

For information on  
13 February 2012

**LegCo Panel on Home Affairs and Panel on Development  
Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of  
the West Kowloon Cultural District Project**

**Role of the Consultation Panel of the West Kowloon Cultural  
District Authority**

**INTRODUCTION**

At different stages of the development of the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) project, the focus of the work of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (WKCDA) will change. The way in which the Consultation Panel (CP) contributes its advice will also be refined.

2. Members are invited to note the paper at **Annex**, prepared by the WKCDA, on the way forward in respect of the work of the CP.

**BACKGROUND**

3. In accordance with Section 20 of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority Ordinance, the WKCDA has established a CP, comprising members from different sectors, to gather views from the public on matters relevant to its functions. The guidelines and papers of the CP are available on the WKCDA's website. The CP's meetings are open to the public.

4. From 2009 to 2011, the main tasks of the CP were to plan the engagement programmes for preparation of the Development Plan for the WKCD, ensure the openness and transparency of these programmes, and report to the Board of the WKCDA on their progress. Upon the completion of the three-stage Public Engagement exercise, the CP will continue to promote the WKCD project to the public, and to channel public expectations and views on various aspects of WKCD development, such as cultural software development, dissemination of information on project milestones, use of open space, universal accessibility issues and involvement of

young people.

**Home Affairs Bureau**  
**February 2012**

**Paper from the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority**

**Role of the Consultation Panel of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority**

**PURPOSE**

This paper informs Members of the way forward in respect of the work of the Consultation Panel (CP) of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (WKCD) upon conclusion of the three-stage Public Engagement (PE) exercise.

**BACKGROUND**

2. Pursuant to Section 20 of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority Ordinance (Cap. 601), a CP consisting of members from different sectors was established in January 2009 to gather public views on matters relevant to the functions of the WKCD. According to the Ordinance, the WKCD shall from time to time issue guidelines in relation to the function of the Panel. The CP is to hold at least one meeting each year and any such meeting is to be open to the public. The guidelines and relevant meeting papers have been uploaded to the WKCD's website.

**CONTRIBUTION OF THE CONSULTATION PANEL**

3. As the first major task of the WKCD was to prepare the Development Plan (DP) for the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD), the CP was tasked to plan the PE exercise for the preparation of the DP, to review and report to the Board on the progress of the exercise, and to ensure that the consultation was conducted in an open and transparent manner.

4. Benefiting from the advice of the CP, a comprehensive three-stage PE exercise was conducted. During the Stage 1 PE exercise completed in early January 2010, the WKCD gauged the community's aspirations and expectations on the planning of the

WKCD as a whole, as well as stakeholders' views on the user requirements for the Core Arts and Cultural Facilities in the WKCD. The WKCDA launched the Stage 2 PE exercise in August 2010, during which views from the public and stakeholders on the three Conceptual Plan Options for the WKCD were solicited. Information on the proposed DP, modelled on the selected Conceptual Plan by Foster+Partners and incorporating desirable features from the other two conceptual plans, was exhibited in the Stage 3 PE exercise in October 2011 to facilitate collection of views for further refinement and to garner support for taking the project forward.

5. Eight CP meetings have been held since its establishment. CP members channeled views from their respective sectors and provided insightful ideas on both the broad directions and specifics of the PE exercise. Examples included enhancement of questionnaires, introduction of mobile applications, greater involvement of the education sector as well as organisation of tours for students, ethnic groups and persons with disabilities. With the contribution of CP members, the WKCDA managed to engage the public and stakeholders in a smooth, structured and participatory manner, raising public awareness and building up support for the implementation of the WKCD project.

## **WAY FORWARD**

6. Following the conclusion of the three-stage PE exercise, the focus of the work of WKCDA will continue to undergo some changes as the project progresses and hence the way in which the CP will continue to contribute its advice will also be refined accordingly.

7. In consultation with CP members, it is generally agreed that the CP should play the role as a bridge between the WKCDA and the public. The CP should continue to promote the WKCD project to the public to enhance their understanding of the project on the one hand, and to distill public expectations/views to the WKCDA on the other. Topics of interest to members include cultural software development, dissemination of information on project milestones, the use of open space and its interface with public art, universal accessibility issues as well as the engagement of young people as "co-owners" of the project. The CP will help the WKCDA to be better acquainted with the public expectations/ views on various aspects

of the work of WKCDA.

**West Kowloon Cultural District Authority**  
**February 2012**