

立法會

Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)494/07-08
(These minutes have been
seen by the Administration)

Ref : CB2/PL/WS

Panel on Welfare Services

**Minutes of special meeting
held on Tuesday, 30 October 2007, at 10:45 am
in the Chamber of the Legislative Council Building**

Members present : Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung (Chairman)
Hon Albert HO Chun-yan
Hon LEE Cheuk-yan
Hon Mrs Sophie LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, GBS, JP
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP
Hon LI Fung-ying, BBS, JP
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki

Members absent : Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Dr Hon YEUNG Sum, JP
Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee, SBS, JP

Members attending : Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-yee, GBS, JP
Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip

Public Officers attending : Item I

Mr Matthew CHEUNG Kin-chung, GBS, JP
Secretary for Labour and Welfare

Miss Hinny LAM
Principal Assistant Secretary for Labour and Welfare
(Welfare) 2

Mr Stephen FISHER, JP
Director of Social Welfare

Mr FUNG Pak-yan
Deputy Director of Social Welfare (Services)

Mrs Loretta CHAU
District Social Welfare Officer (Yuen Long)

Mr James CHAN, JP
District Officer (Yuen Long)
Home Affairs Department

Ms Margaret TAY
Chief Manager (Integrated Care Programs)
Hospital Authority

Mr Tony LIU
Chief Manager / Management (Support Services) 2
Housing Department

**Deputations /
individuals
by invitation** : Item I
The Against Elderly Abuse of Hong Kong

Ms Kennex YUE
Chief Executive Director

Hong Kong Chinese Civil Servants' Association, Social
Work Officers Grade Branch

Mr LEUNG Kin-hung
Chairman

Mr CHEUNG Kam-ki
Vice Chairman (External Affairs)

Harmony House

Ms Margaret WONG
Executive Director

International Social Service – Hong Kong Branch

Mr CHAM Kwok-wing
Director of Programme

Amity Mutual – Support Society

Mr Frank LEUNG Kin-pong
Chairperson

The Hong Kong Council of Social Service

Ms Elsa CHIU
Chief Officer
Service Development (Family and Community)

Hong Kong Association for the Survivors of Women Abuse
(Kwan Fook)

Jenny

Association for Concerning for Legal Right of Victims of
Domestic Violence

Ms LIU Ngan-fung

Alliance for Patients' Mutual Help Organizations

Mr CHEUNG Tak-hai
Chairman

Caritas Hong Kong – Family Service

Ms LAI Fung-yee
Head of Family Service

Caritas Family Crisis Support Centre

Ms Paulina KWOK
Supervisor

Caritas Integrated Family Service Centre – Tin Shui Wai

Ms Sira NG
Supervisor

Individual

Mr CHEUNG Yin-tung
Member, Yuen Long District Council

Hong Kong Tin Shui Wai Women Association

Ms KWONG Yuet-sum
Chairlady

Society for Community Organization

Miss SZE Lai-shan
Community Organizer

Mr PANG Hung-cheong
Community Organizer

Alliance for Advocating Mental Health Policies

Mr Eric CHAN
Representative

Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women

Ms Linda WONG
Executive Director

Hong Kong Christian Service

Miss Ida YIP Wing-sze
Supervisor, Tin Heng Community Networking Project

Evangelical Lutheran Church Hong Kong, Tin Shui Wai
Integrated Youth Service Centre

Miss CHENG Wai-hing
Regional Supervisor

The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong

Ms CHAN Wai-chun
Senior Project Officer

Mission to New Arrivals Ltd.

Rev. LEUNG Yau-tung
General Secretary

The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups

Ms Fiona SZE

Individual

Mr LEUNG Che-cheung
Vice-Chairman, Yuen Long District Council
Convenor of the Working Group on Planning and
Community Building for Tin Shui Wai

Clerk in attendance : Miss Betty MA
Chief Council Secretary (2) 4

Staff in attendance : Mr Chris LAI
Senior Council Secretary (2) 7

Miss Maggie CHIU
Legislative Assistant (2) 4

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- I. Provision of welfare services for high-risk families in Tin Shui Wai**
[LC Paper Nos. CB(2)147/07-08(01) to (04), CB(2)177/07-08(01),
CB(2)222/07-08(01) to (12) and CB(2)278/07-08(01)]

The Chairman said that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the provision of welfare services for high-risk families in Tin Shui Wai arising from the family tragedy on 14 October 2007, which had sparked off wide public concern.

2. Secretary for Labour and Welfare (SLW) briefed members on the latest position of the provision of welfare services and community facilities for Tin Shui Wai residents, in particular the high-risk families. SLW said that the Administration attached great importance to providing support for Tin Shui Wai residents. Following the family violence case in Tin Shui Wai in 2004,

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additional resources had been allocated to improve the welfare services and community facilities, and strengthen cross-sectoral collaboration in the district. Over the past three years, a total of 12 new welfare service initiatives had been implemented in Tin Shui Wai, and another six were expected to be launched in the coming year. The Administration would continue to promote cross-sectoral collaboration in Tin Shui Wai, with emphasis on establishing and reinforcing community network and promoting the spirit of "self-help, helping others", and to further enhance the services and support for the district. SLW added that he would visit Tin Shui Wai on 30 October 2007 to solicit views and suggestions from the residents and stakeholders in order to map out improvement measures which could best suit their needs.

Meeting with deputations

3. The Chairman welcomed the deputations to the meeting. The following 23 organisations/individuals then presented their views to the Panel –

- (a) The Against Elderly Abuse of Hong Kong
[LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(01)];
- (b) Hong Kong Chinese Civil Servants' Association, Social Work Officers Grade Branch
[LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(02)];
- (c) Harmony House
[LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(03)];
- (d) International Social Service – Hong Kong Branch;
- (e) Amity Mutual – Support Society
[LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(02)];
- (f) The Hong Kong Council of Social Service
[LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(04)];
- (g) Hong Kong Association for the Survivors of Women Abuse (Kwan Fook)
[LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(05)];
- (h) Association for Concerning for Legal Right of Victims of Domestic Violence;
- (i) Alliance for Patients' Mutual Help Organizations;

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- (j) Caritas Hong Kong – Family Service
[LC Paper No. CB(2)177/07-08(01)];
- (k) Caritas Family Crisis Support Centre
[LC Paper No. CB(2)177/07-08(01)];
- (l) Caritas Integrated Family Service Centre – Tin Shui Wai
[LC Paper No. CB(2)177/07-08(01)];
- (m) Mr CHEUNG Yin-tung, member of Yuen Long District Council;
- (n) Hong Kong Tin Shui Wai Women Association;
- (o) Society for Community Organization
[LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(06)];
- (p) Alliance for Advocating Mental Health Policies
[LC Paper No. CB(2)278/07-08(01)];
- (q) Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women
[LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(07)];
- (r) Hong Kong Christian Service
[LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(03)];
- (s) Evangelical Lutheran Church Hong Kong, Tin Shui Wai Integrated Youth Service Centre
[LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(04)];
- (t) The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong
[LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(08)];
- (u) Mission to New Arrivals Ltd.;
- (v) The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups
[LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(09)]; and
- (w) Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Vice-Chairman of the Yuen Long District Council and Convenor of the Working Group on Planning and Community Building for Tin Shui Wai
[LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(12)].

4. Members noted that the Hong Kong Social Workers Association and 精神健康論壇 had provided written submissions (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)222/07-08(10) and (11) respectively) but had not sent representatives to the

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meeting. A summary of the views and suggestions made by deputations at the meeting is in the **Appendix**.

Discussion

Creation of employment opportunities in Tin Shui Wai

5. Mr LEE Cheuk-yan expressed disappointment at the Government's plan to further enhance the welfare services and support for the district by promoting the spirit of "self-help, helping others". He considered that the crux of family problems in Tin Shui Wai was the inadequate supply of local job vacancies as a result of poor town planning. The Government should tackle the family problems in Tin Shui Wai in a holistic manner. Mr LEE urged the Administration to create local employment opportunities by boosting economic activities in the district. For instance, consideration should be given to converting vacant public housing estates into hostels, building theme parks and promoting environmental industries in Tin Shui Wai.

6. SLW responded that the Administration had undertaken to tackle the family problems in Tin Shui Wai from a holistic perspective. On top of the Government's efforts, the Administration considered encouraging self-help and mutual help among residents useful in enhancing the support and services for high-risk families. SLW said that the Administration would need some time to come up with measures and strategies which could best suit the needs of these families and the community. In this regard, he would pay a visit to Tin Shui Wai on 30 October 2007 to solicit views and suggestions on the provision of welfare services and community facilities in the district. The Administration would also explore the feasibility of developing social enterprises in Tin Shui Wai in order to create more local employment opportunities.

7. Mrs Selina CHOW said that tackling family problems in Tin Shui Wai at source required holistic and integrated social and economic policies. While expressing support for the suggestion of creating more jobs by boosting economic activities in Tin Shui Wai, Mrs CHOW considered that it would be more appropriate for the business sector rather than the Administration to start up business in the district. To attract more visitors to go to and spend in Tin Shui Wai, overseas experience could be drawn by relocating Government offices with heavy visitor flow to the remote areas. Mrs CHOW invited deputations to make suggestions on promoting business development and employment opportunities in Tin Shui Wai.

8. Responding to Mrs CHOW, Mr CHEUNG Yin-tung, member of the Yuen Long District Council, suggested that the piece of land adjacent to the Wetland Park could be used for the construction of hostels and resort areas, which would attract visitors to stay at and spend in Tin Shui Wai, thereby creating more jobs.

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To facilitate the employment of local residents, Mr CHEUNG urged the Administration to improve the public transportation network and provide transport subsidy to the needy workers who had to work across districts. More land resources, in particular office premises, should be allocated to welfare non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to provide services, such as implementing projects and activities funded by the "Enhancing Self-Reliance Through District Partnership Programme".

Transport support for low-income workers in Tin Shui Wai

9. Taking into account the high transport costs incurred by low-income workers who lived in Tin Shui Wai and worked in Yuen Long, Mr LEE Cheuk-yan suggested that the pilot Transport Support Scheme (TSS) should be extended to these needy workers. Expressing similar views, Ms LI Fung-ying said that the pilot TSS had received lukewarm response and improvements should be made.

10. SLW responded that the Administration had undertaken to conduct a comprehensive review of TSS in mid-2008. The Administration would take into account the operational experience as well as views and suggestions from Members of the Legislative Council (LegCo) and the community in deciding on the way forward. SLW said that the Administration had stepped up publicity efforts to promote TSS, and, subject to the response of applicants, the Administration would consider advancing the review on the TSS.

11. Ms LI Fung-ying said that some female residents in Tin Shui Wai worked as domestic helpers. She held the view that the duration of the pilot Special Incentive Allowance Scheme for Local Domestic Helpers should be extended to provide continued support for them to remain in employment.

12. SLW responded that the deadline for application for the Special Incentive Allowance Scheme was 31 March 2008. The Administration would not rule out the possibility of conducting a review before the expiry of the pilot scheme.

Provision of welfare services for high-risk families in Tin Shui Wai

13. Mr Albert HO asked whether the Administration would appoint an independent committee to review the provision of family services in Tin Shui Wai in the light of the recent family tragedy in October 2007. Mr HO also enquired whether the Administration would follow up on the implementation of the recommendations made in the Report of the Review Panel on Family Services in Tin Shui Wai (the Review Panel) in 2004. The Chairman echoed Mr HO's views.

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14. SLW said that in response to the Review Panel's recommendations, the Administration had made some headway in improving the welfare services and community facilities, and strengthening cross-sectoral collaboration in Tin Shui Wai. SLW added that since he would oversee the introduction and implementation of improvement measures and services to assist the Tin Shui Wai community, he did not see the need for conducting a separate review on the provision of family services in the district.

15. Ms LI Fung-ying said that some of the suggestions made by the deputations, such as enhancing the cross-departmental collaboration mechanism and the manpower of the Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs), had been put forward immediately after the family tragedy in 2004 and were included in the recommendations of the Review Panel. Since similar suggestions and requests had been made time and again, Ms LI expressed doubt whether the Administration was committed to taking forward the Review Panel's recommendations.

16. SLW responded that following the family violence case in Tin Shui Wai in 2004, the Administration had launched a series of initiatives to follow through the recommendations made by the Review Panel, although there was still room for improvement. The provision of welfare services for high-risk families in Tin Shui Wai would be further strengthened taking into account the views and suggestions of LegCo Members and the community.

17. Mr Albert HO said that the Administration should review the existing policies with a view to identifying room for improvements and mapping out new strategies and measures to improve the services and support for Tin Shui Wai residents. For instance, the public housing allocation policy should be reviewed to reduce the density of public housing tenants in Tin Shui Wai. Consideration should also be given to allocating vacant premises in public housing estates to welfare NGOs for enhancing services in the district. To facilitate early intervention of high-risk cases, Mr HO said that outreach services and hotline services should be strengthened as well.

18. Sharing Mr Albert HO's view that there was a need for further enhancing the services and support for Tin Shui Wai, SLW said that the Administration would set out the priorities for implementing improvement measures after taking into account the views and suggestions from the stakeholders and the community.

19. Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung said that it was the Government's responsibility to allocate sufficient resources to improve the services and support for Tin Shui Wai residents, given that many family and social problems in the district were the result of poor town planning. Expressing strong dissatisfaction at the absence of concrete measures to improve the welfare services and community

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facilities in Tin Shui Wai, Mr LEUNG urged the Administration to adopt a holistic approach to tackle family problems in the district expeditiously.

20. Mr Albert CHAN was of the view that family problems in Tin Shui Wai were caused by poor town planning and aggravated by the inadequate provision of welfare services and community facilities. He said that despite his repeated requests, the Administration was reluctant to provide more assistance for the needy in Tin Shui Wai and to perfect the transport support for the area. Given that financial difficulties attributed to many family tragedies, Mr CHAN strongly urged the Administration to relax the eligibility criteria for the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme and the Old Age Allowance, especially the seven-year residence requirement for CSSA application. In addition, the Administration should strengthen the manpower of IFSCs to enhance the community building efforts.

21. Responding to Mr Albert CHAN's suggestion of providing an emergency fund to Tin Shui Wai residents who had urgent financial needs such as job searching, SLW said that Job Search Allowance and Cross-District Transport Allowance were provided under the pilot TSS for the needy job seekers and low-income employees living in remote districts, including Tin Shui Wai, to find jobs and work across districts.

Child fatality review

22. The Chairman asked whether an in-depth study on the Tin Shui Wai family tragedy on 14 October 2007 would be conducted in connection with the pilot child fatality review mechanism expected to commence operation in early 2008.

23. SLW responded that upon the launch of the pilot child fatality review mechanism, the Administration would consider carefully whether an in-depth review on the case would be conducted.

Follow-up actions

24. To facilitate members' following up with the Administration, Mr Albert HO requested the LegCo Secretariat to prepare a summary of views and suggestions made by deputations at the meeting. The Chairman expressed support for Mr HO's request. The Chairman added that since SLW had undertaken to oversee the provision of welfare services and community facilities to assist the Tin Shui Wai community, the Panel should revisit the matter at a future meeting.

25. Mr LEE Cheuk-yan and Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung enquired when the Administration could revert to the Panel on the progress in respect of service

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improvement and enhancement in Tin Shui Wai, as well as the Administration's response to the deputations' views and suggestions.

26. SLW responded that the Administration would need some time to solicit views from the relevant stakeholders and the community before coming up with further strategies and measures to improve the services and support for Tin Shui Wai. The Labour and Welfare Bureau would convey the views to the relevant bureaux and departments, if necessary, so as to further enhance inter-departmental collaboration in improving the welfare services and community facilities in the district. He hoped that the Administration would be able to revert to the Panel in early 2008.

Admin

27. Members agreed that the Administration should provide a consolidated response to the issues of concern raised by members and deputations at the meeting, and revert to the Panel on the progress of improving and enhancing the welfare services and support to Tin Shui Wai residents by late January or early February 2008.

II. Any other business

28. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 1:08 pm.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
5 December 2007

Panel on Welfare Services

Special meeting on 30 October 2007

Summary of views and suggestions given by deputations at the meeting

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views and/or suggestions
A) Cross-sectoral and inter-departmental collaboration mechanism	
Harmony House [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(03)]	♦ A holistic welfare plan and strategy should be formulated to tackle family problems in Tin Shui Wai, as these were caused by a plethora of factors including Government's poor town planning, widening income disparity, a high density of low-income families and new arrival families with weaker support network, remote location, limited local employment opportunities, and insufficient support services and community facilities in the area
International Social Service – Hong Kong	
The Hong Kong Council of Social Service [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(04)]	
Caritas Hong Kong – Family Service [LC Paper No. CB(2)177/07-08(01)]	
Mr CHEUNG Yin-tung, Yuen Long District Councillor	
Alliance for Advocating Mental Health Policies [LC Paper No. CB(2)278/07-08(01)]	
The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(08)]	
Hong Kong Chinese Civil Servants' Association, Social Work Officers Grade Branch [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(02)]	♦ Social Welfare Department (SWD) should expedite the development of the department-wide Client Information System which provided instant access to most client information via electronic case records and facilitated case management decisions

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views and/or suggestions
A) Cross-sectoral and inter-departmental collaboration mechanism	
Harmony House [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(03)]	♦ The role of the District Welfare Service Planning and Co-ordinating Committee should be strengthened with a view to mapping out a comprehensive district welfare plan to meet the specific welfare needs in the district
Mr CHEUNG Yin-tung, Yuen Long District Councillor	♦ Collaboration among SWD, the Housing Authority and the Hospital Authority should be enhanced in the planning of welfare, housing and medical services during the planning stage of new town development
Amity Mutual – Support Society [LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(02)]	♦ Coordination among different welfare service units should be further improved to ensure that seamless services and support were provided
Hong Kong Association for the Survivors of Women Abuse (Kwan Fook) [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(05)]	
Caritas Hong Kong – Family Service [LC Paper No. CB(2)177/07-08(01)]	
Caritas Integrated Family Service Centre – Tin Shui Wai [LC Paper No. CB(2)177/07-08(01)]	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Hong Kong, Tin Shui Wai Integrated Youth Service Centre [LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(04)]	
The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(08)]	
The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(09)]	

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views and/or suggestions
A) Cross-sectoral and inter-departmental collaboration mechanism	
The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(08)]	♦ A central database should be set up to collate statistical information on the demographic characteristics of Tin Shui Wai residents, and the demand and supply of welfare services for different target groups with a view to formulating strategy and planning of welfare services in the district and reviewing the effectiveness of the strategy

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views and/or suggestions
B) Family services and support services for the disadvantaged	
The Against Elderly Abuse of Hong Kong [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(01)]	Measures should be taken to enhance the collaboration between the Integrated Family Service Centres (IFSCs) and welfare non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in handling domestic violence cases
Hong Kong Chinese Civil Servants' Association, Social Work Officers Grade Branch [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(02)]	The manpower of social workers in the three IFSCs in Tin Shui Wai should be strengthened expeditiously, as the frontline workers of these IFSCs were facing an increasing number of complicated cases and were working under great work pressure
International Social Service – Hong Kong	
The Hong Kong Council of Social Service [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(04)]	
Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(07)]	
Hong Kong Social Workers Association [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(10)] (written submission only)	Manpower and training of frontline social workers should be enhanced in response to the increasing complexity of family problems in Tin Shui Wai
Amity Mutual – Support Society [LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(02)]	In view of the rising demand for mental health services, IFSCs should be staffed by at least one social worker with professional training on mental health services
The Hong Kong Council of Social Service [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(04)]	Specialised services should be provided for specific target groups, including new arrivals and single parents, in Tin Shui Wai to supplement

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views and/or suggestions
B) Family services and support services for the disadvantaged	
The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(09)]	the integrated family services provided by IFSCs. Post Migration Centres should be re-opened to provide support for new arrival women whose support networks were weak
Association for Concerning for Legal Right of Victims of Domestic Violence	Public education and publicity should be stepped up to raise the public awareness and understanding of domestic violence, especially children, in order to facilitate early identification and intervention of domestic violence
Caritas Hong Kong – Family Service [LC Paper No. CB(2)177/07-08(01)]	The establishment of a Family Council to advise the Government on the formulation of policies and strategies for supporting and strengthening family was supported
Society for Community Organization [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(06)]	A mechanism for assessing the risk of domestic violence should be set up to facilitate social workers to provide timely assistance
Hong Kong Chinese Civil Servants' Association, Social Work Officers Grade Branch [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(02)]	Additional resources should be allocated to enhance the support and services to single parents. Consideration should be given to re-opening single Parents Centres and Post Migration Centres taking into account the characteristics of the population structure in Tin Shui Wai
Hong Kong Association for the Survivors of Women Abuse (Kwan Fook) [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(05)]	
Caritas Hong Kong – Family Service [LC Paper No. CB(2)177/07-08(01)]	

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views and/or suggestions
B) Family services and support services for the disadvantaged	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Hong Kong, Tin Shui Wai Integrated Youth Service Centre [LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(04)]	
The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(08)]	
Hong Kong Association for the Survivors of Women Abuse (Kwan Fook) [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(05)]	♦ A comprehensive review of the child care services and after school care services, including the service hours, charges and location of service providers, should be conducted ♦ The mandatory work requirement of the New Dawn Project should be reviewed in the light of the limited suitable employment opportunities for single parents and child carers on CSSA
The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(08)]	♦ A family-friendly working environment should be fostered to improve the quality of family life of the working parents
The Hong Kong Council of Social Service [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(04)]	♦ A dedicated team of social workers should be formed to provide support services to new arrivals in Tin Shui Wai
Caritas Hong Kong – Family Service [LC Paper No. CB(2)177/07-08(01)]	♦ More support services should be provided to new arrivals who were usually low-educated, low-skilled and lacked support network in Hong Kong
Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(07)]	

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views and/or suggestions
B) Family services and support services for the disadvantaged	
Caritas Hong Kong – Family Service [LC Paper No. CB(2)177/07-08(01)]	♦ The seven-year residence requirement under the CSSA Scheme should be removed so that new arrival families in dire financial position could apply for CSSA
Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(07)]	♦ Resources centres for women should be set up to provide support to and facilitate mutual help among new arrival women and single parents
The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(09)]	♦ Outreaching programmes should be enhanced to identify high-risk families and new arrival families in Tin Shui Wai who were often reluctant to seek help

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views and/or suggestions
C) Community mental health services	
Hong Kong Chinese Civil Servants' Association, Social Work Officers Grade Branch [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(02)]	- Given the inadequate provision of mental health services, many mental ill persons living in Tin Shui Wai were required to commute long distance to receive follow-up consultations in the Castle Peak Hospital, but the capacity of the latter was already overstretched - The increasing number of private homes for elderly in Tin Shui Wai providing services for mentally incapacitated persons had created additional workload on medical social workers in the district
Amity Mutual – Support Society [LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(02)]	A survey on the specific needs for mental health services in Tin Shui Wai should be conducted to facilitate the planning and provision of such services in the district
Amity Mutual – Support Society [LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(02)]	Comprehensive community mental health services should be provided to ensure that the mentally ill persons received appropriate medical rehabilitation treatment, care and support. Additional resources should be provided for strengthening the community support and outreach services so as to provide the ex-mentally ill persons and their families with continuous care and support
The Hong Kong Council of Social Service [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(04)]	
Caritas Hong Kong – Family Service [LC Paper No. CB(2)177/07-08(01)]	
Society for Community Organization [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(06)]	
Alliance for Advocating Mental Health Policies [LC Paper No. CB(2)278/07-08(01)]	
The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(08)]	

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views and/or suggestions
C) Community mental health services	
Hong Kong Social Workers Association [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(10)] (written submission only)	
精神健康論壇 [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(11)] (written submission only)	
Hong Kong Association for the Survivors of Women Abuse (Kwan Fook) [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(05)]	♦ Additional resources should be provided to enhance the clinical psychological services and shorten the waiting time for receiving such services
Association for Concerning for Legal Right of Victims of Domestic Violence	♦ There was a lack of community support services for ex-mentally ill persons living in the community
Amity Mutual – Support Society [LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(02)]	♦ Public education and publicity should be stepped up to raise the awareness of mental health and facilitate early intervention of mental health problems
精神健康論壇 [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(11)] (written submission only)	
Alliance for Patients' Mutual Help Organizations	♦ Support and services for mentally ill persons and their carers should be strengthened, e.g. offer of concessionary fares to persons with disabilities
Alliance for Advocating Mental Health Policies [LC Paper No. CB(2)278/07-08(01)]	♦ Support for mutual help organisations for mentally ill persons should be further strengthened, e.g. by providing long-term subsidy for these

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views and/or suggestions
C) Community mental health services	
Amity Mutual – Support Society [LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(02)]	organisations
Alliance for Advocating Mental Health Policies [LC Paper No. CB(2)278/07-08(01)]	♦ A comprehensive mental health policy should be formulated expeditiously
精神健康論壇 [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(11)] (written submission only)	
Society for Community Organization [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(06)]	♦ A mental health council should be formed to co-ordinate policy formulation, programme delivery, and research in mental health. Case management approach for mental health services should be adopted by the Hospital Authority to ensure that the mentally ill persons would receive appropriate medical and rehabilitation treatment
Alliance for Advocating Mental Health Policies [LC Paper No. CB(2)278/07-08(01)]	
Caritas Integrated Family Service Centre – Tin Shui Wai [LC Paper No. CB(2)177/07-08(01)]	♦ Mental health and psychiatric clinics should be set up in Tin Shui Wai and measures should be adopted to shorten the waiting time for receiving treatment

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views and/or suggestions
D) Employment services and creation of local employment opportunities	
Harmony House [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(03)]	♦ The Administration should undertake more infrastructure projects and increase business opportunities in Tin Shui Wai so as to boost economic activities and create local employment opportunities. For instance, consideration should be given to converting vacant public housing flats into hostels, building holiday camps near the Wetland Park and providing incentive to attract business corporations to set up their offices in Tin Shui Wai
Caritas Integrated Family Service Centre – Tin Shui Wai [LC Paper No. CB(2)177/07-08(01)]	
Hong Kong Tin Shui Wai Women Association	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Hong Kong, Tin Shui Wai Integrated Youth Service Centre [LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(04)]	
The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(08)]	♦ The employability of Tin Shui Wai residents should be enhanced by providing employment and skill upgrading training
Mr CHEUNG Yin-tung, Yuen Long District Councillor	♦ Consideration should be given to installing Vacancy Search Terminals at prominent locations in Tin Shui Wai to facilitate residents in searching updated vacancy information conveniently
Caritas Hong Kong – Family Service [LC Paper No. CB(2)177/07-08(01)]	♦ Given the relatively remote location of Tin Shui Wai and high transport costs, concessionary public transport fares should be granted to low-income families in the district to facilitate them to work and integrate into the community ♦ More vocational training centres should be established in Tin Shui Wai to enhance the skills and employability of unemployed persons living in the district

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views and/or suggestions
D) Employment services and creation of local employment opportunities	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Hong Kong, Tin Shui Wai Integrated Youth Service Centre [LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(04)]	♦ Legislation for minimum wage and standard working hours should be introduced to enable working parents to receive a reasonable level of income and to take care of their families ♦ Priority should be given to recruiting Tin Shui Wai residents to fill local job vacancies

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views and/or suggestions
E) Community building and mutual help	
Harmony House [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(03)]	♦ Publicity should be stepped up to remove the labelling of Tin Shui Wai as "a city of sadness" ♦ Additional resources should be allocated to assist the Tin Shui Wai residents to build a neighbourhood mutual help network support through, say, funding from the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund
Hong Kong Chinese Civil Servants' Association, Social Work Officers Grade Branch [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(02)]	♦ Consideration should be given to re-introducing the Neighbourhood Level Community Development Project to promote neighbourhood support
Caritas Hong Kong – Family Service [LC Paper No. CB(2)177/07-08(01)]	♦ Additional manpower provision and funding for community organisations and NGOs should be provided to assist the community in building neighbourhood mutual help network and to facilitate early identification of family problems
Society for Community Organization [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(06)]	
The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(09)]	
Hong Kong Christian Service [LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(03)]	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Hong Kong, Tin Shui Wai Integrated Youth Service Centre [LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(04)]	

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views and/or suggestions
E) Community building and mutual help	
Hong Kong Tin Shui Wai Women Association	♦ Mutual Aid Committees (MACs) and district organisations should be mobilised to assist in community building and to promote harmonious and caring neighbourhood
International Social Service – Hong Kong	♦ A designated social worker, or a dedicated team of social workers should be assigned to a specific local community or stationed at each public housing estate, to promote community building and mutual help, and to identify and provide timely support to the needy families
Hong Kong Christian Service [LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(03)]	
The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(08)]	
Hong Kong Social Workers Association [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(10)] (written submission only)	
Mr CHEUNG Yin-tung, Yuen Long District Councillor	♦ Financial assistance to MACs was too meagre for them to organise community building activities
Alliance for Patients' Mutual Help Organizations	♦ Adequate funding and support should be provided to mutual help groups for promoting the spirit of self-help and mutual help in the community
Hong Kong Tin Shui Wai Women Association	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Hong Kong, Tin Shui Wai Integrated Youth Service Centre [LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(04)]	
The Hong Kong Council of Social Service [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(04)]	♦ Neighbourhood volunteer teams should be set up to strengthen the community support network and to help residents, especially high-risk

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views and/or suggestions
E) Community building and mutual help	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Hong Kong, Tin Shui Wai Integrated Youth Service Centre [LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(04)]	groups such as new arrivals, single parents and middle-aged unemployed, to build a neighbourhood mutual help network
The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(08)]	
The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(09)]	
Hong Kong Social Workers Association [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(10)] (written submission only)	
精神健康論壇 [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(11)] (written submission only)	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Hong Kong, Tin Shui Wai Integrated Youth Service Centre [LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(04)]	♦ Consideration should be given to launching a pilot project to train experienced mothers to provide child-caring and home services in Tin Shui Wai, with a view to addressing the shortage of child care services and creating more employment opportunities in the district
Mr CHEUNG Yin-tung, Yuen Long District Councillor	♦ Land resources should be provided to welfare NGOs and mutual help groups to enable them to start up family services in the district
Hong Kong Tin Shui Wai Women Association	
Hong Kong Christian Service [LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(03)]	
Mission to New Arrivals Ltd.	

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views and/or suggestions
F) Hotline services	
The Against Elderly Abuse of Hong Kong [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(01)]	Additional resources should be allocated to strengthen the manpower of social workers of the SWD Hotline and extend the hotline service to 24 hours a day
Hong Kong Chinese Civil Servants' Association, Social Work Officers Grade Branch [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(02)]	Additional resources should be allocated to strengthen the manpower of the hotline services operated by SWD and NGOs, including the Family Crisis Hotline of the Caritas, in order to provide timely assistance to those in need
Harmony House [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(03)]	
Evangelical Lutheran Church Hong Kong, Tin Shui Wai Integrated Youth Service Centre [LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(04)]	
Hong Kong Social Workers Association [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(10)] (written submission only)	
Caritas Family Crisis Support Centre [LC Paper No. CB(2)177/07-08(01)]	
The Against Elderly Abuse of Hong Kong [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(01)]	The proposal of streaming calls on welfare service enquiries to the "1823 Integrated Call Centre" was not supported
Amity Mutual – Support Society [LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(02)]	Expressed reservation about the Administration's proposal to stream calls on welfare service enquiries to the "1823 Integrated Call Centre", as it was not manned by social workers

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views and/or suggestions
F) Hotline services	
Amity Mutual – Support Society [LC Paper No. CB(2)147/07-08(02)]	♦ Hotlines manned by SWD staff who had received relevant training should be set up to help those with mental health problems
Caritas Family Crisis Support Centre [LC Paper No. CB(2)177/07-08(01)]	♦ Manpower of the hotline services, including the Family Crisis Hotline of the Caritas, should be regularly reviewed in the light of changing service requirements

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views and/or suggestions
G) Town planning and population structure	
Hong Kong Chinese Civil Servants' Association, Social Work Officers Grade Branch [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(02)]	Given that a large number of residents in Tin Shui Wai were low-income and socially disadvantaged families, the Government should slow down the construction of public housing estates in the district and review its public housing allocation policy so that high-risk families would not be clustered thereat and the population structure could be improved
International Social Service – Hong Kong	
Mr CHEUNG Yin-tung Yuen Long District Councillor	
Mr CHEUNG Yin-tung Yuen Long District Councillor	Measures should be taken to rectify the discrepancies between the public housing rental and transport fares in Tin Shui Wai North and Tin Shui Wai South

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views and/or suggestions
H) Case management	
The Hong Kong Council of Social Service [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(04)]	♦ Case management approach should be adopted when handling family cases so as to ensure that the needs of recipient families could be fully addressed. For more complex cases, multi-disciplinary case conferences should be convened to assess the needs of target recipients from different perspectives and devise follow-up plans for them
Hong Kong Association for the Survivors of Women Abuse (Kwan Fook) [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(05)]	
Association for Concerning for Legal Right of Victims of Domestic Violence	
Society for Community Organization [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(06)]	
Association Concerning Sexual Violence Against Women [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(07)]	
Hong Kong Social Workers Association [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(10)] (written submission only)	
精神健康論壇 [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(11)] (written submission only)	

Name of deputation [LC Paper No. of submission]	Views and/or suggestions
I) Others	
The Against Elderly Abuse of Hong Kong [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(01)]	Concrete timetable should be drawn up to implement the various recommendations put forward in the Report of the Review Panel on Family Services in Tin Shui Wai
Hong Kong Chinese Civil Servants' Association, Social Work Officers Grade Branch [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(02)]	Additional resources should be allocated to strengthen the manpower of social workers in SWD
The Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong [LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(08)]	The pilot child fatality review mechanism should be launched as soon as possible, so as to identify measures to prevent the recurrence of family tragedies and to better protect the well-being of children
Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Vice Chairman, Yuen Long District Council, Convenor of Working Group on Planning and Community Building for Tin Shui Wai	A Working Group on Planning and Community Building for Tin Shui Wai set up under the Yuen Long District Council had made a number of recommendations for the Administration's consideration, including enhancing the number of social workers and the provision of youth services in Tin Shui Wai, as detailed in LC Paper No. CB(2)222/07-08(12)