

**For information  
on 21 April 2006**

**CC/04/2006**

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

**Current Provision of Museums in Hong Kong**

**Purpose**

This paper invites Members to note the current provision of museum facilities in Hong Kong.

**Existing Museums**

2. At present, there are a total of 24 museums in Hong Kong, of which 13 museums and a Film Archive are managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) with a total Gross Floor Area (GFA) of about 147,388 sq.m. The other 10 museums are run by tertiary institutions, non-profit or private organizations, Hong Kong Police Force and Correctional Services Department.

## LCSD Museums

3. The 13 museums and the Film Archive managed by LCSD have different roles and functions. Details are at **Annex A**. They can broadly be classified into three streams:

- (a) **Art Museums** – museums that are dedicated to the preservation and collection of works of art, and present a mix of exhibitions, education and extension programmes aiming at enhancing the public’s appreciation of and interest in art. Another core function of these museums is to promote Hong Kong art on the local and international horizons. The Hong Kong Museum of Art and Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware fall under this category;
  
- (b) **History Museums** – museums that are dedicated to the preservation and collection of historical and heritage items, and present a mix of exhibitions, education and extension programmes aiming at enhancing the public’s knowledge of local and world history and heritage. Another core function of these museums is to cultivate awareness of local history and heritage in the context of China. Museums under this category include the Hong Kong Heritage Museum,

Hong Kong Museum of History, Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence, Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre, Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum, Sheung Yiu Folk Museum, Sam Tung Uk Museum, Hong Kong Railway Museum, Law Uk Folk Museum and Hong Kong Film Archive. Some of these museums have special themes and their buildings are historical monuments. For example, the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence is renovated from an old barracks which features the history of coastal defence in Hong Kong; the Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb museum is a museum which features archaeological finds unearthed from the Eastern Han Tomb at the Lei Cheng Uk Tomb; the Sheung Yiu Folk Museum is renovated from a walled village house with a lime kiln; the Sam Tung Uk Museum is a walled village and the Law Uk Folk Museum is renovated from an old Hakka house. The latter two feature the life and history of the Hakka people in Hong Kong; and

- (c) **Science Museums** – museums that are dedicated to introducing astronomy, general science and technology, and present a mix of exhibitions, education and extension programmes aiming at enhancing the public's knowledge of and interest in science and technology. They include the Hong Kong

Science Museum and Hong Kong Space Museum.

4. With the development of museum services and establishment of new museums in recent years, the attendance rates of the LCSD museums has showed a steady growth from 3.35 million in 2000 to 4.24 million in 2003, and again to 4.76 million in 2005. Statistics on the attendance figures and number of exhibitions held at the 13 LCSD museums and the Film Archive from 2003-2005 are at **Annex B**. Their income and expenditure figures from 2003/04 – 2004/05 are at **Annex C**.

#### Non-LCSD Museums

5. The details of the 10 non-LCSD museums including their themes and modes of operation are specified at **Annex D**.

6. The two Museums at the University of Hong Kong and Chinese University are art museums that carry a strong educational function in association with the Departments of Fine Arts of the Universities. The Tung Wah Museum and Po Leung Kuk Museum are museums depicting the history and services of these two charitable organisations. The Hong Kong Racing Museum, Hong Kong Museum of Medical Sciences, Museum of Ethnology and Hong Kong Maritime Museum are private museums that introduce specific themes, in particular in the context of Hong Kong history, city life and the associated industries. The Hong

Kong Police and Correctional Services Department have their own museums to promulgate the history and services of the respective departments.

7. The attendance figures of the 10 non-LCSD museums from 2003-2005 are at **Annex E**.

**Home Affairs Bureau  
Leisure and Cultural Services Department  
April 2006**

**List of LCSD Museums and Film Archive (in sequence of opening)**

<b>Museum</b>	<b>Year opened</b>	<b>Gross Floor Area (GFA)</b> (Exhibition Area in brackets)	<b>Location</b>	<b>Theme of Exhibition</b>
1. Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum	1957	185 m <sup>2</sup> (93 m <sup>2</sup> )	41 Tonkin Street, Sham Shui Po, Kowloon	Features artifacts including ceramics, bronze wares and related relics unearthed at the historical tomb of the Eastern Han Dynasty at Lei Cheng Uk.
2. Hong Kong Space Museum	1980	8 110 m <sup>2</sup> (1600m <sup>2</sup> )	10 Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon	Features artifacts of space missions and technology with sky show and omnimax show programmes at its planetarium.
3. Sheung Yiu Folk Museum	1984	500 m <sup>2</sup> (450 m <sup>2</sup> )	Pak Tam Chung Nature Trail, Sai Kung, New Territories	Features artifacts including farming tools and a lime kiln at the historical Sheung Yiu village.
4. Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware	1984	2 985 m <sup>2</sup> (603 m <sup>2</sup> )	10 Cotton Tree Drive, Central, Hong Kong (inside Hong Kong Park)	Features Chinese teawares and introduces the custom of tea drinking in China, Chinese ceramics and seal carvings. Exhibits were donated by the Dr. K. S. Lo Foundation.
5. Hong Kong Railway Museum	1985	6 500 m <sup>2</sup> (6380m <sup>2</sup> )	13 Shung Tak Street, Tai Po Market, Tai Po, New Territories	Features trains and the history of railway transportation at the historical Old Tai Po Railway Station.
6. Sam Tung Uk Museum	1987	2 000 m <sup>2</sup> (1300m <sup>2</sup> )	2 Kwu Uk Lane, Tsuen Wan, Hong Kong	Features artifacts, and daily utensils at the historical Hakka walled village of the Sam Tung Uk in Tsuen Wan.

<b>Museum</b>	<b>Year opened</b>	<b>Gross Floor Area (GFA)</b> (Exhibition Area in brackets)	<b>Location</b>	<b>Theme of Exhibition</b>
7. Law Uk Folk Museum	1990	230 m <sup>2</sup> (124 m <sup>2</sup> )	14 Kut Shing Street, Chai Wan, Hong Kong	Features artifacts, and daily utensils at the historical Hakka House of Law Uk on the Hong Kong Island.
8. Hong Kong Museum of Art	1991 (Note)	17 530 m <sup>2</sup> (6019m <sup>2</sup> )	10 Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon	Features Chinese antiquities, Chinese painting and calligraphy, historical pictures and contemporary Hong Kong art, with temporary exhibitions on classical art and modern/contemporary art of the world.
9. Hong Kong Science Museum	1991	13 500 m <sup>2</sup> (7250m <sup>2</sup> )	2 Science Museum Road, Tsim Sha Tsui East, Kowloon	Features various themes of science and technology, such as meteorology, life science, motion, water and wave, telecommunication, etc. with interactive exhibits.
10. Hong Kong Museum of History	1998 (Note)	17 500 m <sup>2</sup> (8135m <sup>2</sup> )	100 Chatham Road South, Tsim Sha Tsui East, Kowloon	Features the history of Hong Kong from the prehistoric period to the 20 <sup>th</sup> century and other themes such as folk culture and the natural environment of Hong Kong.
11. Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence	2000	34 200 m <sup>2</sup> (4835m <sup>2</sup> )	175 Tung Hei Road, Shau Kei Wan, Hong Kong	Features the history of coastal defence in Hong Kong with a theatre and historical trail.

<b>Museum</b>	<b>Year opened</b>	<b>Gross Floor Area (GFA)</b> (Exhibition Area in brackets)	<b>Location</b>	<b>Theme of Exhibition</b>
12. Hong Kong Heritage Museum	2000	32 000 m <sup>2</sup> (7500m <sup>2</sup> )	1 Man Lam Road, Sha Tin, New Territories	Features the heritage of Hong Kong with thematic galleries on New Territories Heritage, Cantonese Opera, paintings and calligraphy by Professor Chao Shao-an and other temporary exhibitions on historical themes, heritage, folk cultures, design and photography.
13. Hong Kong Film Archive	2001	7 200 m <sup>2</sup> (214 m <sup>2</sup> )	50 Lei King Road, Sai Wan Ho, Hong Kong	Features the history of film in Hong Kong with film shows, exhibitions and maintains an archive on films for public's access and research.
14. Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre	2005	4 948 m <sup>2</sup> (1337 m <sup>2</sup> )	Kowloon Park, Haiphong Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon	Features archaeological finds, monuments and built heritage of Hong Kong.
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>147 388 m<sup>2</sup></b> <b>(45 840m<sup>2</sup>)</b>		

Note: The City Museum and Art Gallery was housed at City Hall since 1962. In 1975, it was split into the Hong Kong Museum of Art and Hong Kong Museum of History. The "Year opened" here denotes their present premises.



## Attendance Figures and No. of Exhibitions Held at the LCSD Museums and Film Archive (2003 – 2005)

	2003		2004		2005	
	No. of exhibitions	Attendance	No. of exhibitions	Attendance	No. of exhibitions	Attendance
<b>A. Art Museums</b>						
1. Hong Kong Museum of Art	14	217,517	16	271,398	15	504,929
2. Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware	4	182,882	4	206,418	4	192,693
<b>B. History Museums</b>						
3. Hong Kong Museum of History	18	1,017,240	16	657,977	16	562,750
4. Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence	5	213,895	5	182,282	4	177,533
5. Law Uk Folk Museum	1	31,337	1	36,936	1	23,502
6. Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum	2	37,065	2	43,921	2	30,307
7. Hong Kong Heritage Museum	20	455,629	24	632,277	22	657,671
8. Sam Tung Uk Museum	4	154,933	4	247,973	4	234,877
9. Sheung Yiu Folk Museum	1	44,434	1	62,981	1	50,672
10. Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre	-	-	-	-	1	31,340 <sup>2</sup>
11. Hong Kong Railway Museum	1	197,415	1	388,510	1	343,801
12. Hong Kong Film Archive	14	160,413	9	202,919	8	212,660
<b>C. Science Museums</b>						
13. Hong Kong Science Museum	15	870,645	15	853,831	16	967,359
14. Hong Kong Space Museum						
(including Space Theatre attendance)	14	655,800	11	787,828	24	765,482
<b>Total</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>4,239,205<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>109</b>	<b>4,575,251</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>4,755,576</b>

Note:

(1) The drop in attendance in 2003 was due to the outbreak of SARS resulting in cancellation of programmes and student group visits.

(2) Opened since 29 October 2005.

**Income and Expenditure of the LCSD Museums and Film Archive (2003/04 - 2004/05)**

Museum	2003/2004					2004/2005				
	Income \$ <sup>Note 1</sup>	Capital Expenditure (A) \$ <sup>Note 2</sup>	Recurrent Expenditure (B) \$ <sup>Note 3</sup>	Total Expenditure (A+B) \$	Subsidy Rate	Income \$ <sup>Note 1</sup>	Capital Expenditure (A) \$ <sup>Note 2</sup>	Recurrent Expenditure (B) \$ <sup>Note 3</sup>	Total Expenditure (A+B) \$	Subsidy Rate
1 Hong Kong Museum of Art	2,165,000	0	56,959,587	56,959,587	96.20%	6,929,015	1,266,000	58,097,702	59,363,702	88.33%
2. Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware	595,019	0	6,691,000	6,691,000	91.11%	550,055	0	6,451,492	6,451,492	91.47%
3. Hong Kong Museum of History	2,699,000	0	63,829,000	63,829,000	95.77%	3,249,000	278,000	63,576,000	63,854,000	94.91%
4. Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence	642,000	0	14,129,000	14,129,000	95.46%	710,000	0	13,626,000	13,626,000	94.79%
5. Hong Kong Heritage Museum	2,384,000	0	77,617,000	77,617,000	96.93%	2,369,000	0	74,499,000	74,499,000	96.82%
6. Hong Kong Science Museum	3,218,000	4,016,000	68,135,000	72,151,000	95.54%	5,297,000	0	63,596,000	63,596,000	91.67%

Note 1 Income includes admission, hiring of venues and miscellaneous charges such as sale of publications and souvenirs. Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware, Hong Kong Film Archive, Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum, Law Uk Folk Museum, Sheung Yiu Folk Museum, HK Railway Museum and Sam Tung Uk Museum are admission free.

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

Note 3 Recurrent expenditure includes staff salaries, operating and maintenance costs, cleaning and security costs, publicity and promotion expenses, artefacts and exhibitions.

Museum	2003/2004					2004/2005				
	Income \$ <sup>Note 1</sup>	Capital Expenditure (A) \$ <sup>Note 2</sup>	Recurrent Expenditure (B) \$ <sup>Note 3</sup>	Total Expenditure (A+B) \$	Subsidy Rate	Income \$ <sup>Note 1</sup>	Capital Expenditure (A) \$ <sup>Note 2</sup>	Recurrent Expenditure (B) \$ <sup>Note 3</sup>	Total Expenditure (A+B) \$	Subsidy Rate
7. Hong Kong Space Museum	8,489,000	0	40,382,700	40,382,700	78.98%	10,938,953	826,000	40,039,703	40,865,703	73.23%
8. Hong Kong Film Archive	592,000	0	42,447,000	42,447,000	98.61%	806,000	0	40,523,000	40,523,000	98.01%
9. Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum	12,000	0	1,105,000	1,105,000	98.91%	10,000	0	1,528,000	1,528,000	99.35%
10. Law Uk Folk Museum	0	0	797,000	797,000	100%	-	0	898,000	898,000	100%
11. Sheung Yiu Folk Museum	0	0	560,000	560,000	100%	-	0	536,000	536,000	100%
12. Hong Kong Railway Museum	30,523	0	1,919,900	1,919,900	98.41%	21,000	0	2,081,000	2,081,000	98.99%
13. Sam Tung Uk Museum	23,860	0	2,626,000	2,626,000	99.09%	26,000	0	2,439,000	2,439,000	98.93%
14. Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre <sup>Note 4</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Note 4 Opened since 29 October 2005.

**List of Non-LCSD Museums**

	<b>Year opened</b>	<b>Exhibition Area</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Mode of Operation and Themes</b>
<b>A. Art Museums</b>				
1. University Museum and Art Gallery, The University of Hong Kong	1953	1 100 m <sup>2</sup>	94 Bonham Road, Hong Kong	University Museum. Features exhibitions of art, history and culture related to the University's educational role.
2. Art Museum, The Chinese University of Hong Kong	1971	1 000 m <sup>2</sup>	Art Museum, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Sha Tin, New Territories	University Museum related to the Fine Arts Department of the Chinese University. Features exhibitions of Chinese antiquities, Chinese painting and calligraphy and contemporary art.
<b>B. History Museums</b>				
3. Tung Wah Museum	1971	368 m <sup>2</sup>	Kwong Wah Hospital, 25 Waterloo Road, Kowloon	Museum operated by the Tung Wah Group. Features the history of the Tung Wah Group of hospitals and medical services provided by the Group with artifacts, photographs and documents.
4. Po Leung Kuk Museum	1998	820 m <sup>2</sup>	66 Leighton Road, Hong Kong	Museum operated by the Po Leung Kuk. Features the history of the Po Leung Kuk and the care and protection of women in Hong Kong.
5. The Hong Kong Racing Museum	1996	378 m <sup>2</sup>	2/F., Happy Valley Stand, Happy Valley, Hong Kong	Museum operated by the Hong Kong Jockey Club. Features the history of the Hong Kong Jockey Club and the history of horse racing in Hong Kong

	<b>Year opened</b>	<b>Exhibition Area</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Mode of Operation and Themes</b>
6. Hong Kong Museum of Medical Sciences	1996	700 m <sup>2</sup>	2 Caine Lane, Mid Levels, Hong Kong	Museum operated by a Board of Directors. Features the history of medical services in Hong Kong and artifacts related to medical sciences.
7. Museum of Ethnology	2000	757 m <sup>2</sup>	Tai Po Kau Interactive Nature Centre, 2 Hung Lam Drive, Tai Po, New Territories	Private museum. Features themes of ethnology and folk culture, in particular that of China, with artifacts and photographs.
8. Hong Kong Maritime Museum	2005	140 m <sup>2</sup>	G/F, Murray House, Stanley Plaza, Stanley, Hong Kong	Non-profit private museum operated by a Board of Directors. Features the maritime history of Hong Kong and thematic exhibitions related to the shipping industries.
9. Police Museum	1988	570 m <sup>2</sup>	27 Coombe Road, The Peak, Hong Kong	Government Department museum. Features the history of the Hong Kong Police with artifacts, photographs, guns, drugs and the history of the Triads, etc.
10. Hong Kong Correctional Services Museum	2004	480 m <sup>2</sup>	45 Tung Tau Wan Road, Stanley, Hong Kong	Government Department museum. Features history and provision of the Correctional Services Department.

**Attendance Figures of the Non-LCSD Museums (2003 – 2005)**

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