

## **SOCIAL WORKERS REGISTRATION BOARD**

### **Notes of the 58<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Committee on Qualification Assessment and Registration**

Date: 2 August 2017  
Time: 7:15 p.m.  
Venue: Conference Room, 26/F Eastern Commercial Centre, 83 Nam On Street, Shau Kei Wan, Hong Kong.  
Present: Mr. SHIU Ka-chun (Convener)  
Mr. KWAN Wing-shing, Vincent  
Dr. LEUNG Chuen-suen  
Mr. LUN Chi-wai  
Apology: Dr. CHU Chi-keung  
Dr. KWOK Ngai-kuen, Alvin  
Mr. IP Kim Ching  
Ms. LAW Yee-ming  
Ms. LUK Ka-mei  
Secretary: Mr. LEE Wing-po, Eric, Registrar and  
Ms. FAN Lai-yee, Veronica, Assistant Registrar

1. Dr. Alvin Kwok's comments on the agenda items were tabled for members' information.

#### **Confirmation of the notes of the 57<sup>th</sup> meeting**

2. In paragraph 16, it was agreed to add "Dr. Kwok declared his conflict of interest on this item". The notes of the 57<sup>th</sup> meeting were confirmed without other amendments.

#### **Matters arising from the previous meetings**

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### **Qualification Recognition Review**

9. Owing to conflict of interests, Dr. Leung and Mr. Shiu would be excused from the agenda items 3(c) and 3(d) respectively. These two agenda items would be discussed at the later part of the meeting when Mr. Kwan Wing-shing arrived.

*(Dr. Donna Wong joined the meeting)*

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*(Dr. Donna Wong retired from the meeting.)*

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### **Progress report on qualification recognition review and assessment exercises**

20. Members noted that a total of 10 review and 2 assessment exercises were in progress.

### **Welcome packs to the new RSWs in electronic format**

21. The Secretary briefed the Committee about the proposal to provide electronic version of welcome packs to the newly registered social workers. A designated webpage would be

created and RSWs could download the useful information from the page. It was also proposed to send the Certificates of Registration and the Registration Card by ordinary mail instead of asking RSWs to collect in person. The Committee endorsed the proposal and recommended to put the same to the Board for approval.

### **Review of the Voluntary Continuing Professional Development Scheme**

22. The Secretary walked through the respective paper and invited the Committee to decide whether to stay with the Scheme, to scrap or to sponsor it. Some points were highlighted as below:
  - (a) The Scheme had low utilization and low effectiveness
  - (b) The risk concerning privacy, may be legal, operational or reputational, did exist despite there was a disclaimer in the Terms and Conditions.
  - (c) There was no censorship of the CPD activities.
  - (d) The financial expense was trivial.
23. The Committee expressed different opinions on the matter:
  - (a) To transfer the scheme to Hong Kong Social Workers Association.
  - (b) The Board might be attacked if the Scheme was scraped.
  - (c) To assess the CPD activities but it would incur heavy workload.
24. It came to the conclusion of staying with the Scheme. The Committee would work out the renewal mechanism and discuss how to handle the organizers which were on the list for over five years.

### **Appointment to the Assessment Panel**

25. The Secretary invited the Committee to consider the proposal of offering extension of current appointment of Assessment Team to 31 December 2019 instead of a full 3-year re-appointment for the batch with current appointment due to expire by 31 March 2018. It was further proposed to develop a screening mechanism for such re-appointment by considering the commitment and performance of the panellist members.
26. The Committee agreed to exclude those members who had never given any feedback and who had retired or would be retiring from the academic posts. The Committee opined that in subsequent meeting, we should discuss and work out a mechanism for screening out the existing panellists when they were considered to be under-performing instead of just relied on the reports from Professional Consultants or rating by the Committee.

### **Discussion on the first draft of PCS – Section 2 & 3**

27. The Secretary briefed the Committee the proposed work schedule of reviewing the PCS. The first draft would be divided into four parts for discussion at separate meetings. The second

draft could be ready for the Board's consideration by February 2018. Public consultation and consultation forum would be scheduled in March 2018 and May 2018 afterwards. To catch this timeline, the Committee might need to have extra and separate meetings for the reviews.

28. The Committee, having browsed through and deliberated, endorsed Section 2 and 3 as in the first draft of PCS with on amendments made.

*(Mr. Kwan Wing-shing arrived at the meeting at this juncture.)*

### **Qualification Recognition Review**

*(Owing to conflict of interest, Dr. Leung excused himself from this agenda item.)*

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*(Dr. Leung returned to the meeting at this juncture. Owing to conflict of interest, Mr. Shiu excused himself from this agenda item. Dr. Alvin Kwok, whilst being absent, having declared his conflict of interest before the meeting was noted.)*

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*(Mr. Shiu returned to the meeting.)*

### **Date of next meeting**

31. Members agreed that the next meeting would be scheduled on 30 August 2017 at 7:15 pm to discuss specifically on other sections of the first revised draft of PCS.

32. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm.

17 August 2017