

**For information
on 21 April 2006**

CC/03/2006

**Consultative Committee on the
Core Arts and Cultural Facilities of the
West Kowloon Cultural District**

**Current Provision of Performing Arts Venues in
Hong Kong**

Purpose

This paper informs Members of the current provision of performance venues in Hong Kong.

Existing Performance Venues

2. At present, there are 26 performance venues in Hong Kong with a total seating capacity of 75,626. Among these venues, 15 are managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD). Their major facilities have a maximum seating capacity of 33,379. The other 11 non-LCSD venues account for the remaining 42,247 seats.

Venues of Leisure and Cultural Services Department

3. The 15 performance venues managed by LCSD at **Annex A** can be broadly classified into three categories:

- (a) **Purpose-built performing arts venues** with sophisticated technical facilities capable of accommodating major and technically demanding programmes from the international touring circuit as well as established local performing arts groups, and attracting patrons from wide catchment areas. The Hong Kong Cultural Centre, Hong Kong City Hall, Kwai Tsing Theatre, Sha Tin Town Hall, Tsuen Wan Town Hall, Tuen Mun Town Hall and Yuen Long Theatre fall under this category.

The Hong Kong Cultural Centre and Hong Kong City Hall are territory-wide facilities patronized by local citizens as well as international visitors. The Kwai Tsing Theatre, which is most sophisticatedly equipped for theatrical productions, is capable of housing technically demanding programmes and is attracting audience from all over Hong Kong.

(b) **Moderately-equipped venues** capable of accommodating small to medium-scale performances and activities including those organized by the community. The Ko Shan Theatre, Sheung Wan Civic Centre, Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre, Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre, North District Town Hall and Tai Po Civic Centre fall under this category. Except the Ko Shan Theatre, all other venues under this category are located in joint-user buildings with other municipal, sports, educational or social welfare uses.

(c) **Sports/Entertainment venues** originally designed and equipped as multi-purpose indoor stadia and can be fitted out for different sports, entertainment and assembly activities. The Hong Kong Coliseum and Queen Elizabeth Stadium fall under this category.

Over the years, the Hong Kong Coliseum has become popular with concert promoters and private impresarios in presenting pop shows.

4. All the LCSD performance venues are open for public hiring. The utilization rates of those situated at prime or easily accessible locations are well over 90%, with

some at near full occupancy, as demonstrated by the usage rates of the auditoria/arena of the three major territory-wide venues:

Venue	2003/04 (affected by SARS)	2004/05
Hong Kong City Hall	89%	98%
Hong Kong Cultural Centre	92%	99%
Hong Kong Coliseum	87%	97%

5. Statistics on the usage rates and income and expenditure of the 15 LCSD performance venues from 2003 to 2005 are at **Annexes B and C**.

6. At the 13 designated performing arts venues (not counting the two indoor stadia), bookings for arts-related activities are accorded higher priority over non-art uses. In 2005, 5,230 activities were held with an attendance figure totalling 2.54 million. About 79% of these activities were arts-related cultural programmes. Detailed breakdown on the number of activities and attendance figures of these 13 venues from 2003 to 2005 are at **Annex D**.

7. Details on the number of events and attendance figures of the two indoor stadia, i.e. Hong Kong Coliseum and Queen Elizabeth Stadium from 2003 to 2005 are at **Annex E**. The usage of the former for arts-related activities is mainly for pop concerts and other entertainment events.

Non-Leisure and Cultural Services Department Venues

8. There are 11 non-LCSD performance venues (list at **Annex F**) offering a wide variety of facilities in Hong Kong. They may be broadly categorized as follows:

- (a) **Purpose-built performing arts facilities operated by the private sector or non-profit organizations** - the Hong Kong Arts Centre, Sunbeam Theatre and Hong Kong Fringe Club are under this category.

Established in 1977, the Hong Kong Arts Centre is a statutory body operating on a self-financing basis and not receiving public funds for its recurrent operating costs. It is dedicated to promoting contemporary arts and supporting the development of the arts, particularly for small to medium-sized groups.

The Sunbeam Theatre is privately owned and rented to a commercial operator. It has established itself as a popular professional Cantonese opera venue, staging about 300 Cantonese opera performances a year. Its existing tenancy agreement will terminate by August 2009 and may not be further renewed.

Accommodated in a historical building transformed from the old Dairy Farm Cold Storage Warehouse, the Hong Kong Fringe Club provides exhibition and performance spaces for experimental and small-scale performances by local and visiting artists.

- (b) **Performing arts facilities provided in tertiary institutions** - performance venues are provided at the Baptist University, Polytechnic University, Chinese University, City University and Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. They are utilized to different extents by the arts community having regard to their hiring policy and facility standards.

The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts has a range of performing arts facilities capable of staging technically demanding programmes. Apart from the Academy's own teaching uses, its facilities are hired out and popular for international as well as major local performances, including opera, musical, theatrical and dance productions.

- (c) **Non-designated facilities adapted for performing arts use** - convention and

exhibition facilities in the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre and Hong Kong International Trade and Exhibition Centre, as well as the newly-opened Arena in the Asia-World Expo are sometimes used as performance venues to meet market needs for venues to stage mega shows and pop concerts.

9. The usage rates of the 11 non-LCSD venues from 2003/04 to 2004/05 are at **Annex G** for reference.

10. The usage statistics of the existing performance venues demonstrate that the demand for performing arts facilities at prime locations is great and they are almost utilized to full capacity.

Home Affairs Bureau
Leisure and Cultural Services Department
April 2006

List of LCSD Performance Venues

Venue		Major Facilities	Seating Capacity	Ancillary Facilities	Seating Capacity (Floor Area)
A. Purpose-built Venues					
1.	Hong Kong Cultural Centre	Concert Hall	2,019	Rehearsal Rooms (5 nos)	150-250 (164m ² -331m ²)
		Grand Theatre	1,734	Practice Rooms (6 nos)	15-60 (16m ² -88m ²)
		Studio Theatre	496	Function Rooms (2 nos)	100-120 (118m ² -126m ²)
2.	Hong Kong City Hall	Concert Hall	1,434	Committee Rooms (2 nos)	40
		Theatre	463		
		Recital Hall	111		
3.	Kwai Tsing Theatre	Auditorium	905	Dance Studio	50 (200m ²)
		Lecture Room	98	Rehearsal Room	50 (226m ²)
4.	Sha Tin Town Hall	Auditorium	1,372	Dance Studio	150 (285m ²)
		Cultural Activities Hall	300	Music Studio	150 (240m ²)
				Lecture Rooms (2 nos)	120
				Conference Room	50
				Practice Rooms (3 nos)	4 (12m ²)
5.	Tsuen Wan Town Hall	Auditorium	1,420	Lecture Room	50

Venue		Major Facilities	Seating Capacity	Ancillary Facilities	Seating Capacity (Floor Area)
		Cultural Activities Hall	280	Conference Room	30
6.	Tuen Mun Town Hall	Auditorium	1,372	Dance Studio	150 (285m ²)
		Cultural Activities Hall	300	Music Studio	150 (240m ²)
				Lecture Rooms (2 nos)	120
				Conference Room	50
				Practice Rooms (3 nos)	4 (12m ²)
7.	Yuen Long Theatre	Auditorium	919	Dance Studio	50 (180m ²)
		Lecture Room	100	Rehearsal Room	50 (192m ²)
B. Moderately-equipped Venues					
8.	Ko Shan Theatre	Auditorium	1,031	Rehearsal Rooms (2 nos)	40 (72m ²)
				Committee Room	30
9.	Sheung Wan Civic Centre	Theatre	480	Rehearsal Hall	20 (224m ²)
		Lecture Hall	150	Dance Practice Room	20 (70m ²)
				Art Studios (2 nos)	20 (28m ²)
				Music Practice Rooms (2 nos)	5 (14m ²)
10.	Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre	Theatre	354	Lecture Room	90
		Cultural Activities Hall	106	Art Studios (2 nos)	10-18 (17m ² -26 m ²)
				Music Practice Room	9 (14m ²)

Venue		Major Facilities	Seating Capacity	Ancillary Facilities	Seating Capacity (Floor Area)
				Dance Practice Room	35 (40m ²)
11.	Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre	Theatre	471	Art Studios (2 nos)	20-30 (37m ² -67m ²)
		Cultural Activities Hall	110	Music Practice Rooms (2 nos)	20 (20m ²)
12.	North District Town Hall	Auditorium	498	Function Rooms (2 nos)	50-60 (100m ² -144m ²)
13.	Tai Po Civic Centre	Auditorium	756	Function Room	30 (120m ²)
C. Sports / Entertainment Venues					
14.	Hong Kong Coliseum	Arena	12,500	Function Rooms (3 nos)	10-100 (34m ² -187 m ²)
15.	Queen Elizabeth Stadium	Arena	3,600	Multi-purpose Hall	50 (431m ²)
				Committee Rooms (4 nos)	30-40
		Total: (for major facilities)	33,379		

LCSD Performance Venues : Usage Rates (2003/04 to 2004/05)^{Note 1}

	Venue	2003/04 ^{Note 2}						2004/05							
		Arts-related Activities			Non-arts-related Activities ^{Note 3}			Total	Arts-related Activities			Non-arts-related Activities ^{Note 3}			Total
		LCSD events	Hirers' events	Sub-total	LCSD events	Hirers' events	Sub-total		LCSD events	Hirers' events	Sub-total	LCSD events	Hirers' events	Sub-total	
1	Hong Kong Cultural Centre														
	Concert Hall	26%	61%	87%	0%	5%	5%	92%	17%	80%	97%	0%	2%	2%	99%
	Grand Theatre	40%	50%	90%	0%	1%	1%	91%	38%	62%	100%	0%	0%	0%	100%
	Studio Theatre	40%	53%	93%	0%	1%	1%	94%	52%	45%	97%	0%	2%	2%	99%
2	Hong Kong City Hall														
	Concert Hall	18%	60%	78%	1%	7%	8%	86%	24%	72%	96%	2%	2%	4%	100%
	Theatre	32%	47%	79%	1%	11%	12%	91%	30%	60%	90%	0%	5%	5%	95%
3	Sha Tin Town Hall														
	Auditorium	34%	35%	69%	2%	13%	15%	84%	29%	55%	84%	1%	11%	12%	96%
4	Tuen Mun Town Hall														
	Auditorium	20%	43%	63%	0%	10%	10%	73%	22%	40%	62%	0%	13%	13%	75%
5	Kwai Tsing Theatre														
	Auditorium	37%	52%	89%	0%	5%	5%	94%	38%	52%	90%	0%	8%	8%	98%

Note 1 : Usage rates based on the number of days used over the total no. of available days, excluding maintenance.

Note 2 : Year affected by the outbreak of SARS

Note 3 : Non-arts related activities include meetings, lectures, conferences, workshops and ceremonies, etc.

6	Tsuen Wan Town Hall Auditorium	25%	28%	52%	8%	18%	26%	78%	23%	47%	70%	11%	11%	22%	92%
7	Yuen Long Theatre Auditorium	20%	24%	44%	5%	21%	26%	70%	13%	24%	37%	6%	25%	31%	68%
8	Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre Theatre	21%	59%	80%	0%	10%	10%	90%	36%	56%	92%	0%	7%	7%	99%
9	Sheung Wan Civic Centre Theatre	35%	32%	67%	0%	14%	14%	81%	24%	40%	64%	0%	20%	20%	84%
10	Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre Theatre	41%	34%	75%	0%	9%	9%	84%	24%	49%	73%	0%	11%	11%	84%
11	Ko Shan Theatre Theatre	21%	58%	79%	0%	6%	6%	85%	18%	64%	82%	1%	7%	8%	90%
12	North District Town Hall Auditorium	17%	15%	32%	0%	28%	28%	60%	12%	20%	32%	0%	25%	25%	57%
13	Tai Po Civic Centre Auditorium	10%	21%	31%	2%	52%	54%	85%	19%	29%	48%	0%	46%	46%	94%
14	Hong Kong Coliseum Arena	0%	79%	79%	3%	5%	8%	87%	0%	84%	84%	3%	10%	13%	97%
15	Queen Elizabeth Stadium Arena	1%	12%	13%	4%	46%	50%	63%	3%	13%	16%	4%	51%	55%	71%

Note 1 : Usage rates based on the number of days used over the total no. of available days, excluding maintenance.

Note 2 : Year affected by the outbreak of SARS

Note 3 : Non-arts related activities include meetings, lectures, conferences, workshops and ceremonies, etc.

LCSD Performance Venues : Income and Expenditure (2003/04 to 2004/05)

Venue		2003/04					2004/05				
		Income \$ Note 1	Capital Expendi- ture (A) \$ Note 2	Recurrent Expendi- ture (B) \$ Note 3	Total Expendi- ture (A) + (B) \$	Subsidy Rate	Income \$ Note 1	Capital Expenditure (A) \$ Note 2	Recurrent Expenditure (B) \$ Note 3	Total Expenditure (A) + (B) \$	Subsidy Rate
1	Hong Kong Cultural Centre	61,375,762	6,368,000	86,063,355	92,431,355	34%	64,788,277	11,319,000	81,602,647	92,921,647	30%
2	Hong Kong City Hall	30,320,655	1,498,000	44,331,868	45,829,868	34%	30,827,440	737,000	42,822,500	43,559,500	29%
3	Sha Tin Town Hall	26,438,435	2,490,000	36,249,105	38,739,105	32%	26,687,656	1,480,000	35,400,218	36,880,218	28%
4	Tuen Mun Town Hall	11,276,523	460,000	31,622,955	32,082,955	65%	12,293,997	800,000	32,867,097	33,667,097	63%
5	Kwai Tsing Theatre	14,407,798	349,000	34,116,093	34,465,093	58%	12,138,937	500,000	30,620,738	31,120,738	61%
6	Tsuen Wan Town Hall	6,622,855	248,000	26,126,608	26,374,608	75%	5,668,196	5,780,000	24,178,577	29,958,577	81%
7	Yuen Long Theatre	6,298,489	0	30,124,423	30,124,423	79%	5,478,453	185,000	26,587,859	26,772,859	80%
8	Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre	3,920,625	0	14,791,595	14,791,595	73%	3,155,735	554,000	15,585,038	16,139,038	80%
9	Sheung Wan Civic Centre	3,337,180	247,000	14,483,868	14,730,868	77%	6,203,715	736,000	12,599,480	13,335,480	53%
10	Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre	3,445,922	0	15,145,270	15,145,270	77%	3,093,673	0	14,721,952	14,721,952	79%
11	Ko Shan Theatre	4,487,710	906,000	16,331,371	17,237,371	74%	4,109,265	1,354,000	14,306,651	15,660,651	74%
12	North District Town Hall	1,486,867	0	5,742,508	5,742,508	74%	1,582,705	6,500,000	5,737,663	12,237,663	87%

Venue		2003/04					2004/05				
		Income \$ Note 1	Capital Expendi- ture (A) \$ Note 2	Recurrent Expendi- ture (B) \$ Note 3	Total Expendi- ture (A) + (B) \$	Subsidy Rate	Income \$ Note 1	Capital Expenditure (A) \$ Note 2	Recurrent Expenditure (B) \$ Note 3	Total Expenditure (A) + (B) \$	Subsidy Rate
13	Tai Po Civic Centre	1,445,827	0	6,279,011	6,279,011	77%	1,313,396	4,500,000	6,447,239	10,947,239	88%
14	Hong Kong Coliseum	76,186,240	2,400,000	36,189,352	38,589,352	(97%) Note 4	105,933,983	200,000	36,273,081	36,473,081	(190%) Note 4
15	Queen Elizabeth Stadium	15,156,863	0	31,662,918	31,662,918	52%	15,296,084	0	30,477,623	30,477,623	50%

Note 1: Income includes hire charges, notional hiring revenue and income from catering outlets and shops.

Note 2: Capital expenditure includes expenses relating to minor capital works, plants as well as vehicles and equipment.

Note 3: Recurrent expenditure includes staff salaries, regular operating and maintenance costs, cleaning and security costs, publicity and promotion expenses, but not programming expenses.

Note 4: () denotes surplus

LCSD Designated Performance Venues : No. of Performances/Activities with Attendance Figure (2003/04 – 2004/05)

		Arts-related Activities																Non-arts- ^{Note 2} related Activities (B)		Total No. of Performances/ Activities (A) + (B)		Total No. of Attendance	
		Music		Western Opera		Chinese Opera/ Operatic Songs		Drama		Dance		Film Show		^{Note 1} Others		Total							
		03/04	04/05	03/04	04/05	03/04	04/05	03/04	04/05	03/04	04/05	03/04	04/05	03/04	04/05	03/04	04/05						
1	Hong Kong Cultural Centre	203	360	13	20	91	80	196	188	57	91	66	78	64	43	690	860	33	40	723	900	566,678	772,003
2	Hong Kong City Hall ^{Note 3}	329	152	4	0	46	51	56	65	9	28	95	103	16	150	555	549	105	68	660	617	319,645	285,487
3	Sha Tin Town Hall	224	200	0	0	67	96	39	95	50	34	0	0	118	46	498	471	125	203	623	674	270,941	347,170
4	Tuen Mun Town Hall	47	162	0	0	50	63	20	24	13	36	0	0	150	72	280	357	112	137	392	494	166,974	237,611
5	Kwai Tsing Theatre	19	31	0	2	78	98	43	47	27	37	24	44	29	33	220	292	22	54	242	346	126,190	172,920
6	Tsuen Wan Town Hall ^{Note 4}	75	119	31	12	17	23	25	14	17	12	4	3	251	35	420	218	168	78	588	296	219,078	134,209
7	Yuen Long Theatre	30	28	0	0	36	37	17	8	28	26	10	14	26	31	147	144	70	80	217	224	110,986	113,008
8	Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre	72	45	0	0	129	128	64	46	9	16	8	1	81	38	363	274	70	57	433	331	91,849	96,199
9	Sheung Wan Civic Centre ^{Note 5}	100	55	0	0	27	17	75	13	12	6	0	0	49	6	263	97	172	47	435	144	78,698	27,650
10	Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre	24	37	0	0	61	67	90	103	39	11	0	0	16	29	230	247	59	56	289	303	56,073	67,061

		Arts-related Activities																Non-arts- ^{Note 2} related Activities (B)		Total No. of Performances/ Activities (A) + (B)		Total No. of Attendance	
		Music		Western Opera		Chinese Opera/ Operatic Songs		Drama		Dance		Film Show		^{Note 1} Others		Total							
		03/04	04/05	03/04	04/05	03/04	04/05	03/04	04/05	03/04	04/05	03/04	04/05	03/04	04/05	03/04	04/05	03/04	04/05	03/04	04/05		
11	Ko Shan Theatre	11	3	0	0	180	181	2	2	42	49	0	0	25	48	260	283	32	37	292	320	167,441	186,070
12	North District Town Hall	11	8	0	0	29	34	12	9	0	4	0	0	67	25	119	80	107	94	226	174	37,606	45,345
13	Tai Po Civic Centre	4	8	0	0	125	48	1	48	3	3	0	0	15	143	148	250	188	157	336	407	42,716	56,958
Total		1,149	1,208	48	34	936	923	640	662	306	353	207	243	907	699	4193	4122	1,263	1,108	5,456	5,230	2,254,875	2,541,691

Note 1: Other events include variety shows, pop concerts, multi-arts performances, acrobatic shows, etc.

Note 2: Non-arts-related activities include meetings, lectures, conferences, workshops and ceremonies, etc.

Note 3: City Hall Concert Hall and Theatre were closed for more than 3 months and 1 month respectively for scheduled improvement works / renovation after outbreak of fire in 2004/05.

Note 4: Closed for renovation for 5 months in 2004/05.

Note 5: Closed for renovation for 8 months in 2004/05.

**Hong Kong Coliseum & Queen Elizabeth Stadium : No. of Performances/Activities with Attendance Figures
(2003/04 – 2004/05)**

		Arts-related Activities								Note 4		Total No. of Performances / Activities (A) + (B)		Total No. of Attendance	
		Note 1 Performing Arts		Note 2 Entertainment		Miscellaneous		Total		Non-arts-related Activities (B)					
		03/04	04/05	03/04	04/05	03/04	04/05	03/04	04/05	03/04	04/05	03/04	04/05	03/04	04/05
1	Hong Kong Coliseum	0	6	148	176	0	0	148	182	4	5	152	187	1,298,933	1,623,158
2	Queen Elizabeth Stadium	23	22	16	30	1 Note 3	0	40	52	197	207	237	259	399,989	393,192
Total		23	28	164	206	1	0	188	234	201	212	389	446	1,698,922	2,016,350

Note 1: Performing arts events include music programmes, ballroom dance performances/ competitions/ showcases, marching band and Cantonese operatic songs performances.

Note 2: Entertainment events include variety shows, pop concerts, standup comedies and singing contests.

Note 3: A calligraphy and painting competition event.

Note 4: Non-arts-related activities include sports, meetings, lectures, conferences, workshops and ceremonies, etc.

List of Non-LCSD Performance Venues

Venue		Major Facilities	Seating Capacity
A. Purpose-built performing arts facilities operated by the private sector			
1.	Hong Kong Arts Centre	Shouson Theatre	439
		Agnes b. Cinema	193
		McAulay Studio	80
2.	Sunbeam Theatre	Grand Hall	1,033
3.	Hong Kong Fringe Club	Fringe Theatre	100
		Fringe Studio	80
B. Performing arts facilities provided in tertiary institutions			
4.	Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts	Lyric Theatre	1,181
		Drama Theatre	415
		Concert Hall	382
		Recital Hall	202
		Studio Theatre	240
		Dance Studio 1	120
5.	Baptist University	Academic Community Hall	1,346
6.	Polytechnic University	Jockey Club Auditorium	1,084
7.	Chinese University	Sir Run Run Shaw Hall	1,438
		Lee Hysan Concert Hall	265
8.	City University	Wei Hing Theatre	374
C. Non-designated facilities converted for performing arts use			
9.	Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre (Wan Chai)	Hall 3	7,000
		Grand Hall	3,000
		Convention Hall	1,800
		Theatre 1	637
		Theatre 2	336
10.	Hong Kong International Trade & Exhibition Centre (Kowloon Bay)	Exhibition Hall A	1,300
		Exhibition Hall B	1,500
		Ground Floor Plaza	1,000
		Grand Rotunda	1,500
		Universal Plaza	1,000
		Auditorium	702
11.	AsiaWorld-Expo	Arena	13,500
Total:			42,247

Usage Rates of Non-LCSD Performance Venues

[On request of the data providers, this annex is for internal reference only.]