

政府總部
民政事務局

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GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT
HOME AFFAIRS BUREAU

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HONG KONG.

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27 April 2012

(Urgent by fax 2840 0716)

Ms Miranda Hon
Clerk, Public Accounts Committee
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Ms Miranda,
Dear Ms Hon,

**The Director of Audit's Report on the
results of value for money audits (Report No. 58)**

Youth Square (Chapter 8)

I refer to your letter of 23 April 2012 requesting information for the public hearing on the captioned Audit Report. Our replies to Questions No. 3, 6, 7, 8, 10 and 11 in your appendix are attached at Annex for your reference. We would provide you with the other information requested separately as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kitty Yu', written over a faint, larger signature.

(Ms Kitty YU)

for Secretary for Home Affairs

Encl.

c.c. Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Fax no. 2147 5239)
Director of Audit (Fax no. 2583 9063)

**Response to Questions on
Chapter 8 of Director of Audit's Report No. 58 on Youth Square
raised by the Public Accounts Committee on 23 April 2012**

Partial Response

Q3. What are the numbers of target and non-target users of the Y-Loft in the low seasons (February to June and October to mid-December) and peak seasons (mid-December to January and July to September) respectively?

A3. Y-Loft provides 148 hostel rooms, comprising 138 twin rooms, 8 triple rooms, 1 six-person room and 1 four-person duplex room. As the occupancy rate of Y-Loft is calculated on the basis of room-nights, the number of users is not available. Y-Loft has set a target mix of 40% for target users¹. The number of room-nights and percentages of target and non-target users for the contract years² 2010-11 and 2011-12 (up to March 2012) are as follows:

Month	Target Users		Non-target Users	
	Room nights	Percentage	Room nights	Percentage
May 2010	289	8%	3,477	92%
June 2010	89	3%	2,818	97%
July 2010	822	24%	2,683	76%
August 2010	1,943	51%	1,892	49%
September 2010	681	21%	2,643	79%
October 2010	283	8%	3,505	92%
November 2010	930	23%	2,972	77%
December 2010	1,161	29%	2,842	71%
January 2011	498	14%	3,138	86%
February 2011	573	18%	2,635	82%
March 2011	169	5%	3,208	95%
April 2011	216	6%	3,423	94%
May 2011	458	13%	3,036	87%
June 2011	762	23%	2,589	77%
July 2011	1,506	39%	2,376	61%
August 2011	2,291	63%	1,364	37%
September 2011	740	25%	2,193	75%
October 2011	1,276	37%	2,145	63%

¹ Target users include youth organizations and their members, and organizations conducting youth programmes at the Youth Square.

² The contract year starts from May and ends in April of the following year.

Month	Target Users		Non-target Users	
	Room nights	Percentage	Room nights	Percentage
November 2011	1,479	42%	2,011	58%
December 2011	1,498	41%	2,178	59%
January 2012	868	23%	2,912	77%
February 2012	1,315	35%	2,456	65%
March 2012	632	15%	3,670	85%

Q6. Please provide the membership list and minutes of meetings of the Management Advisory Committee.

A6. Please refer to **Annex I** (minutes of meeting are available in Chinese only).

Q7. Paragraph 4.3 of the Director of Audit's Report mentioned that the Audit Commission had interviewed five organizations involving in youth development work. Please provide the names of these organizations.

A7. According to the Audit Commission, it conducted interviews in December 2011 with five organizations which were actively engaged in youth development to collect their views on improving the management and operation of the Youth Square. During the interviews, the Audit Commission indicated to the organizations that their names would not be disclosed and the organizations agreed to be interviewed on this understanding. Therefore, the Audit Commission cannot provide the names of the five organizations concerned.

Q8 What is the relationship between the Management Advisory Committee and the management and operation services contractor? Which party is responsible for the selection of tenants? Which party is responsible for marketing?

A8. The Youth Square Management Advisory Committee (MAC) advises the Government on the operation of the Youth Square, including the overall strategy and objectives; themes and contents of youth development programmes; and the use, allocation, rental and fees of facilities. The MAC also assesses the effectiveness of youth development programmes of the Youth Square and monitors the performance of the contractor. The contractor is required to report regularly to the MAC on its operation strategy and work results.

All applications for leasing offices and retail shops in the Youth Square are vetted by the Rental Vetting Committee under the MAC according to the leasing policy adopted by the MAC. The meeting of the Rental Vetting Committee is chaired by a representative of Home Affairs Bureau, with members drawn from the MAC.

The management services contractor is responsible for the marketing of offices and retail shops.

Q10. Please provide the number of staff for the Youth Square.

A10. As at March 2012, there are 198 full-time employees working in the Youth Square, including 127 outsourced service employees.

Q11. Please provide the terms for leasing offices and retail shops.

A11. Please refer to **Annex II** (the terms of tenancy are available in English only).

**Home Affairs Bureau
Civic Affairs Division (1)
27 April 2012**

****Note by Clerk, PAC: The minutes of meetings of the Management Advisory Committee in Annex I and the standard tenancy agreements for the Youth Square's offices and retail shops in Annex II not attached.***

Youth Square Management Advisory Committee
Member List
(w.e.f. 1.1.2012)

Chairman	Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs
Ex-officio Members	Chairman, Commission on Youth <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. Bunny CHAN Chung-bun (陳振彬) Chairman, Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Joseph LEE Chung-tak (李宗德) Representative of Eastern District Council <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. KUNG Pak-cheung (龔栢祥) Representative of the Board of Management of the Chinese Permanent Cemeteries <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr. NG Kwok-tung (伍國棟)
Members	Ms Anna CHAN Chung-ying (陳頌瑛) Ms Bonnie CHAN Jo-ying (陳祖楹) Mr. CHAN Kai-ming (陳啟明) Mr. Tony CHENG Chung-fo (鄭重科) Dr. Edmond CHENG Kam-wah (鄭錦華) Ms. Amy FUNG Dun-mi (馮丹媚) Dr. Eddie HO Kang-wai (何鏡煒) Mr. Witman HUNG Wai-man (洪為民) Mr. KO Tin-lung (古天農) Ms Amy LEUNG Oi-mui (梁愛梅) Mr. PAU Shiu-hung (鮑紹雄) Mr. Eric TANG Sze-kin (鄧仕堅) Ms Alice YEUNG Kai-yan (楊啟恩) Mr. Adrian YIP Chun-to (葉振都) Ms YUNG Sau-mui (翁秀梅)
Representatives from Government Departments	Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs (1), HAB Principal Assistant Secretary (Civic Affairs)1, HAB (Secretary) Representative of Education Bureau Representative of Leisure and Cultural Services Department