

Women's Commission

Consultancy Study on the Long-term Development of Child Care Services

Purpose

This paper briefs Members on the Consultancy Study on the Long-term Development of Child Care Services (the Study) commissioned by the Government, and seeks Members' view on the Study.

Policy Objective

2. In January 2015, the Government announced in “Population Policy: Strategies and Initiatives” and in the 2015 Policy Agenda the commissioning of a consultancy study to advise on the long-term development of child care services.

Contents of the Study

(a) The Consulting Team

3. Through the established selection and approval procedures, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) commissioned the Study in December 2016 to a Consulting Team headed by Professor Paul Yip of the Department of Social Work and Social Administration of The University of Hong Kong. A Steering Committee on the Long-term Development of Child Care Services has also been set up for overseeing and monitoring the progress of the Study, as well as endorsing the work plan, the inception report, the interim report and the final report submitted by the Consulting Team during the Study period.

(b) Objectives of the Study

4. The Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB) and the SWD consulted various stakeholders (including Legislative Council Members, The Hong Kong Council of Social Service, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and service users) on the areas to be covered in the Study and other relevant matters. Besides, the SWD met with service operators, local organisations, women's groups, etc. at the working level to collect their views on the objectives and scope of the Study.

5. Having regard to the views of different parties, the Government decided that the Study would aim at further reviewing the demand and supply of child care services and make recommendations on the direction for the long-term development of such services. The objectives are as follows -

- (i) to review the philosophy and policy objectives of day child care services;
- (ii) to take stock of the operation modes and service positioning of day child care services;
- (iii) to identify service gaps, to gauge the demand and supply of day child care services, and to explore a systematic and workable service planning mechanism; and
- (iv) to advise on the service modes and financing modes of day child care services with reference to the needs of different types of families and other relevant considerations (including cost-effectiveness and sustainability, etc.).

(c) Scope of the Study

6. The Study will draw on the experience of places outside Hong Kong, take stock of the existing day child care services in Hong Kong, collect views from various stakeholders (including Government Bureaux/Departments, advisory bodies, concern groups, service users/potential service users, NGOs, local child care service operators, employers, etc.) and make recommendations on the long-term development of local child care services with reference to the findings of the Study, including -

- (i) the service objectives, service contents, target user groups

and planning parameters of aided standalone child care centres (CCCs) which are under the SWD's planning and regulatory control;

- (ii) the relationship between CCC service (including standalone CCCs and kindergarten-cum-CCCs) and kindergarten education;
- (iii) the manpower planning and training for child care staff (including child care workers and child care supervisors);
- (iv) the planning mechanism applicable to centre-based day child care services;
- (v) the functions of the Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project and the Mutual Help Child Care Centres, as well as the improvement measure to enhance the service quality and optimise the use of public resources;
- (vi) the appropriate service model(s) and financing mode(s) for different types of day child care services;
- (vii) the projection of the demand and supply of day child care services;
- (viii) the need for re-engineering and integrating different types of day child care services; and
- (ix) the role of the Government vis-à-vis private operators in the provision of day child care services.

(d) Work Plan and Inception Report

7. On 5 April 2017, the LWB and the SWD conducted an engagement session during which the Consulting Team briefed the service operators of various child care services, frontline staffs, parents, women's groups and professional bodies, etc. on the proposed work plan of the Study and collected the views from different parties. The Consulting Team then submitted a work plan, which was discussed and endorsed by the Steering Committee at its meeting on 4 May 2017. The SWD also received an inception report submitted by the Consulting Team on 13 June 2017. The Study comprises the following three main parts based on the contents of the inception report -

(i) **Part I**

- *By drawing reference to the experiences of Singapore, Australia, South Korea and Finland in providing child care services, the Consulting Team will conduct in-depth analyses and make recommendations on the objectives, contents, targets, financing modes, service models, demand and supply situation, facility planning, manpower planning and training, etc. of child care services in Hong Kong.*

(ii) **Part II**

- *Through population projection figures and the geo-spatial analysis technique, the Consulting Team will analyse the supply of day child care services in different districts, examine the service operation of existing child care services (including availability, accessibility and affordability), and makes integrated analyses.*

(iii) **Part III**

- *Through questionnaire-based survey and interviews with service users/potential users, frontline staffs, management and decision-makers, etc., the Consulting Team will solicit their views on the objectives, contents, targets, financing modes, service models, demand and supply situation, facility planning, manpower planning and training etc. of child care services in Hong Kong, and make in-depth analyses.*

8. Lastly, the Consulting Team will consolidate the findings collected from the above three parts for making a comprehensive detailed analysis, and formulate recommendations in respect of the long-term development of child care services.

Expected Timeframe

9. The SWD expects that the Study will take at least one year to complete.

Advice Sought

10. Members are invited to note the contents of this paper and express views.

Social Welfare Department
June 2017

Consultancy Study on the Long-term Development of Child Care Services 幼兒照顧服務的長遠發展研究

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香港大學
社會工作及社會行政學系



顧問研究團隊



葉兆輝教授	香港大學講座教授	主要研究人口健康，包括扶貧、預防自殺及計劃評估。曾擔任香港特別行政區人口政策督導委員會成員。
喬曦 (JORDAN Lucy Porter)博士	香港大學助理教授	主要研究社會政策及人口健康。
羅亦華博士	香港大學助理教授	主要研究兒童及青少年精神健康、預防自殺及自我傷害行為。
陳之翰博士	香港大學博士後研究員	主要研究社會政策及計劃評估。
方略博士	香港大學博士後研究員	主要研究教育方面的學術研究。
黎翠珊小姐	香港大學研究主任/社工	主要參與社區項目研究。
伍寶雪小姐	香港大學課程發展主任/社工	主要參與以學校為本項目研究。
李思齊小姐	香港大學研究主任	主要參與GIS技術及社區項目研究。
單海玥小姐	香港大學研究主任	主要參與文獻探討研究。
李家豪先生	香港大學統計研究員	主要參與統計研究。

顧問:

周鎮邦醫生 (香港大學兒童及青少年科學系名譽臨床醫學教授)

葉柏強醫生 (香港大學兒童及青少年科學系臨床副教授)

● 海外團隊: 澳洲, 芬蘭, 新加坡, 南韓

研究目標



1. 檢視日間幼兒照顧服務的**理念和政策**方針
to make observations on the philosophy and policy objectives of day child care services
2. 總結日間幼兒照顧服務的**運作模式**和**服務定位**
to take stock the modes of operation and positioning of day child care services with reference to the demographic changes after the harmonization of pre-primary services and other relevant considerations
3. 辨識**服務斷層**，評估日間幼兒照顧服務的**需要**和**供應**情況及制定一個具系統及可行的機制
to identify service gap, to gauge the demand and supply of day child care services, and to explore a systematic and workable planning mechanism
4. 透過參考不同類型家庭的需要及其他相關考慮因素，從而對不同日間幼兒照顧服務的**服務模式**和**資助模式/財務方向**提供建議
to advice on the service modes and the financing modes of day child care services with reference to the needs of different types of families, and other relevant considerations including cost-effectiveness and sustainability etc.

顧問團隊將就下列提供建議：

1. 社會福利署規劃和監管的獨立幼兒中心的服務宗旨，服務內容，服務使用群體及規劃參數；
the service objectives, service contents, target user groups and planning parameters of aided standalone child care centres (CCCs) which are under the planning and regulatory control of SWD;
2. 幼兒中心服務包括獨立幼兒中心及幼稚園暨幼兒中心，與幼稚園教育的關係；
the relationship of CCC service, including standalone CCCs and KG-cum-CCCs, with kindergarten education;
3. 幼兒中心工作人員(包括幼兒工作員及幼兒中心主管)的人手規劃及培訓；
the manpower planning and training for child care staff, including child care workers and child care supervisors;
4. 切合中心為本幼兒照顧服務的規劃機制；
the appropriate planning mechanism for centre-based day child care services;
5. 鄰里支援幼兒照顧計劃(NSCCP)及互助幼兒中心(MHCCC)的功能，提高服務質素及善用公共資源的改善方案；
the functions of the Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project (NSCCP) and mutual help child care centres (MHCCCs) and proposed changes to enhance the service quality and optimise the use of public resources;

6. 不同類型的日間幼兒照顧服務的適用服務模式和資助模式；
the appropriate service model(s) and financing mode(s) for different types of day child care services;
7. 推算日間幼兒照顧服務的需要和供應情況；
the projection of the demand and supply of day child care services including government-subsidised and non-government-subsidised services, as well as the ancillary services, i.e. Extended Hours Service (EHS) and Occasional Child Care Service (OCCS) in the territory;
8. 重整並綜合各類型的日間幼兒照顧服務的需要；
the need for re-engineering and integration of different types of day child care services;
9. 政府及私營機構在提供日間幼兒照顧服務方面的角色。
the role of Government vis-à-vis the private market in the provision of day child care services.

研究結構



第一部分

從國際經驗中學習：



香港



新加坡



澳洲



南韓



芬蘭

第二部分

現時服務綜合分析：

- GIS 技術
- 人口推算
- 服務需求和供應情況



第三部分

問卷調查和訪談：

1. 服務使用者
2. 前線服務工作人員
3. 管理及決策者



從國際經驗中學習：

第一部分



香港



新加坡



澳洲



南韓



芬蘭

- 重點研究：
 - 服務理念
 - 人力編制
 - 培訓
 - 服務模式
 - 資助模式/財務方向

第二部分

現時服務綜合分析：

- GIS 技術
- 人口推算
- 服務需求和供應情況



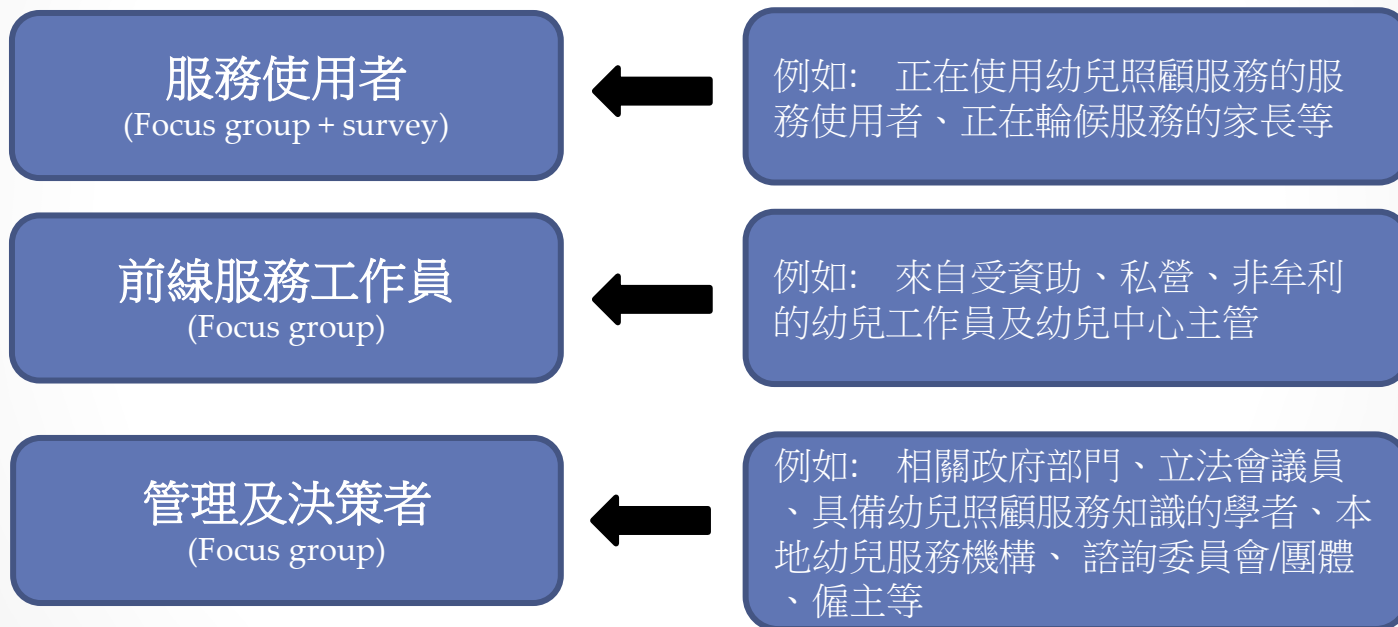
- 日間幼兒照顧服務的運作模式
 - 可用性 (Availability)
 - 可達性 (Accessibility)
 - 可負擔性 (Affordability)
- 利用人口數據推算日間幼兒照顧服務的**需要**情況
- 利用**問卷調查**收集服務使用者及潛在使用者¹的需要及各項服務需求情況
- 利用**GIS技術**檢視日間幼兒照顧服務在地區上**供應**情況

¹潛在使用者 (potential users): 例如正在輪候日間幼兒照顧服務的家長

第三部分

問卷調查和焦點小組訪談：

1. 服務使用者
2. 前線服務工作人員
3. 管理及決策者



第三部分

問卷調查和焦點小組訪談：

1. 服務使用者
2. 前線服務工作人員
3. 管理及決策者

- 問卷調查和焦點小組訪談內容：
 - 服務質素
 - 服務模式
 - 服務制度
 - 資助模式/財務方向
 - 人力編制
 - 培訓
 - 困難及解決方案

顧問研究項目成果 (deliverable)



- 初期報告
- 中期報告
- 總結報告

多謝
Thank you