

Subcommittee on West Kowloon Cultural District Development

Information to be provided by the Administration

I. Land use and planning

- Why did the Government decide to use the 40 hectare of land in the West Kowloon Reclamation for the development of the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD)?
- Please provide detailed information on any previous studies and research work carried out or commissioned by the Government or other parties as regards the conceptual planning of the West Kowloon Reclamation. What alternatives had been put forward and what process had been taken to come to the decision of using it for the WKCD?
- Please provide the background for coming up with the key development parameters, the mix of commercial components vs. arts and cultural components in relation to the objectives of the project, and other planning considerations?
- What factors have been considered by the Government for adopting the present course of action in relation to the planning and development process, public consultation, invitation of interest, mode of tender, development control of the project, etc.?
- Has the Government conducted any impact analysis on the suggestion that the whole WKCD project be planned as from scratch and as one project?
- What commitment does the Government have in relation to the proponents and whether the Government can hold its entering into agreement with any party pending thorough deliberation and an expression of support by the Legislative Council and the public for the project?
- What is the Government's proposed course of action as regards the application(s) to the Town Planning Board for changing the land use zoning of the WKCD area?
- Please explain why the Government has not adhered to the guidelines stipulated in the Efficiency Unit's publication "Serving the Community by Using the Private Sector – An introductory Guide to Public Private Partnerships (PPP)" in developing the WKCD project?

II. Interface with arts and cultural development

- What is the Government's long-term arts and cultural policy, and how has that affected Government's decision to develop the West Kowloon Reclamation as a cultural district?

- How far did the Government take into account the views of arts and cultural groups as well as expertise advice on the sustainable development of arts and culture in Hong Kong when deciding on the hardware facilities in the WKCD? What factors have been taken into account when deciding on the types and scale of arts and cultural facilities in the WKCD?
- Have any studies have been conducted on the existing and future demand and supply of the kind of facilities to be provided in the WKCD? Which facilities in Hong Kong are currently providing similar services? Could the existing facilities be better utilized to cater for future demands?
- Using comparable arts and cultural facilities as examples, please provide the capital outlay and recurrent income and expenditure for the purpose of understanding the budget, usage and profile of such facilities in Hong Kong. Have any studies been conducted on the construction, operation, management and financial arrangements for comparable arts and cultural facilities in other parts of the world? How far is the present situation of Hong Kong's facilities compared to the experiences of other places? How far does the Government subsidize arts and cultural facilities, in terms of capital and recurrent expenditure?
- What safeguards are in place in other places to avoid undue influence or interference on arts and cultural development under the single-package development approach? Is the process adopted in other places the same as that adopted by the Government in developing the WKCD?
- What models have been used to project the future demand and supply of the software side of arts and cultural development such as human resources and training?
- What role the Government had envisaged for the participation of the local arts and cultural sector in the development and operation of the WKCD?
- What will be the relationship between WKCD and the existing arts and cultural authorities and bodies?
- What is the Government's commitment in providing funding support to local arts and cultural groups after WKCD's completion, say in respect of fee charging arrangements? How far does the Government subsidize arts and cultural bodies at present?