

Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs

Work of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department

In April 2000, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) presented a paper (Annex I) to members of the Panel on Home Affairs on the work of the new department since its establishment. The updated basic information and organization chart of the Department are at Annex II and Annex III respectively. As part of our continued efforts to provide quality leisure and cultural services for the community, we have also introduced some new initiatives in the year, details of which are set out in the ensuing paragraphs.

Strengthen links with District Councils and National Sports Associations

2. To strengthen communication with the districts, the Director of the Leisure and Cultural Services and his senior staff have been visiting individual District Councils since May 2000. The visits will be completed by the end of the year. We plan to arrange regular meetings with the District Councils to exchange views on matters of mutual concern. Besides, up to September 2000, the Department has allocated \$16 million under the District Festivals Subsidy Scheme to subsidize 116 events. It is anticipated that by the end of the financial year, a total of 170 events which is twice that of last year, will be granted financial assistance. As for sports subsidy, the Department has granted \$23.82 million to national sports associations for organizing sports events.

Vision, Mission and Values

3. We have formulated the “Vision, Mission and Values” statement of the Department for our staff as their common objectives in the delivery of service. Our vision is to provide quality leisure and cultural services commensurate with Hong Kong’s development as a world-class city and events capital.

4. To enrich the life of our community and give an impetus to the development of arts and sports in the territory, we are committed to organizing a wide range of activities and promoting the use of cultural and recreation

facilities. In embarking on our task, we endeavour to meet the expectations and needs of the public by delivering quality services in a cost-effective manner.

5. A plan has been worked out to cascade our “Vision, Mission and Values” down to the staff to ensure that they are acquainted with the directions of the Department in its provision of services and work together to achieve the Department’s objectives.

Customer Liaison Groups and Customer Service Training

6. To strengthen direct communication with our customers as well as to gauge their views on how our services could be further improved, Customer Liaison Groups have been set up and Customer Liaison Meetings have been held at major cultural and leisure venues, including the major parks, swimming pool complexes, indoor games halls, civic centres, museums and libraries. We plan to extend these arrangements to other major venues and invite representatives from other departments (e.g. Architectural Services Department and Electrical and Mechanical Services Department) to the meetings so that they could make prompt response after learning the views of the participants.

7. More Customer Service Training courses and workshops will be organised to train our frontline staff. As at September 2000, 2 700 staff members have already received training and by March 2001, an additional 2 100 staff members will receive training. In addition, Workshop for Work Improvement Team Facilitator will also be organised to provide customer service training for our supervisory officers.

Enhance Publicity and Improve Communication

8. We keep in close touch with the media so as to let the media and the public have a better understanding of our services. In addition to the publicity and promotion of our activities and services through the media, the Department from time to time holds press conferences/briefings to report on our progress, new services and initiatives as well as arranges interviews and visits to our facilities.

9. We attach great importance to the communication with our staff and consult their views on matters of their major concern. In formulating policies, we also take into account the views and suggestions of our staff. We are concerned about their morale and feelings. In this connection, staff are

encouraged to communicate with the management directly through the existing mechanism, including Staff Complaints Officer, Staff Relations/Staff Welfare Officer, grade managers, Departmental Consultative Committee, suggestion box and the LCSD newsletter. The directorate of the Department also pays visits to the staff working in the districts with a view to establishing direct communication with the staff and having a better understanding of their work and needs.

Quality Assurance and Public Opinion Surveys

10. To maximize the cost-effectiveness of resources, the Department's Quality Assurance Section is tasked to conduct independent and objective assessments of the use of financial and human resources and other departmental resources. During the past few months, the Section has reviewed the operation and use of the Department's major leisure, sports and performing venues. Besides, it has inspected the quality of the services provided by the public beaches and some of the public swimming pools.

11. A territory-wide benchmark survey will be conducted in December 2000. The survey aims at assessing the public's degree of awareness; use pattern, degree of satisfaction as well as their need for leisure and cultural services and facilities. We are considering to conduct biennial benchmark surveys with a view to assisting the Government in reviewing and formulating policies and standards of service.

12. In the coming year, a public opinion survey will be conducted to collect views of the public on the 2001 thematic arts festival, performing arts activities as well as on the services and facilities provided by the performing venues.

Review of Fees and Charges

13. We have started a review of the fees and charges for various leisure and cultural services with a view to aligning the different pricing policies, subsidy levels and costing bases adopted in the urban area and the New Territories. The review is expected to be completed within 2001.

Capital Works Project Planning

14. Among the 12 priority capital works projects which have received funding approval from the former Provisional Municipal Councils, 11 are for leisure and cultural facilities. In the last legislative session, 8 projects have been directly injected to the Public Works Programme (PWP) as Category A projects. We will be seeking to upgrade the remaining 3 projects, namely the Hammer Hill District Park, Stanley Complex and the Kowloon Bay Recreation Ground when outstanding technical issues have been resolved.

15. In April 2000, we proposed to include 16 projects in PWP as Category C projects. Among these projects, we have set aside funding for 6 projects for upgrading to Category B. We will proceed with one of the projects, namely Improvement Works to the Loh Wah Playground as a minor works project. As to the remaining 9 projects, we have planned to proceed with the Preliminary Project Feasibility Study.

16. A list of 21 projects under construction and projects with works to commence soon is shown at Attachment b to Annex II.

17. For the remaining 100 plus former Provisional Municipal Councils projects under planning, we will proceed in accordance with the PWP procedures. A separate report will be made to the Legislative Council Subcommittee to follow up on Outstanding Capital Works Projects of the Two Provisional Municipal Councils.

Manpower Plan

18. In response to the measures for containing the size of the civil service announced by the Financial Secretary on 8 March 2000, the Department has submitted its manpower plan to the joint panel formed under the Civil Service Bureau and the Finance Bureau. The plan has been endorsed which includes the deletion of 374 vacancies, the creation of 131 posts and the forgoing of 623 new posts for which funds have been provided in the Estimates of 2000-01. We will further streamline our establishment through contracting out of services and enhancement of productivity on the basis that no surplus staff will be caused.

Voluntary Retirement Scheme

19. The Department has received 1 235 applications under the recently

launched Voluntary Retirement Scheme. Most applications come from the Workman I(Recreation and Amenities), Artisan(General Duties) and Artisan(Beach/Swimming Pool) grades. Applications are on a voluntary basis. In approving the applications and determining when the successful applicants will leave the service, the Department will give due consideration to operational need. The successful applicants will be arranged to leave without causing any disruption to the existing service or the operation of the Department. Briefing sessions will be organized for successful applicants and supervisors to explain the detailed arrangement and answer enquiries.

20. Training will be provided to those staff who are newly posted to the Department to equip them with the skills that are necessary for their jobs and to help them to have further development in the civil service. Meanwhile, we will strengthen communication with the staff to help them cope with changes and new challenges, thereby further enhancing the overall efficiency.

Use of Octopus Cards in LCSD Venues

21. Starting from 20 September, a trial scheme on the use of Octopus cards for payment of admission fees has been launched at 4 public swimming pools. The use of Octopus cards has shortened the queuing time for admission as it takes less time than that of inserting coins. If the six-month trial scheme is proved to be successful, the use of Octopus cards will be extended to the 33 public swimming pools in the territory. An initial study reveals that the potential service areas for use of Octopus cards include venue booking and facility hiring service at leisure venues, enrolment for district recreational and sports programmes as well as payment for library services and admission fees at museums.

22. Based on preliminary estimate, use of Octopus cards will not only be more convenient for the public, but will also achieve savings in the costs for providing cash transportation service. Apart from this, staff savings will be achieved in cash handling. Moreover, it will bring about 53% to 96% efficiency improvement in various payment procedures and reduce the amount of forged money received.

Information Technology

23. Since its establishment, the Department has placed much emphasis on the use of information technology to enhance the quality of service,

efficiency and productivity, with a view to providing a wide range of cultural and recreational services to the public. The Department has drawn up its strategies and plan on information technology. In 2000/01, 22 computerization projects have commenced at a total investment of more than \$300 million.

24. Much emphasis is placed on the use of advanced information technology with a view to providing better and efficient services to the public. Projects under trial or development include:

- (a) We are exploring the feasibility of accepting payment by electronic money such as Mondex, Visa Cash and Octopus. At present, a trial scheme of payment by electronic money is being launched at 24 leisure venues.
- (b) In support of the Government's "ESD Life" Scheme, we are examining the feasibility of extending various services to the Internet. One of our plans is to complete the integration of the Leisure Link booking system for the NT and the SPORTIX booking system for the urban area and provide Internet booking for leisure facilities by the end of 2001.
- (c) We will develop a number of systems in 2001. These include the implementation of the Cultural Programme Management System which serves to organize and manage our diversified cultural programmes in a more efficient way and the development of a computer system for the Hong Kong Museum of History to support the operation of the Museum.

Organizational and Management Reforms

25. The Government's objective is to maintain a team of lean and efficient civil servants and to encourage the participation of the private sector in providing public services. In this connection, we will seek to provide quality services for the public in a cost-effective way. Apart from contracting out of the non-core services such as cleansing service, security service and horticultural maintenance, the Department is embarking on the following plans:

- (a) Contracting-out or commercialization

At the beginning of the year, the Department engaged a consultant to conduct a scoping study on contracting-out of leisure services. Following the completion of the study, we will conduct a detailed study on the feasibility of contracting-out or commercialization.

The Department has conducted a trial scheme to contract out the management of an indoor recreation centre. Plans are in hand to contract out the management of 4 indoor games halls and 1 leisure centre by the end of this year.

(b) Corporatisation of the three Performing Companies (Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra, Hong Kong Dance Company and Hong Kong Repertory Theatre)

The corporatisation aims at allowing the three performing companies to have greater autonomy in their pursuit of artistic vision and gain more flexibility in securing commercial sponsorship, and in the long run reduce their dependence on government subvention. In April 2000, three Preparatory Committees, one for each performing company, were set up to deal with the establishment of new companies and the take-over issues. The corporatisation exercise is expected to be completed in 2001-02.

(c) Contracting-out of ticketing services

We are studying the feasibility of contracting-out of the URBTIX and the ticketing service for cultural and entertainment programmes as well as considering allowing hirers of the Hong Kong Coliseum and Queen Elizabeth Stadium to use other ticketing services available in the market.

(d) Other organizational and management reforms

We are discussing with the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts on the transfer of the Music Office to the Academy. Besides, reviews will be conducted on the mode of management for museums and public libraries.

Leisure Services

Provision of Diversified Recreation and Sports Facilities

26. The Department manages a wide range of recreation and sports facilities. These include 80 indoor recreation centres/leisure centres, 41 beaches, 34 public swimming pools, 24 sports grounds, 4 water sports centres,

4 holiday camps and 2 outdoor stadia. Other facilities include 603 children's playgrounds, 323 squash courts, 266 tennis courts, 229 hard-surface pitches, 68 natural and artificial turf pitches, and some 1 300 parks and gardens.

27. We have continued to plan and provide new recreation and sports facilities. Two major recreation and sports facilities, namely Shun Lee Leisure Centre and Sai Kung Swimming Pool Phase II, were completed and open for public use in February and June this year respectively. Sam Ka Tsuen Leisure Centre has also been open for public use since September 2000. Three major facilities (2 in the urban area and 1 in the NT) will be commissioned at the end of this year, namely Leisure Centre at Sai Wan Ho, Redevelopment of Sai Kung Tang Shiu Kin Sports Ground and Lai Chi Kok Park Stage III. Seven facilities will be completed and open for public use in 2001. They are Indoor Recreation Centre, Swimming Pool Complex and District Open Space at Area 24 Tseung Kwan O, Ap Lei Chau Park, Quarry Bay Park Phase II (Stage I), Promenade at Siu Sai Wan and Ping Shek Playground. A list of projects under construction and projects with works to commence soon is shown at Attachment b to Annex II.

Encouraging the Public to participate in Recreation and Sports Activities

28. For 2000-01, some 22 000 recreation and sports programmes will be organized for a target participation of 1 250 000 people. These programmes include sports training courses, swimming classes, aquatic activities, fitness programmes, dance activities, etc. In addition, we will be organizing territory-wide projects and major events such as Masters Games, Corporate Games and "Healthy Exercise for All" Campaign.

29. "Healthy Exercise for All" is a major campaign launched with the Department of Health to encourage our citizens to exercise regularly. The aim is to develop a healthier community and improve the quality of life. Four large-scale promotional events with seasonal themes will be organized. The campaign was kicked off with the "Physical Fitness Exercise Gala" held on 30 April 2000. Other seasonal themes include water sports in summer, hiking in autumn and indoor sports in winter. A series of leaflets, VCDs and video tapes have been printed and produced on the type of physical fitness exercises recommended for different age groups, senior citizens, over-weight children and people with disabilities. Besides, we have invited 32 celebrated athletes as our "Healthy Exercise Ambassadors" to help promote the campaign. It is anticipated that a total of 60 000 people will participate in the activities organised for the campaign.

30. Age Group Competitions amongst the popular community sports such as swimming, table tennis, tennis and badminton are held at a cost of \$4.1 million. Eight to nine age groupings are set up for youth, adults and masters. The objective is to sustain participants' interest in sports and provide more opportunities for them to compete with the same age group. The first event "Age Group Table Tennis Competition" was held from May to July this year, attracting a total of 8 000 participants. The remaining events are held from August to December this year. It is expected that about 35 000 people will participate in the events.

31. Starting from April 2000, evening camps have been organized for about 40 000 campers to enjoy the excellent holiday camp facilities after work. It will cost \$0.76 million.

Sports Promotion Programmes

District Sports Team

32. District football/basketball teams are formed to enhance public interest in sports, promote district identity and develop a sporting culture. A total of 540 youths (30 from each district) aged 13 to 15 will be selected to form 18 District Basketball Teams. Training was provided from July to October this year with inter-district competitions to be held from November 2000 to February 2001. Similar arrangements will be adopted for the setting up of district football teams. More than 900 youths aged 15 to 17 will be selected to form football teams. Training is provided from October 2000 to March 2001 with inter-district competitions to be held from March to June next year. The estimated cost of setting up 18 district football and basketball teams is \$1.6 million and \$1.3 million respectively.

School Sports Programme

33. The School Sports Programme will be introduced to primary, secondary and special schools with a view to enhancing the quality of sports activities in schools and providing more opportunities for youths to participate in sports. The School Sports Programme comprises six items of activities, namely Easy Sport Group, Sport Education Programme, Sport Captain Programme, Sport Link Programme, Sport Plus Programme and Youth Sports

Centre. To promote the Programme more effectively, an advisory panel consisting of representatives from the education sector will be set up. We will also maintain close contact with schools, community/sports/youth associations and the Department of Health as well as provide the necessary resources and training.

Community Sports Club Project

34. The objective of Community Sports Club Project is to promote and foster the development of youth sport, raise the standard of local sports and encourage the public to develop a lifelong interest in sports. Starting from April 2001, community sports clubs will continue to receive support under the project subsidy to cover their set-up costs as well as the Club Initiative Scheme subsidy for other club activities. They will also have access to use our venues for practice and competition. At present, there are 77 community sports clubs covering 15 sports. Adult members exceed 2 100 while youth members are close to 1 200. Our aim is to set up no less than 6 community sports clubs each year and provide them with resources so as to encourage members to actively participate in local competitions and sport voluntary services.

Greening Efforts

35. We are also tasked to provide a green environment for the community. A large-scale flower show was successfully held in March 2000 which attracted an all-time high number of visitors over the past 13 years. In order to promote public awareness of greening, 590 greening activities and 350 horticulture activities will be organised in 2000-01. One of these is the Green School Subsidy Scheme for over 310 schools. Our Tree Planting Programme includes planting 60 000 trees during the year, which is three times that of last year, at an estimated cost of \$13 million. Our strategy is to intensify planting with emphasis on density and making an impact with colourful flowering trees. Up to September this year, 55 000 trees have been planted.

Technical Library

36. A Technical Library has been set up at the Headquarters of the Department with reference books and technical publications on recreation and sports subjects. This will enable our staff to keep abreast of the latest developments in these fields. The library has now a collection of over 600 books, periodicals and reports. We will continue to purchase and collect suitable reference books to enrich the collection. A technical library relating to horticulture located in Kowloon Park will be commissioned early next year.

Cultural Services

Performing Arts

37. At present, the Department manages 15 performing venues. As a means to encourage private sector initiative in promoting arts and culture, a rental subsidy or reduction scheme with 50% to 80% reduction in hire charges is offered to non-profit-making organizations. Since its establishment, the Department has set up the Cultural Presentations Section as a one-stop contact point for local performing groups and artists in their arrangement of cultural programmes. A new Internet ticketing service for our Department's programmes is now on trial. We are also studying the feasibility of disseminating the publicity materials of selected programmes through the Internet.

38. The four community arts centres in the urban area present a wide array of programmes in line with their own artistic identity. We are now reviewing the functions of other performing venues and building up a unique image for each of them.

Cultural Presentations/ Entertainment Programmes

39. We organize cultural programmes on a year-round basis, featuring local as well as visiting artists in different types of performing arts events. Ticket prices are fixed at levels affordable to the general public. Up till late September, we have organized and sponsored about 2 640 programmes, attracting audiences of more than a million. The Department also manages three performing companies, namely the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra, the Hong Kong Repertory Theatre and the Hong Kong Dance Company. Among them, about 150 performances are staged every year. This year's International Arts Carnival was held from mid-July to late August. Through a wide spectrum of activities, we have fostered the interest in performing arts among the young children. Another large-scale arts festival '*Celebration of Hong Kong Performing Arts: A Tribute to the New Millennium*' has also been launched this autumn. This special event organized in celebration of the new millennium is held from late October this year until early February 2001. Up till the end of September, more than 493 free entertainment programmes have been organized in 18 districts. Territory-wide carnivals and family entertainment programmes are also organized on festive occasions. To date, a total of 570 000 people have participated in these entertainment programmes,

carnivals and special events.

40. In collaboration with the Airport Authority, the Department organized a novel event 'Lantern Exhibition and Cultural Performances at the Airport' at the Passenger Terminal Building of the Hong Kong International Airport from mid-July to mid-September 2000. While introducing the Mid-Autumn Lantern Festival, we have also promoted Chinese culture and customs as well as local leisure and cultural services among tourists. Six groups of thematic lanterns, namely *Lotus Pond and Full Moon*, *Chinese Theatre*, *Story of Mid-Autumn Festival*, *Moon Lady*, *Animal Land* and *Insect World* were displayed. Apart from showcasing superb traditional craftsmanship, the lanterns also brought a blend of Chinese calligraphy, literature and architecture into the installations. Besides, Chinese cultural performances covering Chinese instrumental concerts, acrobatic shows, folk songs and dances as well as traditional theatrical arts were staged at the Arrival Hall of Passenger Terminal Building. These new endeavours met with enthusiastic support and won great acclaim from the tourists and the media. It is estimated that more than 400 000 people attended the lantern exhibition while the cultural performances attracted an audience of 2 600.

Arts-in-education/Outreach Programmes

41. An Audience Building Office has been newly established to organize audience building activities on a territory-wide basis. These include outreach programmes at schools, youth centres, community halls and other suitable venues. A wide variety of programmes are organised to suit different tastes.

42. At the school level, we have launched, in collaboration with the established arts and educational institutions, the School Arts Amateur Schemes on drama, modern dance and musical theatre. These schemes are launched with a view to cultivating interest in and appreciation of arts among students and training them in a more systematic approach.

43. We have provided, under the Cultural Ambassador Scheme, outreach arts activities for the community at venues like parks, community centres, youth centres, elderly homes, etc. for people of all ages. By introducing the Artist-In-Residence Scheme at our performing venues, we have also provided our audience with opportunities to enjoy the performances of various arts forms and develop their interest in the arts.

44. Through the Music Office, we have been striving to promote general music education in the local community, especially among the young

people; to develop local youngsters' interest in and appreciation of music; and to foster musical interflows among young musicians all over the world. Services of the Office include running Chinese and western instrumental music training, 15 youth orchestras, 2 choirs and short term outreach interest classes; holding music camps, musical parades and large-scale outdoor music carnivals; and organizing exchange programmes for local, mainland and overseas young musicians to share their experiences.

Subvention in Performing Arts

45. Through the Home Affairs Bureau, the government offers subvention to a number of cultural organizations. The Department assists the Bureau in processing the subvention applications of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Society and the Hong Kong Arts Festival Society and in monitoring their performance. The Department also administers its District Cultural Projects Grant Scheme with a provision of \$6.7 million. Apart from this, sponsorship in the form of free venues, ticketing and other services are provided to support district arts organizations in undertaking cultural, training and development programmes. In addition, the Department's District Festivals Subsidy Scheme (with a total provision of \$18.7 million) enables all District Offices to support local community groups in their organization of district festivals as well as arts, sports and traditional festive events.

Film

46. The 24th Hong Kong International Film Festival was held between 12 and 27 April this year. More than 230 films from 44 countries and regions with a total of 340 shows had been screened to feast the eyes of more than 140 000 film buffs. To commend the resounding success of local films achieved overseas and to show our support to local film industry, the Department organized the Gala Premiere of the award-winning local film "In the Mood for Love", which made great achievement at the Cannes Film Festival. It was a collaboration with the Information Technology and Broadcasting Bureau and the film's production company for the first time. The production company had also made a cash contribution to the Hong Kong Film Archive to show their support in preserving local cinematic arts.

47. Looking ahead, we will launch an experimental programme in 2001 to encourage schools to organize "Culture Day", arranging students to participate in cultural activities and to visit museums, performing venues and libraries. Moreover, we will promote public appreciation and awareness of Chinese culture through the presentation of Chinese cultural programmes such as organizing thematic arts festivals in the autumn of 2001. We will also

study the feasibility of involving the private organizations and the art circle in the management of certain civic centres as well as provision of cultural programmes.

Heritage and Museums

Heritage

48. Through the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO), the Department plays an active role in the preservation and conservation of the archaeological and built heritage of Hong Kong. At present, there are 70 declared monuments and the St. Joseph's College in Central is the latest declared one. The AMO also carries out rescue excavations in archaeological sites affected by development. Besides, the impact of proposed developments on heritage is evaluated by means of the Environmental Impact Assessment, and mitigation measures would be recommended to authorities concerned if necessary.

49. Since its establishment in January this year, the Department has allocated more resources to enhance our work in the preservation of heritage. For instance, over 30 pensionable or contract posts have been created, thus almost doubling the size of the AMO's establishment.

Museums/Art Galleries

50. A total of 11 museums under the Department are open to the public. Over 220 000 historical items covering ancient Chinese antiques, contemporary arts, design, historical paintings, archaeology, history, ethnography, natural history and film materials have been collected. The museums will continue to collect exhibits for the enjoyment of the public and for research use.

51. Since its opening on 25 July 2000, the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence, at a cost of \$294.1 million and occupying an area of about 34 200 square metres, has already attracted 132 236 visitors by the end of September. It has also made a record high of 15 213 visitors for a single day. As for the Hong Kong Science Museum, it has organized the large-scale Chinese Aerospace Science and Technology Exhibition within only a few months. China's achievements on aerospace technology in the past few decades

are put before our eyes. Within only one and a half months, 55 251 persons have visited the exhibition. An agreement has been reached between the Department and the Airport Authority to arrange a display of art and cultural works with local flavours at seven locations in the Passenger Terminal Building of the Hong Kong International Airport.

52. The museums make endeavours to enhance the understanding of Chinese and local arts, culture and history among Hong Kong residents and tourists. They are also aimed at fostering their sense of art appreciation. Besides, much effort has been made to increase the public's understanding on modern technology, astronomy and space science. Up to the end of September, 47 exhibitions have been organized in the museums and more than 10 000 educational and promotional events and guided tours have been held. The number of visitors reaches over 2.5 million.

53. Furthermore, the Hong Kong Museum of Art has already adopted the world's first bilingual collection management system to process all records of collections to facilitate public search. Similar projects are underway in other museums.

54. The Hong Kong Museum of Art has advanced its opening hour to 10 am during holidays so as to provide better service to the public. Other major museums, for example, the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence, will also adopt this measure one after the other.

55. We will set up the Arts Promotion Office in early 2001 and celebrate the International Museums Day on 18 May 2001. We also have plans in hand for the restoration of two major historic buildings. Arrangements will be made for the opening of the Hong Kong Heritage Museum and the Hong Kong Film Archive in December 2000 and January 2001 respectively. We plan to open the permanent exhibition gallery of the Hong Kong Museum of History around the middle of next year. As for the information on heritage, resource centres will be established by stages in all museums, Antiquities and Monuments Office and Conservation Section, which will be open for public access to facilitate their search for information on museum collections.

Hong Kong Public Libraries

56. The new library system, known as the Hong Kong Public Libraries, aims to provide public library services to meet the community need for information, self-learning and creative use of leisure and to promote literary

arts.

57. There are 39 public libraries over Hong Kong Island and Kowloon and 27 in the New Territories, including 8 mobile libraries. The library collection consists of 7.42 million books and 0.63 million audio-visual materials. At present, there are a total of 2.44 million registered borrowers. Besides, about 25.5 million items of library materials were borrowed from the libraries and 0.79 million requests on reference materials were handled between January and September 2000.

58. The new Hong Kong Central Library at Moreton Terrace, Causeway Bay, is the largest purpose-built public library and information centre in the territory with a gross area of 33 800 square metres. The construction cost of the new library amounts to \$690 million and is scheduled to open in April or May next year. Apart from the Hong Kong Central Library, public libraries in Sam Ka Tsuen, Tseung Kwan O and Chai Wan are scheduled to open in the near future.

59. New territory-wide library cards have been issued to new applicants from January this year to enable readers to borrow books from the public libraries in both the urban area and the New Territories. With effect from April this year, the opening hours of the study rooms have been extended; instead of closing at 7 p.m. or 8 p.m., it has been extended to 10 p.m. on weekdays. Book drop service has been introduced in the public libraries in Tuen Mun and Lai Chi Kok so that readers may return books even when the libraries are closed. This facility will be gradually extended to other libraries in the territory.

60. Since February this year, the Department, in conjunction with the Education Department, has been launching Bulk Registration of Library Cards Project in schools as well as organizing Language Workshops and Reading Schemes in libraries to encourage extensive reading and promote the use of library services among young people.

61. We will renovate and upgrade in phases libraries of over 10 years' service. Also, users of major libraries may enjoy reading in a more pleasant environment provided with plants, paintings and a coffee corner.

62. We will also replace the two existing systems used in the urban and New Territories libraries with a new library computer system, with a view to providing faster and more convenient library services and 24-hour Internet service to our users. Inside the newly-established Hong Kong Central Library, there will be a Digital Library where audio and video-on-demand services, CD-

ROM and on-line database search and document viewing services are available.

Leisure and Cultural Services Department
November 2000

Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs

Meeting on 10 April 2000

Work of the new Leisure and Cultural Services Department

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) was set up on 1 January 2000 to provide recreational, sports and cultural facilities and services in Hong Kong. The Department reports to the Secretary for Home Affairs. An organization chart is at Annex A. Some basic information about the Department is at Annex B. During the past few months, we have focussed on the following areas of work.

New esprit de corps

2. To provide a common goal for its 9,500 plus staff who have previously worked in the former Urban Services Department and Regional Services Department, the Department is promulgating a statement on its **Vision, Mission and Values**. Our objective is to enrich the quality of life through the provision and promotion of cultural and recreational facilities and activities. In so doing, we will be mindful of the community's aspirations as well as the need to maximize the cost-effectiveness of our resources.

3. To improve communication with all our staff scattered over 3000 venues in the territory, we have introduced a new bi-monthly **staff newsletter**.

The publication will help to explain departmental policy and objectives, publicize our new initiatives and to promote good *esprit de corps* amongst our staff.

Strengthen links with District Councils and National Sports Associations

4. To foster a closer working relationship with the District Councils, the Director and his senior staff met the Chairmen of District Councils in February. Visits to individual District Councils are being arranged to acquire a better understanding of the needs of the local community and to discuss matters of mutual concern. The opportunity will be taken to explain the two subsidy schemes. The **District Festivals Subsidy Scheme** is to give financial assistance to district bodies for organizing district festivals and other large-scale festival events in celebration of traditional festivals such as the Dragon Boat Festival and the Mid-Autumn Festival. The **Sports Subsidy Scheme** is established to finance national sports associations for organizing sports training, local sports competitions and international sports competitions held locally. The allocations for the two schemes in 2000-01 are \$18.7 million and \$40.4 million respectively.

Customer Liaison Groups

5. To strengthen direct communication with our customers and to seek their views on how our services could be improved, Customer Liaison Groups (CLGs) or meetings will be set up at popular venues, including libraries, major

parks, swimming pool complexes and indoor games halls. Recruitment of members of the public who are regular users of our facilities to join the CLGs started in early March. It is intended that the first round of CLG meetings will be held on Saturday afternoons at regular intervals. The first one will be held at Victoria Park on 8 April 2000.

Customer Service Training

6. In line with our objective of developing a new culture of customer service, we have launched a series of **customer service workshops** called “Image in My Hands” to train our frontline staff. So far about 600 staff in our Indoor Games Halls have been trained. We are also about to launch the second phase of our customer service training for 150 of our library staff. At the same time, plans are in hand to provide customer service training for our staff in ticketing offices, which will include both counter staff and those handling telephone bookings.

LCSD Newsletter

7. The Department will publish a quarterly newsletter. The objective is to increase transparency of the operation of the Department and to publicize our major activities. The first issue will be distributed in late April. It will be available to all members of LegCo and District Councils, organizations we have regular contact with, the media as well as members of the public.

Leisure Services

8. The Department manages a wide range of **recreation and sports facilities**. These include 78 indoor recreation centres/leisure centres, 36 swimming beaches, 34 public swimming pools, 24 sports grounds, 4 water sports centres, 4 holiday camps and 2 outdoor stadia. Other facilities include 606 children's playgrounds, 322 squash courts, 273 tennis courts, 224 hard-surface pitches, 71 natural and artificial turf pitches, and over 1,350 parks and gardens.

9. We have continued to plan and provide new sports and recreation facilities. We have just completed construction of a leisure centre and have under construction 14 new facilities. Five major facilities (4 in the urban area and 1 in NT) will be commissioned in 2000-01, namely the Sam Ka Tsuen Leisure Centre (Kwun Tong), Ping Shek Playground, Lai Chi Kok Park (Stage III), Leisure Centre on Sai Wan Ho Reclamation, and Tseung Kwan O Swimming Pool.

10. For 2000-01, some 22,000 recreation and sports programmes will be organized. The total budget for organizing these activities is \$102 million for a target participation of 1,250,000 people. These programmes include sports training classes, swimming classes, aquatic activities, fitness activities, dance activities etc. In addition, we will be organizing territory-wide projects and major events such as masters games, corporate games, a 'healthy exercise

for all' campaign etc.

11. **Healthy Exercise For All** is a major campaign to be launched with the Department of Health to encourage our citizens to exercise regularly. The aim is to develop a healthier community and improve the quality of life. Large-scale promotional events with seasonal themes will be organized. These include a "Physical Fitness Exercise Gala" on 30 April 2000 to launch the Campaign, as well as other seasonal themes such as water sports in Summer, hiking in Autumn and indoor sports in Winter. A series of leaflets will be printed on the type of physical fitness exercises recommended for different age groups, over-weight children and persons with a disability.

12. **District Football/Basketball Teams** to promote district identity and community spirit and develop a sports culture. A total of 540 youths aged 13 to 15 (30 from each district) will be selected to form 18 district basketball teams. Training will be provided from July to October 2000 with inter-district competitions to be held from November 2000 to January 2001. Similar arrangements will be adopted for setting up of district football teams. Enrolment will start in July 2000 to select 1,000 youths aged 15 to 17. The estimated cost of setting up 18 district football and basketball teams is \$1.6 million and \$1.3 million respectively.

13. **Age Group Competitions** will be held amongst the popular community sports such as swimming, table tennis, tennis and badminton and

will cost \$4.1 million. Eight to nine age groupings will be set up for youth, adults and masters. The objective is to sustain their interest in sport and provide more opportunities for them to compete with the same age group. The first events will start in June 2000. It is expected that about 35,000 will participate.

14. Starting from April **Evening Camps** will be organized to attract about 40,000 campers to enjoy the excellent holiday camp facilities after work. It will cost \$0.76 million.

15. A **Technical Library** will be set up in the Department with reference books and technical publications on horticulture and sports subjects. This will enable staff to be kept abreast of the latest developments in these fields. We intend to allow the public similar access to these materials for the benefit of students, teachers, sportsmen and leisure managers alike.

16. To facilitate bookings of our sports facilities, we are planning to integrate and enhance the booking system in the urban area (SPORTIX) with that in the New Territories (RCCBS), and to extend advance bookings from 10 days at present to 30 days.

17. We are also tasked to provide a green environment for the public. A large-scale flower show was successfully held in March with some 490,000 visitors. In order to promote public awareness of greening, 590 greening

activities and 350 horticulture activities will be organized in 2000-01. Our **Tree Planting Programme** includes planting 60,000 trees during the year, which is three times that of last year, at an estimated cost of \$13 million. Our strategy is to intensify planting with emphasis on density and making an impact with colourful flowering trees.

Cultural Services

18. Year 2000 marks the formation of the new **Culture and Heritage Commission**, with which the Department will work closely. This year is also significant to us in that we plan to open the **Yuen Long Theatre**, the **Hong Kong Heritage Museum**, the **Hong Kong Central Library**, the **Museum of Coastal Defence** and the **Hong Kong Film Archive**. We also plan to open the new **Hong Kong Museum of History** in early 2001.

Performing Arts

19. The Department manages 15 **performance venues** with over 130 hiring units for public hiring at reasonable and affordable fee levels and for our own cultural presentations, joint presentations or sponsored events with other non-profit making and/or district cultural organizations. A new performing arts venue – **Yuen Long Theatre** – is scheduled to open this May. As a means to encourage private sector initiative in promoting arts and culture, a **rental subsidy/reduction scheme** with 50% to 80% reduction in hire charges is

offered to non-profit making organizations.

20. We organize **cultural programmes** on a year-round basis, featuring local as well as visiting artists in different types of performing arts events. In order to promote different types of programmes, arts appreciation activities are organized from time to time. To facilitate the development of the arts in Hong Kong, we present upcoming as well as established artists and groups, thus providing performance opportunities for artists to showcase their work. We also provide, under our **Programme Sponsorship Scheme**, non-profit-making cultural organizations with the free use of venues, ticketing service and assistance with publicity.

21. We manage three **Performing Companies**, namely the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra, the Hong Kong Repertory Theatre and the Hong Kong Dance Company. Among them, an average of over 150 performances are staged every year. Corporatisation of these performing companies is making good progress. Our aim is to allow them to pursue their artistic vision with a greater degree of autonomy and more administrative flexibility, as well as to encourage more community involvement.

22. We present a number of large-scale **territory-wide arts festivals** every year. In 2000, there will be the summer International Arts Carnival, "Celebration of Hong Kong Performing Arts: A Tribute to the New Millennium". Stage performances, outdoor carnivals, free foyer performances,

lectures and demonstrations, forums and talks, outreach educational and promotional activities are planned for all our major venues for general participation as well as that of targeted sectors of the population.

23. We organize **free entertainment programmes and carnivals** annually. Some notable examples are the Spring Lantern Festival, Mid-Autumn Festival and New Year Eve Festival. In 2000, 708 such free entertainment programmes and 15 territory-wide carnivals will be organized.

Heritage and Museums

24. Through the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO), we play an active role in the **preservation and conservation of the archaeological and built heritage** of Hong Kong. We commission archaeologists to carry out field surveys to ascertain the archaeological potential of areas affected by development and, where appropriate, rescue excavations to salvage archaeological remains prior to development works will be conducted.

25. We record and identify historical buildings and monuments for declaration in accordance with the recommendation of the Antiquities Advisory Board. We also organize the **restoration and maintenance of historical buildings**. Moreover, through the Environmental Impact Assessment mechanism, we assess the impact of proposed developments on heritage, and request and monitor remedial actions if necessary.

26. **Major heritage projects for the current year** include the restoration of the two historical buildings, namely Lik Wing Tong Study Hall in Kam Tin, Yuen Long and Fan Sin Kung in Wun Yiu, Tai Po, the provision of visitor facilities in Wun Yiu, Tai Po, the opening of the final phase of the first urban heritage trail in Central and Western District on Hong Kong Island and the computerization of records of heritage sites in Hong Kong.

27. In order to **promote public awareness of Hong Kong's heritage**, we organize a wide range of publicity and educational activities such as exhibitions, lectures, workshops and guided tours. We are working closely with the Heritage Tourism Task Force of the Hong Kong Tourist Association to promote Hong Kong's heritage. Through the "Friends of Heritage" scheme, we will continue to enlist the participation and support of members of the public in heritage conservation work.

28. We operate four **museums** and six branch museums, namely, the Hong Kong Museum of Art, the Hong Kong Museum of History, the Hong Kong Science Museum, and the Hong Kong Space Museum, the Flagstaff House Museum of Teaware, the Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum, the Law Uk Folk Museum, the Sam Tung Uk Museum, the Hong Kong Railway Museum and the Sheung Yiu Folk Museum. Later this year, we will see the opening of the Hong Kong Heritage Museum, the Hong Kong Film Archive and the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence.

29. These museums combined strive to deepen the understanding and

appreciation of Chinese and Hong Kong's art, culture and history among local citizens and tourists on the one hand, and promote the awareness of modern science and technology, astronomy and space science among our community on the other. The Hong Kong Film Archive, when it is opened to the public in late 2000 will enable scholars and researchers to have access to its collection of local films and materials, through the filmographic database stored in the multi-media computerized cataloguing system. Regular thematic film shows and exhibitions will be held at the Arhive.

30. Since January, the **opening hours** of museums have been extended, i.e. the Hong Kong Museum of Art now opens from 10 a.m. (instead of 1 p.m.) to 6 p.m. on Sundays and public holidays (except the first two days of Lunar New Year). The Hong Kong Heritage Museum and the Museum of History, when opened, are expected to follow.

Library Service

31. We operate a **Public Libraries System** which provides a network of 66 public libraries, including 8 mobile libraries. The library collection consists of 7.03 million books and 0.57 million audio-visual materials. At present, there are a total of 2.3 million registered borrowers, and 30.4 million items of library materials were borrowed from the libraries last year.

32. In addition, three **new public libraries** will be opened in 2000-01,

viz. the Hong Kong Central Library, the Sam Ka Tsuen Public Library and the Tseung Kwan O Public Library.

33. **The new Hong Kong Central Library** at Moreton Terrace, Causeway Bay, has recently been completed. Internal fitting out works, including the wiring of an advanced ATM network for transmission of multimedia information, are well under way. The new library with a gross floor area of 33 800 square metres is scheduled for opening in December 2000. It will be the largest purpose-built public library and information centre in Hong Kong offering full digital library services. New library facilities include Multimedia Digital Library, expanded reference services in 6 subject departments, Map Library, Language Learning Centre, Music Practice Room, Multi-media Production Studio, Young Adults Library, Toys Library, Lecture Theatre, Exhibition Gallery, etc.

34. The public libraries system has been designated as the depository library in Hong Kong for nine international organizations, including Asian Development Bank, European Commission, International Labour Organization, International Maritime Organization, United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Bank, World Trade Organization and World Food Programme.

35. **Outreach programmes** form an integral part of our library services. Educational and recreational programmes such as reading programmes, children's hours, book displays and exhibitions, subject talks and

interest clubs are regularly organised at the libraries to promote the use of library facilities, inculcate life-long reading habits and enhance public appreciation of the importance of free access to up-to-date information.

36. The libraries also play an active role in **promoting literary arts** in Hong Kong. The libraries present a number of literary competitions, including the Creative Writing Awards in Chinese, Poetry Writing Competition, the Hong Kong Biennial Awards for Chinese Literature, and the Competition on Story Writing in Chinese for Students, as well as the Writer-in-Residence Programme which provides writers with an opportunity to pursue literary research or creative writing in Chinese. The “Hong Kong Literature Festival” has been held annually since 1997. The election of “Good Books of the Millennium” has been jointly organized with Radio Television Hong Kong in association with Sing Tao Daily.

37. Year 2000 also witnesses several significant developments in the provision of library services in Hong Kong. These include :

- **Territory-wide Library Cards** have been issued from January this year to new applicants who have not yet applied for library cards. With this new library card, readers can borrow books from the public libraries in the urban area or in the New Territories. In addition, when the new library computer system comes into operation at

the end of this year, readers will be able to return books in any library in the territory.

- **Bulk Registration of Library Cards in Schools** was launched in February this year in conjunction with the Education Department to promote the use of library services among our young people.

- **New Library Computer System** - replacing the existing two systems in the Urban and N.T. libraries will be ready at the end of this year to provide readers with quicker and more convenient services as well as 24-hour Internet services for catalogue search, renewal and reservation of library materials.

- **Digital Library Service** - will be provided to tie in with the opening of the Hong Kong **Central Library** in December 2000. It will include audio and video on demand services, CD-ROM and on-line database search, and document viewing services. This service will be extended to all branch libraries and made available for remote access by the general public.

- **Enhanced Information and Reference Services** will be

provided in the Hong Kong Central Library with six subject departments. A Business and Industry Reference Library and an Education Resource Centre will be provided at the City Hall Public Library and the Kowloon Public Library respectively.

- **Libraries over 10 years old will be renovated** and upgraded in phases. In the meantime, our major libraries will be provided with a more pleasant reading environment through the provision of plants, paintings and a coffee corner.

- **Opening Hours** of study rooms in public libraries will be extended to 10 p.m. with effect from April 2000.

Music Office

38. Through the Music Office, we **promote general music education** in the local community, especially among the young people, develop future audiences for music, and foster international youth music exchange. The services that we provide include:

- (a) running an Instrumental Music Training Scheme in Chinese and western musical instruments for 3,800

children and young people;

- (b) managing the training of 14 youth orchestras and bands and two choirs;
- (c) running an Outreach Interest Class Programme for persons of all ages;
- (d) organizing outreach educational activities in the districts. Around 300 activities have been organized in 1999/2000 for over 150 000 audiences; and
- (e) presenting territory-wide events, including the Hong Kong Youth Music Camp.

Review of Fees and Charges

39. We have started a review of the 700 types of fees and charges for various leisure and cultural services. We need to align the policies and fee levels adopted in the urban area and NT, which were based on different pricing policies, different subsidy levels, and different costing bases. The review will take into account Government's general policy of full cost recovery in fee setting as well as other considerations such as the affordability of the public.

Contracting-Out

40. We will continue to explore opportunities for contracting-out of services to achieve greater cost-effectiveness and better value for money. A trial scheme has been launched since February this year to contract out the management of Tuen Mun Butterfly Beach Indoor Recreation Centre, and a review will be conducted later this year.

41. We are also studying the feasibility of contracting out our ticketing services (URBTIX), and giving the hirers of our performance venues the option of using alternative ticketing services available on the market.

Capital Works

42. We have reported to the Legislative Council Sub-Committee on the outstanding capital works projects of the two Provisional Municipal Councils. Of the 12 projects which have received funding approval of the PMCs, the position is as follows:

- (a) eight of the projects have received approval from PWSC and FC on 16.2.2000 and 10.3.2000 for injection into Category A;
- (b) another project is ready for inclusion into Category A of the PWP; and
- (c) the progress made on the remaining three projects was reported to

the LegCo Sub-Committee on 3.4.2000.

43. As for the 169 projects which are still in a very preliminary stage of planning, we have reported to the LegCo Sub-Committee on the views of the Administration at its meeting on 3.4.2000.

Enhanced Productivity Programme

44. In line with all government departments, LCSD is required to deliver 5% savings by 2002/03 under the Enhanced Productivity Programme. In the re-organisation of municipal services, about \$604 million of the \$700 million savings was derived from restructuring, economies of scale, streamlining and other EPP initiatives. LCSD is deemed to have achieved the 1% savings required under the EPP. A further saving of 4% (about \$408 million) will have to be delivered by 2002-03. We hope to achieve this by streamlining procedures, increasing productivity, reducing operating costs and contracting out services.

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

1 April 2000

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Some Basic Facts

(As at 1.4.2000)

<u>Establishment</u>	9,572
Directorate	12
Non-Directorate	9,560
<u>Strength</u>	8,994
<u>Contract Staff</u> (Non Civil Servants)	1,653
<u>Recreation and Sports facilities Managed by LCSD</u>	
Existing (See Attachment 1)	3,042
Under construction (See Attachment 2)	22
Construction works to start soon (See Attachment 2)	6
No. to be commissioned in 2000/01 (See Attachment 2)	16
<u>Culture Venues Managed by LCSD</u>	
Existing (See Attachment 1)	91
Under construction (See Attachment 2)	9
Construction works to start soon (See Attachment 2)	2
No. to be commissioned in 2000/01 (See Attachment 2)	7
<u>Recreation and Sports Programmes</u>	
No. Planned for 2000	22,000
Estimated Participants	1,250,000
<u>Culture Programmes</u>	
No. Planned for 2000	31,138
Estimated Participants	13,954,000
<u>Budget</u>	
Recurrent	\$5,050 Million
Plant, Equipment and Works	\$38 Million
Other Non-Recurrent	\$5 Million

Facilities Managed by LCSD
(As at 1.4.2000)

Recreation and sports facilities :

Beaches	36
Children's playgrounds	606
Natural and artificial turf pitches	71
Hockey pitches	2
Rugby pitches	2
Hard surfaced pitches	224
Holiday camps	4
Major parks	22
Small parks	1328
Indoor games halls/leisure centres / indoor recreation centres	78
Sports grounds	24
Squash courts	322
Outdoor stadia	2
Swimming pool complexes	34
Tennis courts	273
Water sports centres	4
Bowling greens	7
Golf driving ranges	3

Cultural facilities :

Museums	10
Libraries	66
Performance venues (Hong Kong Cultural Centre, Hong Kong Coliseum)	15

Progress on Category A Capital Works Projects (as at 1.4.2000)

A : Projects under construction

	<u>Scheduled Commissioning Date</u>
1 Provision of Air-conditioning to Wong Chuk Hang IGH	May-00
2 Provision of Air-conditioning to Choi Hung Road IGH & Badminton Centre	May-00
3 Provision of Air-conditioning to Kowloon City Complex IGH	May-00
4 Resurfacing with colour coating system to Outdoor Hard-Surfaced Ball Courts	May-00
5 Jordan Valley Playground (Phase II)(Stage I)	Jun-00
6 Hong Ning Road Park (Phase II)	Jul-00
7 Improvement to So Kon Po Recreation Ground	Jun-00
8 Sheung Lok Street Rest Garden (Site A)	Jun-00
9 Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence	Jun-00
10 Sai Kung Swimming Pool Phase II	Jun-00
11 Sam Ka Tsuen Complex	Jun-00
12 Film Archive and Leisure Centre on Sai Wan Ho Reclamation	Nov-00
13 Hong Kong Central Library	Dec-00
14 LO Development at Fung Tak Road	Jun-00
15 Ping Shek Playground	Aug-00
16 Lai Chi Kok Park Stage III (Landscape portion Phase Ia)	Jul-00
17 Redevelopment of Sai Kung Tang Shiu Kin Sports Ground	Sep-00
18 Chai Wan Complex	Nov-00
19 Hong Kong Heritage Museum	Dec-00
20 Swimming Pool Complex, Library, Indoor Recreation Centre and District Open Space Area 24 Tseung Kwan O	Feb-01
21 Recreation Development of the 'DO' Site at North Ap Lei Chau Reclamation	Mar-01
22 Refuse Collection Point and Transit Nursery at Baptist University Road	Apr-01
23 Quarry Bay Park Phase II (Stage I)	May-01
24 Promenade and adjoining District Open Space at Siu Sai Wan	May-01
25 Improvement to Aberdeen Sports Ground	Aug-01
26 Luen Wo Hui Complex Area 19 Fanling/Sheung Shui	mid 2002
27 Tai Po Complex	mid 2003

B : Projects with construction works to commence soon

	<u>Target Start Date</u>
1 Improvement to the Victoria Park in Causeway Bay	Apr-00
2 Renovation to external walls of Sha Tin and Tuen Mun Town Hall Complexes	Aug-00
3 Water Sports Centre at Stanley Main Beach	Aug-00
4 Indoor Recreation Centre cum Library in Area 100, Ma On Shan	Oct-00
5 Local Open Space in Area 44 Tuen Mun	Oct-00
6 Jordan Valley Playground, phase II stage 2	Oct-00
7 Improvement Works to Lady Maclehole Holiday village and Sai Kung Outdoor Recreation Centre	Nov-00

Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Some Basic Facts (As at 30.9.2000)

<u>Establishment</u>	9 254
Directorate	12
Non-Directorate	9 242
<u>Strength</u>	8 883
<u>Contract Staff</u> (Non Civil Servants)	1 414
<u>Recreation and Sports facilities Managed by LCSD</u>	
Existing	2 992
Under construction	12
Construction works to start soon	6
<u>Culture Venues Managed by LCSD</u>	
Existing	92
Under construction	5
Construction works to start soon	3
<u>Recreation and Sports Programmes</u>	
No. Planned for 2000	22 000
Estimated Participants	1 250 000
<u>Culture Programmes</u>	
No. Planned for 2000	31 138
Estimated Participants	13 954 000
<u>Budget</u>	
Recurrent	\$5,050 Million
Plant, Equipment and Works	\$38.55Million
Other Non-Recurrent	\$4.81Million

**Facilities Managed by LCSD
(As at 30.9.2000)**

Recreation and sports facilities :

Beaches	36
Children's playgrounds	603
Natural and artificial turf pitches	68
Hockey pitches	2
Rugby pitches	2
Hard surfaced pitches	229
Holiday camps	4
Major parks	22
Parks/gardens/sitting-out areas	1277
Indoor games halls/indoor recreation centres/ leisure centres	79
Sports grounds	24
Squash courts	321
Outdoor stadia	2
Swimming pool complexes	34
Tennis courts	266
Water sports centres	4
Bowling greens	7
Golf driving ranges	4

Cultural facilities :

Museums	11
Libraries	66
Performance venues (Hong Kong Cultural Centre, Hong Kong Coliseum)	15

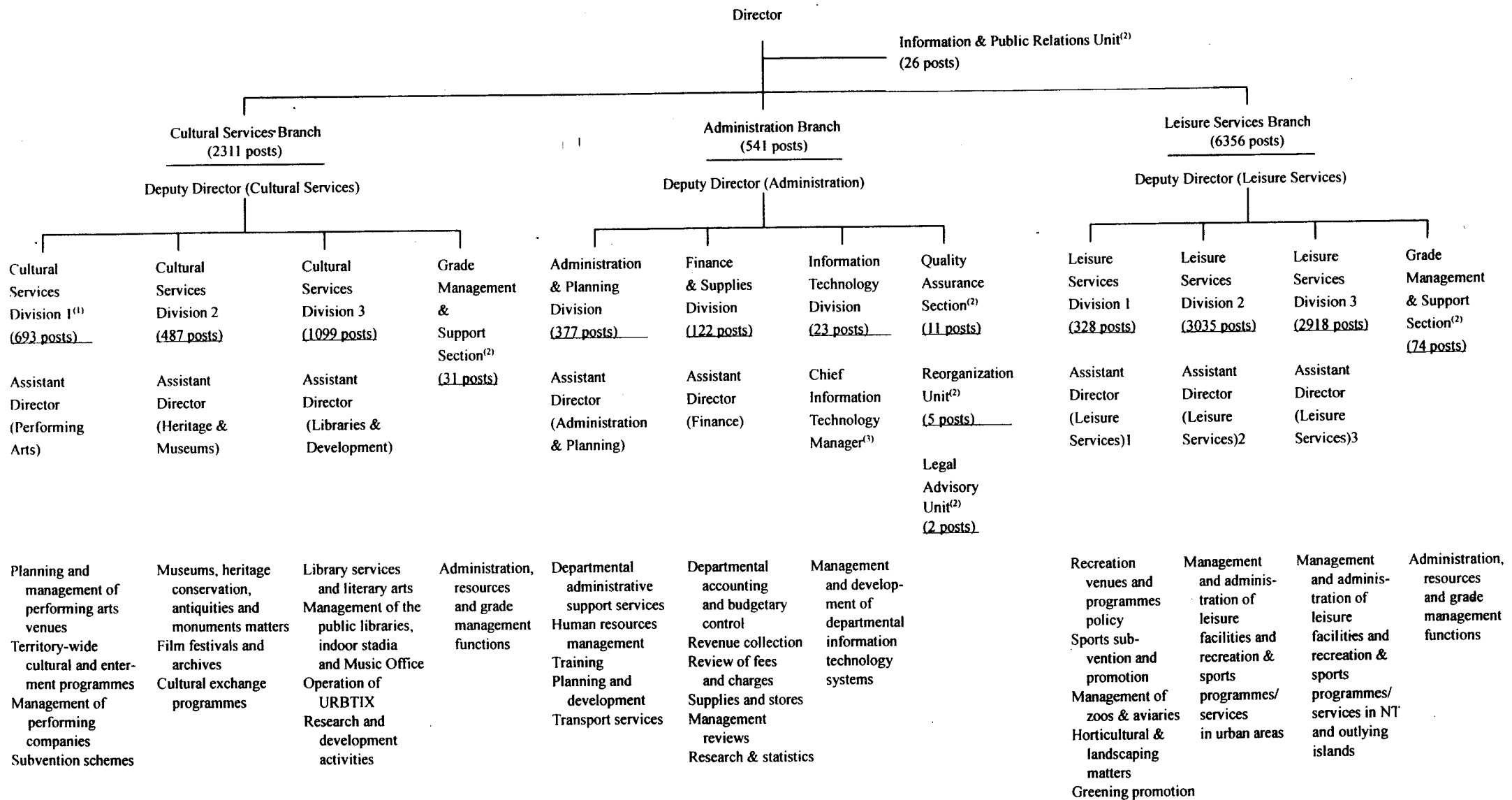
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

**Progress on Category A Capital Works Projects
(as at 30.9.2000)**

A: <u>Projects under construction (14 projects)</u>	<u>Target Completion Date</u>
1 Hong Kong Heritage Museum	Dec 2000 (Completion of internal fabrication)
2 Swimming Pool Complex, Library, Indoor Recreation Centre and District Open Space Area 24 Tseung Kwan O	Dec 2000
3 Chai Wan Complex (including a library)	Feb 2001
4 Ping Shek Playground	Dec 2000
5 Redevelopment of Sai Kung Tang Shiu Kin Sports Ground	Nov 2000
6 Recreation Development of the 'DO' Site at North Ap Lei Chau Reclamation	Feb 2001
7 Promenade and adjoining District Open Space at Siu Sai Wan	Sep 2001
8 Quarry Bay Park Phase II (Stage I)	Jun 2001
9 Upgrading Works on Slopes and Retaining Walls in former Provisional Regional Council Venues	Late 2000
10 Refuse Collection Point and Transit Nursery at Baptist University Road (Kowloon Tong)	Mar 2001
11 Luen Wo Hui Complex Area 19 Fanling/Sheung Shui (including an indoor games hall and a library)	mid 2002
12 Improvement to Aberdeen Sports Ground	Sep 2001
13 Tai Po Complex (including an indoor recreation centre)	mid 2003
14 Improvement to the Victoria Park in Causeway Bay	Dec 2002

<u>B: Projects approved by Finance Committee with construction works to commence soon (7 projects)</u>		<u>Target Commencement Date</u>
1	Renovation to external walls of Sha Tin and Tuen Mun Town Hall Complexes	Nov 2000
2	Local Open Space in Area 44 Tuen Mun	Nov 2000
3	Jordan Valley Playground, Phase II Stage 2	Nov 2000
4	Indoor Recreation Centre cum Library in Area 100, Ma On Shan	Oct 2000
5	Improvement Works to Lady Maclehole Holiday Village and Sai Kung Outdoor Recreation Centre	Jan 2001
6	Tai Kok Tsui Complex (Phase 2) (including an indoor recreation centre)	Dec 2000
7	Water Sports Centre at Stanley Main Beach	(To be advised by Arch SD)

Organization Chart of the Leisure & Cultural Services Department
(position as at 30.9.2000)



- Note :** (1) Excluding an Artistic Director for the Hong Kong Repertory Theatre who is a non-civil service contract staff.
(2) Section/Unit headed by an officer remunerated at MPS 45-49.
(3) Non-civil service contract staff at D1 level.

Total Departmental Establishment

Directorate posts	:	12 (+ 2 contract staff)
Non-directorate posts	:	9 223
Temporary posts for accommodating surplus staff arising from the reorganization	:	<u>19</u>
Total	:	9 254