

# **AIDS Trust Fund Annual Report**

**2016-17**

**(from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017)**



**Council for the AIDS Trust Fund  
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region**

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**2016-17**

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## Introduction

### **Background**

The AIDS Trust Fund (the Fund) was established in April 1993 with a commitment of \$350 million approved by the Finance Committee (FC) of the Legislative Council (LegCo) to provide assistance to HIV-infected haemophiliacs and generally to strengthen medical and support services and public education on AIDS. An additional one-off injection of \$350 million was approved by the FC in 2013-14 to support the funding applications under the Fund.

The Fund is administered on the advice of the Council for the AIDS Trust Fund (the Council). Chairperson and Members (except ex-officio Member from the Food and Health Bureau) of the Council are appointed by the Chief Executive. Three sub-committees are set up under the Council to process the applications for funding. They are the Ex-gratia Payment Sub-Committee, the Medical and Support Services Sub-Committee, and the Publicity and Public Education Sub-Committee.

### **Areas of Financial Support**

The Fund provides financial support in the following areas:

- Ex-gratia payment to those who are Hong Kong residents and have been infected with HIV through transfusion of blood or blood products in Hong Kong prior to August 1985.
- Medical and support services for HIV-infected patients to augment the existing services provided by the Hospital Authority and the Department of Health.
- Publicity and public education which remains the most effective way to combat the spread of HIV and AIDS.

This 2016-17 Annual Report of the Fund summarises the work done related to the operation of the Fund in 2016-17.



# Membership and Terms of Reference

## **Council for the AIDS Trust Fund**

Chairperson: Dr Matthew NG, J.P.

Members: Mr CHEUNG Hing Wah, B.B.S.  
Dr LIN Che Kit  
Prof Diana LEE, J.P.  
Ms Fiona CHAU (*ex-officio Member from Food and Health Bureau*)

Secretary: Dr Henry NG

## **Ex-gratia Payment Sub-Committee**

Chairperson: Mr CHEUNG Hing Wah, B.B.S.

Members: Dr Thomas LAI  
Mr Stephen LIU

Secretary: Dr Winnie LAU

## **Medical and Support Services Sub-Committee**

Chairperson: Dr LIN Che Kit

Members: Dr HO King-man  
Dr LEE Man Po  
Prof Peter LEE, J.P.  
Dr LO Kuen Kong  
Dr Andrew SIU  
Dr LEE Cheuk Kwong

Secretary: Dr Winnie LAU

## **Publicity and Public Education Sub-Committee**

Chairperson: Prof Diana LEE, J.P.

Members: Mr Eric CHEUNG  
Ms Victoria KWONG  
Dr Peter TSANG  
Mr Raphael TONG, M.H.  
Dr LEE Cheuk Kwong

Secretary: Dr Winnie LAU



## **Terms of Reference**

### **Council for the AIDS Trust Fund**

Subject to the provision of the Declaration of the Trust Fund, to determine all matters whatsoever touching the administration of the Fund and the fulfillment of the purposes thereof.

### **Ex-gratia Payment Sub-Committee**

To consider claims for ex-gratia payment, and to make recommendations to the Council.

### **Medical and Support Services Sub-Committee**

To consider applications for project grants for the provision of additional medical and/or support services for those with HIV/AIDS and to make recommendations to the Council.

### **Publicity and Public Education Sub-Committee**

To consider applications for project grants for Publicity and Public Education on AIDS, and to make recommendations to the Council.

## Summary of Applications, Meetings and Funding Approved

Based on the “Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong 2012-2016” issued by the Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS (ACA), higher funding priorities would be accorded to the applications under the Fund for programme targeted at the five high risk groups, namely:-

1. men who have sex with men (MSM);
2. male clients of female sex workers (MCFSW);
3. injecting drug users (IDU);
4. sex workers (SW); and
5. people living with HIV (PLHIV).

### Meetings held for processing the applications in 2016-17

During 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017, 2 meetings of the Council and 6 meetings of the 3 Sub-Committees (Ex-gratia Payments: 1; Medical and Support Services (MSS): 2; and Publicity and Public Education (PPE): 3) were held.

### Number of applications processed

During the period, a total of 64 applications (additional ex-gratia payment: 26, MSS: 18 and PPE: 20) were processed by the Council, of which 45 applications (70%) were approved. Excluding the 26 applications for additional ex-gratia payments, 19 out of 38 (50%) applications were approved. Details of breakdown are at Table 1.

**Table 1: Number of applications processed by the Council**

Types of Applications	Applications Withdrawn	Applications Rejected	Applications Approved	Applications Approved Subject to Conditions	Total
Additional Ex-gratia Payment	0	0	26	0	26
Medical and Support Services	1	7	8	2	18
Publicity and Public Education	0	6	11	3	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>64</b>

(from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017)

## **Summary of funding approved**

The total funding amount approved for the 45 applications (additional ex-gratia payment: 26, MSS: 8 and PPE: 11) was \$29.95 million (additional ex-gratia payment: \$8.67 million, MSS: \$3.80 million, PPE: \$17.48 million). Details of breakdown are at Table 2.

**Table 2: Number of applications and amount of funding approved by the Council (from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017)**

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	
	No.	Amount (\$HK million)
<b>Additional Ex-gratia Payment</b>	26	8.67
<b>MSS</b>	8	3.80
<b>PPE</b>	11	17.48
<b>Total</b>	45	29.95

## **Breakdown of applications and funding approved by at-risk groups**

A breakdown of applications and amount of funding approved from 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017 by the five high risk groups recommended by ACA were shown at Annexes Ia, Ib and Ic.

From 1 April 2016 to 31 March 2017, the amount granted for MSM project / programme topped the list at \$8.67 million (Annex Ia). For MSS, the amount of granted for PLHIV topped the list of MSS research project grants at \$1.77 million (Annex Ib). For PPE, the amount granted for MSM topped the list of PPE project / programme grants at \$7.42 million (Annex Ic).



### Audited accounts in 2016-17

The Director of Accounting Services is responsible for keeping the accounts of the Fund which are also audited annually by the Director of Audit. Relevant information extracted from the audited accounts of the Fund in 2016-17 are at Table 3.

**Table 3: Information extracted from audited accounts of the Fund (2016-17)**

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>2016-17 (HK\$'000)</b>
<b>Capital (\$)</b>	<b>700,000</b>
<b>INCOME (\$)</b>	
Interest on deposits and bank balances	2,611
Interest on placement with the Exchange Fund	2,550
Refund of grants	1,661
Other Income*	2,694
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,516</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE (\$)**</b>	
Publicity and Public Education	17,589
Medical and Support Services	3,873
Ex-gratia Payment	8,670
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,132</b>
Surplus/Deficit for the year (total expenditure - total income)	20,616
Accumulated Surplus/Deficit at end of year***	-410,364
<b>Fund Balance (\$)</b>	<b>289,636</b>

\* Other income including the amount of the approved projects / programmes which the balance was no longer required.

\*\* There might be a difference between the audited expenditure and the amount of funding approved at Table 2 since the amount of funding approved did not include the extra cost incurred from auditing a grant approved by the Fund (in terms of auditors' remuneration) which may be claimed on a reimbursement basis.


\*\*\* Accumulated deficit at the end of year represented the deficit brought forward from the beginning of the fund to the current financial year end.

Note: The audited accounts will be uploaded onto the Fund's website.

## Completed projects/programmes in 2016-17

In order to enhance transparency, accountability and access to information by the public, grantees are required to submit an executive summary and publication list for each completed project / programme which would be posted in the Fund's website for public information.

<b>Programme / Project Code</b>	<b>Title</b>
MSS 191 R	The implications of CYP2B6 genotype in long term efavirenz treatment
MSS 207 PM	Support Fund for HIV/AIDS Patients and their Families
MSS 214 R	HIV infection and related sexual behaviors of cross-border Hong Kong MSM and their sex partners in Shenzhen
MSS 229 R	Quantification of population viral load and its temporal changes in subpopulation transmission networks for projecting the HIV epidemic in Hong Kong
MSS 236 R	Temporal Trends of Online Search for HIV and AIDS-Related Information and its Association with HIV Risk Perception and Protective Behaviour Among Men who have Sex with Men in Hong Kong, from 2004-2014, an Infodemiological Study
MSS 237 PM	To fill the service gap of chronic hepatitis C treatment in HIV-infected haemophilia patients in Hong Kong
MSS 239 R	Perceptions on Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) among men who have sex with men in Hong Kong – a policy-oriented research
MSS 240 R	Prevalence, perceptions and intention related to various forms of HIV testing among male clients of female sex workers in Hong Kong
MSS 242 R	A community driven comprehensive needs assessment for people living with HIV in Hong Kong
MSS 245 R	Pharmacogenomic and molecular epidemiological study of HIV/AIDS patients co-infected with Hepatitis C virus (HCV)
PPE 623 PM	Project Touch
PPE 635 PM	Young female sex workers peer education through internet media project
PPE 640 PJ	Creating AIDS Vocabulary in Hong Kong Sign Language - Cornerstone for HIV Prevention in the Deaf Community
PPE 645 PM	Translating recommendations and findings into effective actions – maintaining Hong Kong's low HIV prevalence
PPE 649 PJ	JJJ Rapid-Test Services and research in the setting up of Rapid-Test Team by Sex Workers



PPE 652 PM	HIV education and voluntary counselling and testing services for HIV and STIs for female sex workers
PPE 654 PJ	Transgender HIV/AIDS prevention and education programme
PPE 657 PM	LINK: Enhancing the link between HIV prevention, screening, treatment and care for the health of key populations

# Communication with Stakeholders

## Visits to Grantees

With the aims of monitoring the performance of grantees and also of facilitating the information exchange between grantees and the Council, two visits were organised for the Council's Members and Secretariat on 17 August 2016 and 1 March 2017 to the following four grantees:

- Transgender Resource Centre
- Association for Transgender Rights
- Midnight Blue
- The Society of Rehabilitation and Crime Prevention, H.K (SRACP)



Visit to Transgender Resource Centre



Visit to Association for Transgender Right



Visit to Midnight Blue



Visit to SRACP

## Sharing Session

Sharing session was held on 13 December 2016 which aimed at providing a platform for grantees to share their experience on HIV prevention and control in priority communities as well as AIDS-related research through their programmes supported by the Fund.

Over 35 participants from different non-governmental organisations, Universities, the Council and ACA attended the sharing session.



## Number of ALL approved projects and amount of funding by at-risk groups (from 1 October 2012 to 31 March 2017)

Target groups of applications		Five higher funding priorities areas (Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong 2012 - 2016)					Others		Sub-total	Additional EGP (PLHIV)	Total
		MSM	MCFSW	IDU	SW	PLHIV	Multiple Target Groups*	Others #			
2016 -17	Number of approved applications	6	1	2	1	8	1	5	24	26	50
	Amount approved for applications	\$8,671,994	\$364,091	\$1,410,623	\$955,378	\$4,983,005	\$461,906	\$4,432,426	\$21,279,424	\$8,670,333	\$29,949,757
Oct 2012 - Mar 17	<i>Number of approved applications</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>105</i>	<i>230</i>
	<i>Amount approved for applications</i>	<i>\$54,801,374</i>	<i>\$6,018,795</i>	<i>\$9,814,041</i>	<i>\$7,097,983</i>	<i>\$33,039,723</i>	<i>\$11,015,206</i>	<i>\$15,057,375</i>	<i>\$136,844,497</i>	<i>\$32,309,491</i>	<i>\$169,153,988</i>
	<i>Resource allocation (%) ^</i>	<i>40%</i>	<i>4%</i>	<i>7%</i>	<i>5%</i>	<i>24%</i>	<i>8%</i>	<i>11%</i>	<i>100%</i>		

Note: MSM – Men who have sex with men, MCFSW - Male clients of female sex workers, IDU - Injecting drug users, SW – Sex workers, PLHIV - People living with HIV

^ There may be a slight discrepancy between the sum of individual items and the total as shown in the table due to rounding of figures.

\*Include MCFSW & SW (2), MSM, MCFSW & Youth (1), MSM, MCFSW, SW & PLHIV (1), MSM, IDU & PLHIV (1).

# Others include cross-border traveler (2), Prisoners (2), Ethnic Minority (2), transgender (7), the deaf, blind & people with physical disabilities (3), and general public (student, young people, those at high risk of infection & those with risk behaviours including their spouses or partners) (3).

## Number of MSS approved projects and amount of funding by at-risk groups (from 1 October 2012 to 31 March 2017)

Target groups of applications		MSS (research)							MSS (non-research)	Total	
		Research							Service		
		Five higher funding priorities areas (Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong 2012 - 2016)					Others		Sub-total		People living with HIV
		MSM	MCFSW	IDU	SW	PLHIV	Multiple Target Groups*	Others			
2016 - 17	Number of approved applications	2	0	1	0	3	0	0	6	2	8
	Amount approved for applications	\$1,248,141	\$0	\$462,326	\$0	\$1,766,995	\$0	\$0	\$3,477,462	\$320,000	\$3,797,462
<i>Oct 2012 - Mar 2017</i>	<i>Number of approved applications</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>38</i>
	<i>Amount approved for applications</i>	<i>\$5,818,622</i>	<i>\$643,767</i>	<i>\$462,326</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$10,928,848</i>	<i>\$722,587</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>\$18,576,150</i>	<i>\$15,181,146</i>	<i>\$33,757,296</i>
	<i>Resource allocation (%)^</i>	<i>17%</i>	<i>2%</i>	<i>1%</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>32%</i>	<i>2%</i>	<i>0%</i>		<i>45%</i>	<i>100%</i>

Note: MSM – Men who have sex with men, MCFSW - Male clients of female sex workers, IDU - Injecting drug users, SW – Sex workers, PLHIV - People living with HIV

^ There may be a slight discrepancy between the sum of individual items and the total as shown in the table due to rounding of figures.

\* Multiple Target Groups include MSM, IDU & PLHIV (1)

## Number of PPE approved projects and amount of funding by at-risk groups (from 1 October 2012 to 31 March 2017)

Target groups of applications		PPE							Total
		Five higher funding priorities areas (Recommended HIV/AIDS Strategies for Hong Kong 2012 - 2016)					Others		
		MSM	MCFSW	IDU	SW	PLHIV	Multiple Target Groups*	Others #	
2016-17	Number of approved applications	4	1	1	1	3	1	5	16
	Amount approved for applications	\$7,423,853	\$364,091	\$948,297	\$955,378	\$2,896,010	\$461,906	\$4,432,426	\$17,481,962
<i>Oct 2012 - Mar 2017</i>	<i>Number of approved applications</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>87</i>
	<i>Amount approved for applications</i>	<i>\$48,982,752</i>	<i>\$5,375,028</i>	<i>\$9,351,715</i>	<i>\$7,097,983</i>	<i>\$6,929,729</i>	<i>\$10,292,619</i>	<i>\$15,057,375</i>	<i>\$103,087,201</i>
	<i>Resource allocation (%)^</i>	<i>48%</i>	<i>5%</i>	<i>9%</i>	<i>7%</i>	<i>7%</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>15%</i>	<i>100%</i>

Note: MSM – Men who have sex with men, MCFSW - Male clients of female sex workers, IDU - Injecting drug users, SW – Sex workers, PLHIV - People living with HIV

^ There may be a slight discrepancy between the sum of individual items and the total as shown in the table due to rounding of figures.

\* Multiple Target Groups include MCFSW & SW (2), MSM, MCFSW & Youth (1) and one project for MSM, MCFSW, SW & PLHIV (1).

# Others include cross-border traveler (2), prisoners (2), ethnic minorities (2), transgender (7), the deaf, blind & people with physical disabilities (3) and general public (students, young people, those at high risk of infection & those with risk behaviours including their spouses or partners) (3).