

Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs

Culture and Heritage Commission Policy Recommendation Report:

Government Response

INTRODUCTION

This paper informs Members of the Government's response to the policy recommendations of the Culture and Heritage Commission. A copy of the Government Response issued on 27 February 2004 is attached.

BACKGROUND

The Culture and Heritage Commission (the Commission) is a high-level advisory body set up in 2000 to advise the Government on the policies as well as funding priorities on culture and the arts. Its key responsibility is to formulate a set of principles and strategies to promote the long-term cultural development in Hong Kong. After two rounds of public consultations, the Commission submitted its Policy Recommendation Report (the Report) to the Government in April 2003.

THE RESPONSE

When the Report was received, the Government was paying full attention in combating SARS and dealing with related issues. As a result, the response to the Report was delayed. After the crisis, the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) conducted a detailed study on over a hundred recommendations of the Report. At the same time, HAB also made reference to the consultancy reports commissioned by the Government on performance venues, libraries and museums, which were submitted to HAB in early 2003, mid-2003 and late 2003 respectively, after public consultations.

**Home Affairs Bureau
February 2004**

Culture and Heritage Commission Policy Recommendation Report:

Government Response

The Culture and Heritage Commission (The Commission), established in April 2000, is a high-level advisory body responsible for advising the government on the policies as well as funding priorities on culture and the arts. After three years of unflinching efforts, the Commission submitted the "Culture and Heritage Commission Policy Recommendation Report" to the government in April 2003, putting forward more than one hundred recommendations which cover overall policies as well as specific implementation strategies.

2. When the Report was received, the government was paying full attention in combating SARS and dealing with related issues. As a result, the response to the report was delayed. After the crisis, the Home Affairs Bureau conducted a detailed study on over a hundred recommendations therein. At the same time, we also made reference to the consultancy reports commissioned by the government on performance venues, libraries and museums, which were submitted to the Bureau in early 2003, mid-2003 and end 2003 respectively after public consultations.

3. The Culture and Heritage Commission Policy Recommendation Report will shape the long-term cultural development in Hong Kong. A table detailing our response to individual recommendations of the Report is at Annex. The main points are summarized as follows:

Strategies

4. We recognise and accept the six strategies put forward by the Commission for promoting the long-term cultural development in Hong Kong: “people-oriented”, “pluralism”, “freedom of expression and protection of intellectual property”, “holistic approach”, “partnership” and “community-driven”.

Hong Kong’s Cultural Position

5. The Commission’s position on the cultural identity, cultural literacy and social environment are crucial to the promotion of long-term cultural development in Hong Kong. We believe that Hong Kong people’s cultural affiliation with China is a process which takes time. The government will facilitate this process through civic education and other means, in order to nurture a strong cultural identity, a sense of belonging and pride towards Hong Kong, and with a view to strengthening our social cohesiveness. We concur that Hong Kong people’s cultural identity should start from local culture, be grounded in Chinese cultural traditions, and possess a global vision.

Education in Culture and the Arts

6. We fully agree that education in culture and the arts for Hong Kong people (in particular the youth) plays a pivotal role in the long-term cultural development in Hong Kong. We are pleased that the Commission has put forward many important policy recommendations in this regard, including:

- a coherent and continuous arts education curriculum to close the gap in arts education beyond the junior secondary level and strengthen visual arts training at the tertiary level;
- a diversified and comprehensive curriculum in culture and the arts;

- strengthening arts teacher training and providing quality support in improving education in culture and the arts; and
- the promotion of arts education among the youth through inducing parents' resources and developing strategic partnerships.

7. We accept the above policy recommendations and have already set up a task force with the Education and Manpower Bureau for follow-up actions. In addition, we agree that the Music Office should assume a more prominent role in arts education. We will conduct an indepth study on the functions and mode of operation of the Music Office with a view to strengthening collaboration with schools and the community. We also recognise the significant influence of the media on education in culture and the arts. We will encourage the media to provide more coverage in culture and the arts, through different means.

Cultural Facilities

8. We agree to the principle of developing the character of cultural venues. As performance venues are also used by non-arts groups and individuals for the purpose of holding activities, we will launch a public consultation on the introduction of "arts groups-in-residence" programme to take into account the views of the community. Meanwhile, we strive to promote the use of venues other than dedicated performance venues for cultural activities, including the encouragement of schools to open up their facilities for cultural activities and the provision of cultural and performance facilities in new school premises. We will also introduce a Private Sector Finance (PSF) pilot scheme, in which the private sector will finance, construct and operate a leisure and cultural facility in Kwun Tong. We intend to submit the proposal to the District Council and the Town Planning Board for consideration in mid-2004.

Resource Deployment and Institutional Framework

9. We agree that recommendations on resource deployment and institutional framework should respond to and affirm the six strategies put forward by the Commission. We recognise that resources have been skewed towards the performing arts in the past. On the premises of not affecting the long-term development of the performing arts, we will gradually deploy more resources to the following five areas: heritage conservation, libraries, museums, promotion at district level and raising professional standard.

10. The Commission has depicted the long-term development of the cultural institutional framework in Hong Kong. We will carefully examine and give due consideration to all relevant factors, including protection of cultural rights of the public, impact on the cultural scene, quality and continuity of public cultural service, retention of cultural professionals, cost effectiveness, interest and legitimate rights of staff, as well as public views.

11. The government has been managing most of the cultural facilities for historical reasons. We agree that we should strengthen the involvement of the community in the management of public cultural facilities to forge partnership with the community. We will set up Libraries Advisory Committee, Museums Advisory Committee and Performing Arts Advisory Committee as soon as practicable, so that we could further solicit public views in managing the facilities and providing the services. These Advisory Committees will be responsible to the Secretary for Home Affairs, providing assistance in following up the government response.

Heritage Conservation

12. We agree that heritage conservation is an essential part of any cultural policy. It is the government's responsibility to make long-term commitment to heritage conservation. Therefore, in 2003, we launched a comprehensive and systematic review on antiquities and monuments in order to examine how heritage conservation could be carried out effectively. We find that the existing policy in built heritage conservation faces the following problems:

- ◆ Public consensus and community support to heritage conservation needs to be enhanced.
- ◆ There is no comprehensive approach to systematically assess and select heritage items for protection.
- ◆ The Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance is rather inflexible in that it provides only one form of conservation (i.e. to declare buildings as monuments).
- ◆ It is difficult to conserve a whole street or an area when some buildings within it do not meet the stringent requirements for declaration.
- ◆ High land price makes the built heritage conservation extremely difficult.
- ◆ Economic incentives are insufficient.

13. We need to formulate a holistic approach that will enable Hong Kong to take a comprehensive view on what and how many heritage items are to be conserved, as well as to see through the whole conservation process from identification of heritage items for conservation to adaptive re-use and management. As the review involves complicated issues like public interest, private property rights and community building, we need social consensus and community support. Accordingly, we will conduct public consultations in stages. We have commenced the first stage consultation in February 2004, which focuses on broad policy concepts and core issues.

14. Following the conclusion of the first stage consultation, we will consolidate the views collected for further consideration, in order to formulate built heritage conservation policy for implementation. Having formulated detailed implementation measures, we will launch the second stage public consultation.

Cultural Exchange

15. We agree to the Commission's strategic suggestions on the role and partners of cultural exchange as well as the importance of "city to city" exchanges for Hong Kong. Therefore, we took the initiative and signed an agreement on Pearl River Delta cultural co-operation with the Guangdong Province and Macao in August 2003. We have held summits and meetings in Guangzhou, Hong Kong and Macao respectively to strengthen collaboration and exchanges in the following five areas:

- ◆ exchange and training of talents for performing arts;
- ◆ exchange of cultural information and co-operation on ticketing network;
- ◆ development of museum network and the excavation, conservation and promotion of heritage;
- ◆ co-operation and exchange in digital libraries network; and
- ◆ promotion of Cantonese Opera.

Besides, we also organised the first ever "Asia Cultural Co-operation Forum" in September 2003, and reached consensus with cultural ministers of Asian countries on cultural co-operation.

Creative Industries

16. We agree that under a knowledge-based economy, cultural activities are possible means to give momentum to economic development. Hong Kong remains a remarkably free and open port of cultural exchange. With its unique geographical location and advanced information networks, the city possesses favourable conditions for developing creative industries. The government's overall policy in promoting creative industries is to improve the business environment, safeguard a free economy, induce local and overseas business investments, and forge partnership between "creative talents" and "entrepreneurs". The government will not make direct investment in or provide special privileges to any particular business. The role of the government is to provide a necessary level-playing business environment for creative industries to flourish. All in all, the government's key policies are to strengthen arts education, to enhance co-operation between cultural and business sectors, to foster regional collaborations and to carry out research and development.

West Kowloon Cultural District

17. We agree that the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) development presents an unprecedented opportunity for a new horizon of cultural development in Hong Kong. We also agreed that emphasis should be given to the principles of "people-oriented", "partnership" and "community-driven" in the planning and development of WKCD. We will forge partnerships between developers and the community (particularly the cultural sector) to facilitate community involvement in the planning and operation of the cultural facilities in WKCD.

Conclusion

18. The Culture and Heritage Commission Policy Recommendation Report depicts our future cultural scene, serving as an important reference for the cultural development in Hong Kong. It is imperative that any policy needs to be timely and readily adaptable to the changing social environment. We will follow up on the policy recommendations of the Report. We will also endeavour to foster inter-departmental collaboration, and to induce and consolidate community support for creating an environment conducive to the vibrant development of culture and the arts in Hong Kong.

Home Affairs Bureau
February 2004

Recommendation	Response
Chapter 1: Background	
<p>1. Affirming the notions of “people-oriented”, pluralism”, “freedom of expression and protection of intellectual property”, “holistic approach”, “partnership” and “community-driven” as the strategies for cultural development. [paragraphs 1.21-1.22]</p>	<p>– Accepted.</p>
Chapter 2: Hong Kong’s Cultural Position	
<p>1. Recognising that Hong Kong culture has its origin in traditional Chinese culture. Hong Kong people’s cultural identity should start from local culture, be grounded in Chinese cultural traditions, and possess a global vision. As a Special Administrative Region of China, Hong Kong should position itself as a metropolis in China which is most capable of bridging China and the world. [paragraphs 2.10 to 2.13]</p>	<p>– Accepted.</p>
Chapter 3: Education in Culture and the Arts	
<p>I. A Coherent and Continuous Curriculum</p> <p>There is an obvious gap in arts education beyond the junior secondary level, and provision of visual arts training at the tertiary level is also inadequate. There should be coherence and continuity in the arts education curriculum. [3.11]</p>	

Recommendation	Response
<p>1. Enhancing collaboration among schools within “school villages” and among neighbouring schools to resolve the difficulties of resource deployment and inadequate number of students for arts classes at senior secondary level.</p>	<p>– Accepted. The Education and Manpower Bureau (EMB) agrees to encourage sharing of venues and “software” resources among “school villages” and neighbouring schools.</p>
<p>2. Encouraging the setting up of senior secondary schools which focus on culture and the arts.</p>	<p>– Accepted. EMB has followed up the recommendation. A senior secondary school which focuses on creativity and the arts is planned to be set up in 2005.</p>
<p>3. Encouraging universities to take into greater account students’ achievement in culture and the arts during their admission process.</p>	<p>– Accepted. Universities have responded positively.</p>
<p>4. Conducting a comprehensive review on the provision of arts training (including the performing arts and visual arts) at tertiary level, and taking follow up action on the recommendation of establishing a visual arts academy.</p>	<p>– Accepted in principle. Will further discuss the recommendation with EMB, tertiary institutions and other education organisations.</p>

Recommendation	Response
<p>5. Providing arts programmes through community colleges.</p>	<p>– Accepted. Will follow up the recommendation with EMB. EMB has introduced the Career Oriented Diversified Curriculum (CODC) to senior secondary schools and invited the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education and the Caritas Adult and Higher Education Service of Vocational Training Council to provide the service including the provision of arts-related courses. In addition, the HKU School of Professional and Continuing Education, the CUHK School of Continuing Studies, the OUHK Li Ka Shing Institute of Professional and Continuing Education, the Caritas Institute for Further and Adult Education, the Hong Kong Arts Centre, the First Institute of Art and Design and other institutions also provide a wide range of arts education programmes in different levels, including certificate, diploma, degree and master's degree courses.</p>

Recommendation	Response
<p data-bbox="188 236 553 288">II. A Diversified and Comprehensive Curriculum</p> <p data-bbox="232 316 586 400">A diversified and balanced curriculum in culture and the arts is essential. [3.13-3.14]</p> <p data-bbox="232 427 586 592">6. Broadening the scope of curriculum to include disciplines other than music and art (such as dance, drama and multi-media art).</p> <p data-bbox="232 900 586 1064">7. For contents, avoiding placing too much emphasis on western art forms and striving for nurturing students' overall cultural literacy.</p>	<p data-bbox="624 427 997 868">– Accepted. EMB encourages schools to broaden the scope of curriculum and has issued the Arts Education KLA Curriculum Guide (P1 to P3) in 2002 to encourage schools to develop a balanced arts curriculum for students to derive diversified arts experiences in the course of learning. In addition to music and visual arts, schools should gradually introduce other arts forms with a view to extending the scope of arts learning.</p> <p data-bbox="624 900 997 1123">– Accepted. EMB will enhance the existing measures and encourage schools to select suitable teaching material in order to provide students with comprehensive means of acquiring cultural knowledge.</p>

Recommendation	Response
<p>8. Encouraging the development of more comprehensive recognition systems to cover a wide variety of arts disciplines at different levels.</p>	<p>– Accepted. Will follow up the recommendation with EMB, professional bodies and community groups. Currently, a variety of recognition systems for music, dance and dramas are provided by various institutions and organisations, such as Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority, Trinity College of London, Royal Academy of Dance, Associated Board of Royal Schools of Music and Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto.</p>
<p>9. Encouraging and supporting other recognition activities of a non-assessment nature.</p>	<p>– Accepted. Will follow up the recommendation with EMB, professional bodies and community groups. EMB runs the Hong Kong School Dance Festival, the Hong Kong School Drama Festival and the Hong Kong School Music Festival on an annual basis and provides subvention to the Hong Kong Schools Music and Speech Association for music festivals, Cantonese opera and music competitions and speech festivals. Recognition activities of various art forms of a non-assessment nature are also provided by community groups.</p>

Recommendation	Response
<p>10. Setting up a mechanism to identify and nurture students gifted with artistic abilities.</p>	<p>– Accepted in principle. Will follow up the recommendation with LCSD, EMB, tertiary institutions and community groups.</p>
<p>11. Allocating resources for the study, promotion and development of art-in-education.</p>	<p>– Accepted in principle. Will follow up the recommendation.</p>
<p>III. Quality Support</p>	
<p>Providing the necessary quality support in improving education in culture and the arts. [3.16-3.17]</p>	
<p>12. Devoting more resources to the pre-service training of arts teachers .</p>	<p>– Accepted. Will follow up the recommendation with EMB and the Hong Kong Institute of Education.</p>
<p>13. Enhancing the training of in-service teachers (those in primary schools in particular) with the goal of gradual provision of trained teachers in art classes in all schools.</p>	<p>– Accepted. Will follow up the recommendation with EMB. EMB has commissioned the Hong Kong Institute of Education to provide training for untrained music and visual arts teachers in primary schools. The number of trained music and visual arts teachers in primary schools is growing. EMB and education institutes will continue to provide diversified training programmes to enhance the quality of in-service arts teachers. Schools will be encouraged to help untrained arts teachers obtain professional qualifications through studies and training.</p>

Recommendation	Response
<p>14. Training “teaching artists” to support arts teachers in schools.</p>	<p>– Accepted. Will follow up the recommendation with EMB, the Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC), the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, the Hong Kong Institute of Education and relevant cultural and arts groups.</p>
<p>15. Strengthening collaboration between tertiary institutions and cultural organisations for the development of new modes of teaching and the production of teaching materials for primary and secondary schools.</p>	<p>– Accepted. Will follow up the recommendation with EMB, tertiary institutions, HKADC and relevant cultural and arts groups.</p>
<p>16. Reviewing the arts teachers’ training programmes at the Institute of Education, in order to cater for a higher standard of arts education.</p>	<p>– Accepted in principle. Will follow up the recommendation with EMB and the Hong Kong Institute of Education.</p>
<p>17. Taking the lead in motivating the public to appreciate the importance of education in culture and the arts, such as recognising outstanding educators in culture and arts and providing teachers with incentives and concessions to participate in cultural activities.</p>	<p>– Accepted. Will step up this area of work. Under the concessionary scheme of LCSD, teachers accompanying students to join the performing arts or museum activities exclusively held for schools enjoy the same privilege as that of students. Teachers may apply “Teacher’s Pass” for free admission to museums managed by LCSD.</p>

Recommendation	Response
<p>IV. Partnerships and Community Involvement</p> <p>Promoting culture and arts education among the youth through inducing parents' resources and developing strategic partnerships. [3.20-3.25]</p> <p><u>The family as the driving force</u></p> <p>18. Helping parents to understand that diversity and creativity in arts education is beneficial to the development of their children.</p> <p>19. Providing parents with information on cultural and arts programmes and educational activities through better collaboration among EMB, LCSD and non-government organisations.</p> <p>20. Helping parents to understand and support different artistic interests and abilities of their children through a diverse range of assessment and recognition systems.</p>	<p>– Accepted.</p> <p>– Accepted. With a view to enriching parents' knowledge of cultural and arts programmes, family events are currently staged by LCSD in summer vacation and festive days to encourage family participation. We will step up this area of work.</p> <p>– Accepted.</p>

Recommendation	Response
<p><u>The school as platform</u></p> <p>21. Conducting a comprehensive review on the functions and mode of operation of the Music Office to facilitate development of school-based music (or other art forms) training.</p> <p>22. Strengthening collaboration among the government, cultural institutions and district organisations to use school (or district) facilities for cultural and arts activities that involve students as artists / performers (and parents as audience).</p>	<p>– Accepted. Since 2003, LCSD has used a school in Tin Shui Wai for implementing a pilot scheme to provide school-based instrumental music training.</p> <p>– Accepted. LCSD will enhance school-based activities, such as School Arts Animateur Scheme, and specially design arts education activities that will be held in the facilities of participating schools.</p>
<p><u>Motivating community involvement</u></p> <p>23. Strengthening collaboration among EMB, LCSD, cultural institutions, District Councils and district bodies to organise more arts education activities at territory-wide and district levels.</p>	<p>– Accepted.</p>

Recommendation	Response
<p>24. Promoting the concept of “cultural volunteers” and motivating the community to support students’ activities.</p>	<p>– Accepted. LCSD launched the Cultural Services Volunteers Scheme in 2002 to involve volunteers in organising various types of arts education activities. Around 600 voluntary docents are recruited to provide service at their spare time in LCSD museums. Publicity will be enhanced to attract wider participation.</p>
<p>25. Establishing mechanism in providing subsidies for extra-curricular arts activities to students in need.</p>	<p>– Accepted in principle. Will follow up the recommendation with EMB. The Hong Kong Jockey Club Music and Dance Fund and the Jockey Club Life-wide Learning Fund provide subsidies to students in need for their participation in extra-curricular arts activities. EMB provides schools with more flexibility in the use of resources and in provision of subsidies to students in need for their participation in extra-curricular arts activities through the Quality Education Fund, the Operating Expenses Block Grant for aided schools and the Capacity Enhancement Grant.</p>
<p>26. Conducting a review on the government’s support to arts education for pre-school children.</p>	<p>– Accepted. Will follow up the recommendation.</p>

Recommendation	Response
<p><u>Others</u> [3.26]</p> <p>27. HAB and EMB to set up a task force to follow up the key recommendations.</p>	<p>– Accepted. A task force has been set up.</p>
<p><u>Role of the Mass Media</u> [3.27-3.29]</p> <p>28. Encouraging the media to provide more coverage on culture and the arts.</p> <p>29. Exploring the feasibility of setting up local television and radio channels dedicated to culture, arts, technology and education programmes.</p> <p>30. Strengthening media education in schools and encouraging students to study, assess and evaluate the mass media.</p>	<p>– Accepted.</p> <p>– Accepted in principle. Broadcasting organisations has provided diversified broadcasting services including TV and radio channels on technology, culture and the arts, and education. HKADC is working on a proposal to introduce a cultural TV channel, in cooperation of broadcasting organisations.</p> <p>– Accepted in principle. Will follow up the recommendation with EMB. EMB encourages schools to strengthen media education. One of the major objectives of education reform is to develop the generic skills of students, including their critical thinking and ability to assess and evaluate the mass media. The theme of media education are incorporated in a number of subjects, e.g. General Studies and Integrated Humanities.</p>

Recommendation	Response
<p>31. Encouraging schools, families and community groups to initiate discussions and debates on issues such as ethics, human rights, family and social responsibilities.</p>	<p>– Accepted in principle.</p>
Chapter 4: Cultural Facilities	
<p>I. Libraries [4.9-4.13]</p> <p>1. Positioning public libraries as a place where citizens are encouraged to acquire knowledge, broaden their horizons and improve themselves.</p> <p>2. Deploying resources to enhance the cultural atmosphere of the society, in particular, to promote the pursuit of knowledge and the love of reading so that libraries become a venue for a variety of cultural activities.</p>	<p>– Accepted.</p> <p>– Accepted. Existing measures / activities will be enhanced. A number of activities on reading currently organised by LCSD libraries include large-scale annual reading promotion campaign held in summer vacation, reading clubs formed in libraries, reading carnivals and Ten Recommended Good Books, etc.</p>

Recommendation	Response
<p>3. Helping some libraries focus on certain themes in their collections (for example business, computer, children books) so that individual libraries develop their own character and achieve greater cost-effectiveness</p>	<p>– Accepted. Recommendations being implemented by phases. Apart from developing the Hong Kong City Hall Library and the Kowloon Public Library into a business and trade library and an education resources centre respectively, LCSD will also consider developing the Sha Tin Public Library and the Tsuen Wan Public Library into thematic libraries.</p>
<p>4. Raising the number of librarians (through training and internal transfer in the short term; and to consider direct recruitment of librarians in the long run).</p>	<p>– Accepted in principle. Will follow up recommendation subject to resources implication.</p>
<p>5. Establishing close partnership with the education and cultural sectors.</p>	<p>– Accepted. Existing measures / activities will be enhanced.</p>
<p>6. Establishing a statutory body - a “Libraries Board” to manage public libraries</p>	<p>– Will carefully examine and give due consideration to all relevant factors. Initially, we will set up Libraries Advisory Committee, so that we could further solicit views of professionals, the education sector and parents on library service and to enhance community involvement and support for further development.</p>

Recommendation	Response
<p>II. Museums [4.17-4.24]</p> <p>7. Re-aligning museum collections so that individual museums have their own identities.</p> <p>8. Establishing “flagship” museums so as to showcase the cultural characteristics of Hong Kong and the region.</p> <p>9. Introducing measures that encourage the development of small-scale thematic museum .</p> <p>10. Introducing measures that encourage loan or donation of collections .</p> <p>11. Utilising museum space for seeking sponsorships (such as staging non-exhibition activities, and offering naming rights) as commercial sponsorship.</p>	<p>– Accepted and implemented gradually. The proposal for re-aligning collections in LCSD museums completed and re-alignment work started.</p> <p>– Accepted. Will follow up the recommendation.</p> <p>– Accepted.</p> <p>– Accepted. LCSD will enhance the practice of seeking local private collections on loan for exhibition. “Metal, Wood, Water, Fire and Earth: Gems of Antiquities Collections in Hong Kong” held at Museum of Art is an example.</p> <p>– Accepted and implemented gradually.</p>

Recommendation	Response
<p>12. Strengthening collaboration with the academic sector in the areas of exhibition planning and thematic studies (on the local culture in particular).</p>	<p>– Accepted. Will strengthen existing collaboration. Museum activities and exhibitions held by LCSD have been supported by tertiary institutions. There is frequent research collaboration between museums and tertiary institutions.</p>
<p>13. Strengthening collaboration and exchanges of expertise with other museums.</p>	<p>– Accepted. Will strengthen existing collaboration. There is frequent collaboration of LCSD museums with museums in Mainland China as well as overseas museums in organising activities and exhibitions, where support obtained, say, to get loaned collections for temporary exhibitions.</p>
<p>14. Hong Kong has the potential to be developed into an exhibition, trading and authentication centre for Chinese heritage and arts.</p>	<p>– Accepted in principle. Will follow up the recommendation with the trade and implement through market mechanism.</p>
<p>15. Establishing a statutory body, a “Museums Board”, to coordinate the overall development of museums, to define the roles of individual museums and to determine the allocation of government resources.</p>	<p>– Will carefully examine and give due consideration to all relevant factors. Initially we will set up Museums Advisory Committee to solicit views of professionals, the commercial sector and the education sector on museum service; to facilitate community involvement and support; and to induce resources for enhanced variety and quality of museum exhibitions.</p>
<p>16. Establishing a board of trustees responsible for the management and resource development of public museums.</p>	<p>– Will carefully examine and give due consideration to all relevant factors. Initially we will set up Museums Advisory Committee to solicit views of professionals, the commercial sector and the education sector on museum service; to facilitate community involvement and support; and to induce resources for enhanced variety and quality of museum exhibitions.</p>

Recommendation	Response
<p>17. Changing the management structure of museums for strengthening the curatorial role.</p>	<p>– Accepted. Will gradually implemented in the process of re-alignment.</p>
<p>III. Cultural and Performance Venues [4.28-4.31]</p>	
<p>18. Classifying the venues managed by LCSD into “territory-wide / thematic venues” and “district venues”.</p>	<p>– Accepted in principle. Further study on the recommendation and implementation details is required to see if such classification would cause problems in venue booking and ineffectiveness in the utilization of resources.</p>
<p>19. Introducing community involvement by stages in the operation of LCSD venues. Outsourcing the management (including programming) of a major venue as a pilot scheme.</p>	<p>– Further study on the recommendation required. LCSD is planning to introduce a new leisure and cultural facility in Kwun Tong under the Private Sector Finance (PSF) pilot scheme.</p>
<p>20. Introducing "arts groups-in-residence" for programming responsibility to selected territory-wide / thematic venues through tender.</p>	<p>– Accepted in principle. Will follow up the recommendation. In 2002, the Programme Partnership Scheme was introduced in two civic centres managed by LCSD, with a view to providing local art groups with the opportunity of staging events while maximizing the use of venues. The Scheme has been extended to four civic centres in 2003. We will also launch a public consultation on an "arts groups-in-residence" proposal to gauge the views of the community.</p>

Recommendation	Response
<p>21. Inviting District Councils and district cultural and arts bodies to participate in the management of district venues (including programming, rental policy and application approval).</p>	<p>– Further study on the recommendation required. Performing Arts Affairs Advisory Committee will be initially set up to solicit the views of the community, the performing arts sector and the education sector on performing arts service (including venue management and programming) and to enhance community involvement and support for further improvement.</p>
<p>22. Deploying resources for improving the facilities of certain district venues.</p>	<p>– Accepted in principle. Will follow up the recommendation.</p>
<p><u>Create Cultural Space</u> [4.33]</p>	
<p>23. Encouraging the use of venues other than performance venues for cultural activities.</p>	<p>– Accepted.</p>
<p>24. Encouraging schools to open up their facilities for cultural activities.</p>	<p>– Accepted and implemented gradually.</p>
<p>25. Encouraging the provision of cultural and performance facilities in the design of new school premises.</p>	<p>– Accepted in principle. Will follow up the recommendation with EMB.</p>

Recommendation	Response
<p>26. Supporting and encouraging public bodies and commercial enterprises to open up their premises for cultural activities.</p>	<p>– Accepted and implemented gradually. Through Cultural Ambassadors Scheme and Arts Fair, LCSD manages to provide art groups with more opportunities of staging cultural activities at both public and private venues.</p>
<p>27. Developing “cultural parks” for holding regular activities such as performances, exhibitions and chess games.</p>	<p>– Accepted in principle. Will follow up the recommendation.</p>
<p>28. Encouraging private developers to provide cultural and arts facilities in their developments through measures such as relaxing plot ratios and exempting cultural facilities from floor area calculations.</p>	<p>– Will follow up the feasibility of the recommendation with the Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau (HPLB).</p>
<p>29. Relaxing regulations on the use of industrial buildings for cultural activities including rehearsals, exhibitions and performances.</p>	<p>– Will follow up the feasibility of the recommendation with HPLB.</p>

Chapter 5: Review on Resource Deployment and Institutional Framework

<p>I. Basic Principles</p> <p><u>People-oriented</u> [5.2-5.3]</p> <p>1. Encouraging citizens to fulfil their needs for cultural pursuits and to realise their potential in the arts.</p>	<p>– Accepted.</p>
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Recommendation	Response
<p>2. Government continuing to commit resources on education in culture and the arts.</p>	<p>– Accepted.</p>
<p><u>Pluralism</u> [5.4]</p>	
<p>3. Hong Kong people should increase their understanding of, and identification with, Chinese culture and recognise the major role of non-Chinese communities in developing the diverse culture of Hong Kong.</p>	<p>– Accepted.</p>
<p>4. The government should not favour certain art forms, but should provide adequate support to certain forms of high culture and avant garde artistic expressions.</p>	<p>– Accepted.</p>
<p>5. Encouraging creativity in culture and the arts and the integration of popular culture and high art.</p>	<p>– Accepted.</p>
<p><u>Freedom of expression and Protection of Intellectual Property</u> [5.6]</p>	
<p>6. Striving to sustain achievements in freedom of artistic expression and protection of intellectual property.</p>	<p>– Accepted.</p>

Recommendation	Response
<p>7. Government seeking to bring down the obstacles to provide more opportunities for citizens to express and develop their creativity.</p>	<p>– Accepted.</p>
<p><u>Holistic Approach</u> [5.7]</p>	
<p>8. All government departments working together to promote cultural development and enhance co-ordination.</p>	<p>– Accepted. HAB will initiate inter-departmental collaboration and co-ordination.</p>
<p><u>Partnership</u> [5.8-5.9]</p>	
<p>9. Government forging partnerships with cultural and arts bodies so as to increase community involvement.</p>	<p>– Accepted.</p>
<p>10. Government introducing measures (such as relaxing the restrictions on venue naming rights and awarding recognition to cultural sponsorships and contributors) to encourage the business sector to support and participate in cultural activities.</p>	<p>– Accepted and implemented gradually.</p>
<p><u>Community-driven</u> [5.10]</p>	
<p>11. Government continuing to allocate sufficient resources during the gradual transition to “community-driven” situation.</p>	<p>– Accepted.</p>

Recommendation	Response
12. Allowing civil servants to play an important role during the transition.	– Accepted.
13. Government continuing to make broad-based policies and deploy resources for cultural development as well as enhancing inter-departmental collaboration.	– Accepted.
14. Government gradually shifting from the role of an “administrator” to a “facilitator” at the operational level.	– Accepted and implemented gradually.
II. Proposals on Resource Deployment [5.27]	
15. Deploying more resources to heritage conservation.	– Accepted and implemented gradually.
16. Deploying more resources to libraries to promote reading.	– Accepted and implemented gradually.
17. Deploying more resources to museums for temporary exhibitions and promotional activities .	– Accepted and implemented gradually.

Recommendation	Response
<p>18. Deploying resources to improve district venues and to support district cultural and arts organisations .</p>	<p>– Accepted in principle. Will follow up the recommendation. To provide District Councils with more flexibility in organising district cultural activities, LCSD has transferred District Cultural Project Grants Scheme to the Home Affairs Department since 2001. Meanwhile, LCSD will continue providing free venues and discount scheme to support district cultural activities.</p>
<p>19. Strengthening the respective professional teams through internal training or direct recruitment.</p>	<p>– Accepted in principle. Will follow up the recommendation subject to resources implication.</p>
<p>III. Proposals on Institutional Framework [5.29-5.38]</p>	
<p>20. Establishing a “Culture and Arts Foundation”, a statutory body responsible for funding local arts groups and cultural activities.</p>	<p>– Will carefully examine and give due consideration to all relevant factors. Initially, we will set up Libraries Advisory Committee, Museums Advisory Committee and Performing Arts Advisory Committee to enhance community involvement in the management of public cultural facilities.</p>
<p>21. The Foundation should take into account the six basic principles in processing funding applications,.</p>	
<p>22. Gradually transforming ADC into the proposed “Culture and Arts Foundation”, with resources deployed from LCSD.</p>	

Recommendation	Response
<p>23. Considering expanding and enhancing the functions of AAB.</p> <p>24. Considering the need for setting up a consultative body as a replacement (for the Culture and Heritage Commission) to advise HAB on the implementation of policy recommendations .</p> <p>25. Creating a dedicated post of “Commissioner for Culture”.</p> <p>26. Giving due consideration to the transitional arrangement for the staff affected when implementing the new institutional framework (Staff may opt for keeping original terms of employment).</p>	<p>– To be considered in Heritage Conservation Policy Review.</p> <p>– Further study required.</p> <p>– Further study required.</p> <p>– Accepted.</p>
Chapter 6: An International Cultural Metropolis	
<p>I. Heritage Conservation [6.5-6.9]</p> <p>1. Paying due consideration to cultural landscape in both the planning of new towns and the redevelopment of urban areas.</p> <p>2. According cultural use the highest priority in the use of historical buildings.</p>	<p>– Accepted in principle. Will follow up the recommendation.</p> <p>– Accepted in principle. Will follow up the recommendation.</p>

Recommendation	Response
3. Promoting cultural tourism through linking heritage sites in Hong Kong with those in the Pearl River Delta.	– Accepted in principle. Will follow up the recommendation.
4. Compiling the “Chronicles of Hong Kong”.	– Accepted and being implemented.
5. Encouraging owners of private historical buildings to support heritage conservation.	– Accepted in principle. Will follow up the recommendation.
6. Consider establishing a Heritage Conservation Board to take on wider responsibilities in its review on heritage preservation policy.	– To be considered in Heritage Conservation Policy Review.
II. Cultural Exchange [6.12-6.14]	
7. Enhancing understanding of the traditional Chinese culture, broadening global outlook and strengthening cultural exchange with other countries .	– Accepted.
8. Partners in cultural exchange should not be confined to English-speaking countries.	– Accepted.
9. Establishing closer collaboration with the cultural and arts communities in the Pearl River Delta.	– Accepted. Since November 2002, HAB has convened three meetings of the Greater Pearl River Delta Cultural Summit.
10. Focusing more on “city to city” exchanges .	– Accepted.

Recommendation	Response
11. Deploying more resources for cultural exchange activities.	– Accepted in principle. Will follow up the recommendation.
12. Overseas ETOs taking up the role of promoting cultural exchange for Hong Kong as one of their primary duties.	– Accepted in principle. Will discuss with the Commerce, Industry and Technology Bureau.
13. Encouraging the publication of cultural magazines and the conduct of researches on local culture by the academic community, providing a more profound and solid basis for cultural exchange.	– Accepted in principle. Will follow up the recommendation.
III. Creative Industries [6.19]	
14. Promoting education in culture and the arts for providing the fundamental support to the development of creative industries.	– Accepted.
15. Strengthening intellectual property rights protection through education, publicity and effective law enforcement.	– Accepted.
16. Using Hong Kong's experience and expertise to tap the huge market of creative industries in the Mainland.	– Accepted.

Recommendation	Response
<p>IV. West Kowloon Cultural District [6.25]</p> <p>17. The cultural and other facilities in the district should be integrated to produce a clustering effect.</p> <p>18. Cultural facilities in the district should complement existing and future major cultural facilities elsewhere in Hong Kong, in order to ensure that resources are used effectively.</p> <p>19. Thoroughly considering the “software” or cultural contents before planning the “hardware”.</p> <p>20. Government should facilitate partnerships between developers and the cultural sector, allowing the latter to participate in the planning and operation of the cultural facilities.</p>	<p>– Accepted.</p> <p>– Accepted.</p> <p>– Accepted.</p> <p>– Accepted.</p>