

For information on
29 November 2011

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

Update on Stage 3 Public Engagement Exercise

INTRODUCTION

The Stage 3 Public Engagement (PE3) exercise for the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) commenced on 30 September 2011 and was concluded on 30 October 2011. The West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (the Authority) has prepared a paper, at **Annex**, to brief Members on the latest update on PE3.

2. Members are invited to note the paper at **Annex**.

BACKGROUND

3. The Authority has conducted a three-stage public engagement exercise for the preparation of the Development Plan (DP) for the WKCD. During the 3-month Stage 1 Public Engagement exercise completed in early January 2010, the Authority gauged the community's aspirations and expectations on the planning of the WKCD as a whole, as well as the views of stakeholders on the user requirements for the Core Arts and Cultural Facilities in the WKCD. During the 3-month Stage 2 Public Engagement exercise launched in August 2010, the Authority solicited public and stakeholders' views on the three Conceptual Plan Options for the WKCD.

4. After selection of the preferred Conceptual Plan in March 2011, the Authority has enhanced the selected Conceptual Plan by incorporating

desirable features from the other two conceptual plans as appropriate. Information on the proposed DP was unveiled in PE3 to facilitate collection of public and stakeholders' views and to seek support for the WKCD project to move forward.

5. The Authority targets to submit the DP to the Town Planning Board for consideration around end of 2011.

Home Affairs Bureau

November 2011

Paper from the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority

Update on Stage 3 Public Engagement Exercise

PURPOSE

This paper aims to update Members on the Stage 3 Public Engagement (PE3) exercise for the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD).

STAGE 3 PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT EXERCISE

2. PE3 commenced on 30 September 2011 and was concluded on 30 October 2011. During PE3, the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (the Authority) presented the refined Conceptual Plan and information on the proposed Development Plan (DP) to the public, anchored with an exhibition at the Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre in Kowloon Park. Based on Foster + Partners' **City Park** design selected in March 2011, the proposed DP has incorporated desirable features of the other two Conceptual Plan Options unveiled in the Stage 2 Public Engagement Exercise.

3. PE3 exhibition drew enthusiastic response from the public and stakeholders, receiving close to 19,000 visitors for the month-long event. Guided tours were arranged to facilitate visitors and enhance their understanding about the proposed DP. In addition to the daily guided tours for the general public, 32 school tours were organised, totalling more than 1,100 participating students. Nine special guided tours were arranged for various groups and organisations, including consuls-general, members of the Legislative Council, the Subcommittee on Access of the Rehabilitation Advisory Committee, Town Planning Board and Hong Kong General

Chamber of Commerce.

4. The Authority also organised a series of engagement events for the public and stakeholders -- two DP presentation sessions; one town hall meeting for Yau Tsim Mong community leaders and residents; eight arts and culture seminars/roundtable discussions for key stakeholders; as well as a one-day conference for professional groups. PE3 ended with a dedicated get-together with the youth during which participants were briefed on what the future cultural district will have in store for them and had an opportunity to express their aspirations. Audio recordings and transcripts of these events have been uploaded to the Authority's website to ensure transparency of the process. In addition, the Authority also met with the Children's Rights Forum and the Harbourfront Commission Task Force to collect their views.

5. More than 1,000 documents were received during PE3, with the return of 944 engagement pamphlets marked with comments, to be analysed by the Public Policy Research Institute (PPRI) of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, the Analysis and Reporting Consultant appointed by the Authority. While the submissions are being independently analysed, general response to the proposed DP as demonstrated in the engagement events, such as the Yau Tsim Mong District Council and other public forums, was supportive.

6. PPRI is expected to complete its analysis and produce a report towards the end of 2011.

West Kowloon Cultural District Authority

November 2011