

**Brief Notes of the Meeting of the
Steering Committee on Child Development Fund (SCCDF)
held on 25 June 2014 (Wednesday)
in Room 1018, 10/F, West Wing, Central Government Offices, Tamar**

Attendance

Miss Annie TAM		(Chairperson)
Miss Jasmine CHAN		
Dr Philemon CHOI		
Ms LAM Pik-chu		
Ms Evelyn LAM		
Dr LAW Chi-kwong		
Ms Sandy WONG		
Mr Michael WONG		
Mr Peter NG	Assistant Director of Social Welfare (Youth and Corrections)	
Ms Jane LEE	Principal Assistant Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Poverty)	(Secretary)

In Attendance

Mr Donald CHEN	Deputy Secretary for Labour and Welfare (Welfare) 2
Mr Joseph YU	Senior Executive Officer (Poverty)

Absent with Apologies

Mr Frederick LAI
Dr LEUNG Nai-kong
Mr Francis MAK
Dr Grace POON
Mr Ivan TING

Study on the Longer Term Development of Child Development Fund Project Participants [SCCDF Paper 3/2014]

Members were briefed on the proposed further study on the longer term development of Child Development Fund (CDF) project participants and noted that the earlier Consultancy Study on CDF Pioneer Projects had already tracked CDF participants' progress throughout the three-year project period. That earlier study has already reaffirmed contribution of CDF's three key components (i.e. personal development plans (PDP), mentorship programme and targeted savings) to the objectives of CDF. A further study could therefore be of smaller-scale, focusing on the impact of CDF projects on the participants' further development after project completion. Members noted the proposed study scope and that the further study could measure and analyse further developments of the participants, such as their academic performance, career prospect, social network, etc. The analysis could be supported by an examination as to whether the PDP of the participants formulated within the CDF project period would be relevant to their pursuit of further study / career development, whether the participants and their families could sustain a savings habit, and whether the participants had continued benefiting from their CDF mentors and/or other people who could provide guidance to their personal development.

2. Members agreed to commission a further study. A Member considered it important to include parents' views in the further study since they were in the best position to assess the impact of CDF projects on the participants.

3. While SCCDF Paper 3/2014 proposed conducting the study on the first and second batches' elder participants (i.e. those who were aged 14 – 16 when they joined CDF projects) only as they should have a clearer vision on their future development, some Members suggested covering the younger participants (i.e. those who were aged 10 – 13 when they joined the CDF projects) as well. After some discussion, it was agreed that the consultancy brief could be drafted to allow bidders to propose covering participants from the first and/or the second batch, and that the study should cover both the younger and elder participants, with a higher proportion on the elder ones.

4. Members were generally of the view that the proposed sample size of around 350 was reasonable and that it was necessary to have a comparison group. Members noted that similar to the selection process of the Consultancy Study on CDF Pioneer Projects, the Government would issue an invitation of proposal to potential research organisations comprising relevant faculties, departments and units of the universities in Hong Kong. The target was to commence the further study in early 2015 and to complete it in one year's time.

Any Other Business

5. Members were briefed on the latest development in preparing the launch of the fifth batch projects and noted that such projects would be awarded under the “one-plus-one” approach. Members were informed that non-governmental organisations (NGOs) were briefed on this on 10 April 2014 and their feedback was positive.

6. Members noted that the school-based pilots were still at an early stage with five of the pilots started in January this year and the other two in April. The Government would keep in view the experiences gained by the existing operating schools and further discuss with Members next steps regarding experimenting the school-based approach.

Labour and Welfare Bureau
August 2014