as gifts and souvenirs.

2017/18 Award Scheme

3. The Promotion Sub-committee noted that with the efforts of the outreaching teams, the wide coverage of the Award Scheme on different media platforms including social media, the arrangement of briefing sessions, as well as the assistance of members of the Organising Committee in cascading the messages to their organisations over the past few months, a total of 2 922 applications were received as at 9 May 2018¹. The Award Scheme Secretariat, i.e. Hong Kong Management Association, had worked out the adjudication arrangements of the Award Scheme. It was expected that the results would be available by end August.

4. Separately, the Council Secretariat was finalising the procurement procedures for holding the award presentation ceremony-cum-family fun day in a local theme park. The Promotion Sub-committee had a brief discussion on the proposed arrangement for distribution of entry tickets to awardees of the

¹ A total of 3 534 applications (29% over 2 739 applications received in the 2015/16 Award Scheme) was received by the closing date of 13 May 2018.

Award Scheme and agreed that details should be worked out later when the list of awardees was available.

Family activities as gifts and souvenirs

5. As endorsed at the Promotion Sub-committee's meeting on 7 November 2017, the Council Secretariat would explore suitable family activities, during which family members could interact and enhance understanding, for distribution to the general public as gifts for game posts published at the Council's facebook. In this connection, the Council Secretariat had sourced several activities which were organised by non-governmental organisations or social enterprises. The activities, covering cookery classes, interactive visits on subjects like food waste and war, as well as workshops on recycling, media experience, and family reading, etc., were diversified for different targeted families that could be broadly categorised into "Foodie Family", "Caring Family", "Green Family" and "Learning Family". The Promotion Sub-committee supported the proposal and noted that to tie in with the theme of "Communication and Harmony", experience sharing sessions on tips to enhance communication among family members and foster loving family relationship would be conducted before each family activity.

SUB-COMMITTEE ON FAMILY SUPPORT

6. The Sub-committee on Family Support ("the Support Sub-committee") met on 14 May 2018 to review the progress of two studies, namely "A Study on Family Research in Hong Kong : A Critical Review and Annotated Bibliography" (Bibliography Study) and "Family Survey 2017".

Bibliography Study

7. The Bibliography Study aimed at taking stock of family related researches in Hong Kong and identifying possible knowledge gaps which deserve further investigation. Commissioned in March 2017, the research team of the Chinese University of Hong Kong had already completed a number of tasks including retrieving over 2 500 records and categorising them into 11 themes and 61 sub-themes, conducting two-level analysis of the records, developing initial electronic bibliographic database and user guides, and drafting initial format of annotated bibliography. It would proceed to conducting the qualitative study which included interviewing 14 scholars/practitioners who had extensive knowledge on family-related topics in the coming months. The draft final report would be available by September 2018.

8. The Support Sub-committee noted the progress of the Bibliography Study and the research team's initial findings from description analysis on basic information of the records retrieved. From the thematic analysis on the records conducted, the research team had initially identified several gaps in family related researches under the categories of familial ideology (e.g. minority family structure, male perspectives, etc.), family-related services (e.g. services for the non-mainstream family structures, use of technology in service design, etc.), family intervention (e.g. conflict resolution for parent-child and in-law conflicts, family therapy training, etc.) and family related policies (e.g. policies on the needs of non-mainstream families, longitudinal studies to track the long term impact of policies, etc.).

Family Survey 2017

9. The Support Sub-committee noted that Policy 21, the research team appointed for the Family Survey 2017, had lagged behind the schedule in submitting the draft survey report. Policy 21 had attributed the delay to change of personnel and the invalidation of about 1 000 survey records during quality checking. It would take remedial action to conduct fieldwork survey afresh and submit the revised draft survey report by 22 June 2018. Thereafter, supplementary focus group meetings would be conducted if required. The Support Sub-committee had urged Policy 21 to catch up the progress and submit the final survey report by end July 2018. It also had discussion with Policy 21 on the approach of conducting longitudinal analysis of the family surveys conducted since 2011 and suggested a trial attempt be made by Policy 21.

ADVICE SOUGHT

10. 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
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