

立法會
Legislative Council

Paper No. WKCD-456

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Summary of the discussion at the meeting on 29 November 2007 on the key aspects of the proposed legislation for establishing a statutory body to take forward the West Kowloon Cultural District project

I. Purposes and objects, powers and functions

Questions raised by members	The Administration's response
<p>The purposes and objects of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (WKCD) as outlined in paragraph 5 of Paper No. WKCD-451 is very broad. They seem to encompass all the responsibilities of the Government in cultural affairs. Would it be more appropriate to narrow down the purposes and objects to things that WKCD would actually do? <i>(Ms Margaret NG)</i></p>	<p>The West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) is part of the Government's cultural policy. The WKCD will not just be entrusted to manage the facilities under its purview; it has higher level missions. Paragraph 5 of Paper No. WKCD-451 sought to provide a detailed discourse on this.</p> <p>The Administration has made reference to the legislation on Hong Kong Arts Centre, the objects and purposes of which are to be achieved through the operation of the relevant facilities.</p>
<p>The concept of "district" is repeatedly mentioned in the paragraphs on "purposes and objects" and "powers and functions". This gives an impression that WKCD will be like the government of a district. At the same time, "the facilities under its purview" is often mentioned. It is imperative to define the powers of WKCD very clearly, in particular whether the powers are district-based or facility-based, as this has important implications on its liabilities and where the endowment funds can be spent on. <i>(Ms Margaret NG)</i></p>	<p>WKCD covers the whole scheme area of 40 hectares as shown on the relevant draft Outline Zoning Plan (OZP). The WKCD would develop and operate only those arts and cultural facilities and some other facilities such as public open space, automated people mover etc. in WKCD vested with it as specified in the legislation. The current thinking is to specify the facilities under WKCD's purview in a schedule to the future Ordinance.</p> <p>The rights and liabilities of WKCD in respect of these facilities will be specified in the relevant land grants.</p>

Questions raised by members	The Administration's response
	<p>There is a "district" concept mainly because of the clustering of arts and cultural facilities and other supporting facilities within a scheme area. WKCDA's powers and functions should be facility-based.</p> <p>The advice of the Department of Justice will be sought as to how the concepts of "district", "purview" and "facility" can be precisely defined in the legislation to ensure clarity of WKCDA's powers and functions.</p>
<p>Whether WKCDA will have the powers to decide the management modes for the facilities (e.g. implementing an arts accountability system) under its purview and where and how to recruit staff to manage the facilities? <i>(Chairman and Ms Margaret NG)</i></p>	<p>The Consultative Committee has recommended that all of the Core Arts and Cultural Facilities (CACF) in WKCD would be managed and operated with new modes of governance with institutional autonomy outside of the government structure. The Administration will seek to reflect the autonomy of WKCDA in regard to the governance of arts and cultural facilities in the proposed legislation.</p> <p>As regards the idea of arts accountability system, the Consultative Committee has made a relevant recommendation that for performing arts venues, the non-Government venue management bodies should seek to promote artistic character of each venue by curating and presenting programmes and working in close partnership with performing arts groups, particularly the resident companies. The proposed powers and functions of WKCDA should be able to cater for this mode of operation.</p>

Views expressed by members	The Administration's response
<p>The purposes and objects of WKCDA as presented in Paper No. WKCD-451 are very broad and general. It appears that WKCDA will be a very powerful body. The Administration should not seek to rush through the enactment of the legislation.</p> <p><i>(Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung)</i></p>	
<p>The WKCDA is akin to a small government. The scope of powers and functions of the statutory body covering both cultural aspects and commercial aspects may be novel in Hong Kong. It may be useful for the Subcommittee to study the experience of comparable bodies.</p> <p><i>(Mr Abraham SHEK Lai-him)</i></p>	

II. Composition of the board of WKCDA

Questions raised by members	The Administration's response
<p>Are the public officer members sitting on the Board in their personal capacity or as representatives of the Government? Would this be specified in the legislation?</p> <p><i>(Mr James TO Kun-sun)</i></p>	<p>The Administration's current thinking is that the public officer members should have a role to play in monitoring the work of WKCDA on behalf of the Government.</p>

Views expressed by members	The Administration's response
<p>The composition of the Board should be specified in the legislation. The Board should include at least five members from the arts and cultural sectors.</p> <p><i>(Mr James TO Kun-sun)</i></p>	<p>At different stages of the development and operation of the WKCD facilities, the non-official members of the Board will definitely include representatives from the arts and cultural sectors. One major reason for not specifying this arrangement in the legislation is the difficulty to define the arts and cultural sectors, given that there is no registration system for the sectors.</p>

Views expressed by members	The Administration's response
<p>Many deputations giving views to this Subcommittee have suggested that the Board of WKCD should comprise representatives from Legislative Council (LegCo), District Councils and the arts and cultural sectors.</p> <p><i>(Dr KWOK Ka-ki)</i></p>	
<p>Ms LAU considers that some members of the Board should be nominated by the relevant sectors. Under the nomination mechanism, those members should be answerable to their respective sectors and this would be conducive to ensuring the accountability of the statutory body.</p> <p>While it may be difficult to achieve consensus among the relevant sectors on the nomination mechanism, having all the members selected by the Government definitely will not be conducive to ensuring accountability.</p> <p>The Board should comprise LegCo Members, and these board members should be elected from among LegCo Members, as in the case of the governing boards of the universities in Hong Kong.</p> <p><i>(Ms Emily LAU Wai-hing)</i></p>	<p>Clear definitions of the concerned sectors are the pre-requisite for a workable nomination mechanism. Given the lack of a registration system for the cultural sectors, adoption of a nomination mechanism for constituting the Board will give rise to arguments and discontents.</p> <p>It is the Administration's intention to include LegCo Members in WKCD, but the Administration considers it not necessary to specify this arrangement in legislation.</p>
<p>Professionals and experts in the relevant fields appointed to the Board should not be expected to provide free professional advice to WKCD. The reason for appointing these persons should be that by virtue of their professional knowledge and background, they possessed the sensitivity to subject matters that need to be considered by the Board.</p> <p><i>(Ms Margaret NG)</i></p>	<p>The Administration fully reckons that those board members should not be expected to provide technical advice, but to bring in professional insights that would assist the Board in making informed and balanced decisions.</p>

Views expressed by members	The Administration's response
<p>How WKCDA should be constituted is a focal issue. If the final proposal on the composition and appointment mechanism of the Board is well received by LegCo Members and the public, it may be easier for the Administration to get through its funding proposals for WKCD. <i>(Chairman)</i></p>	

III. Financial arrangements

Questions raised by members	The Administration's response
<p>According to the Administration's schedule, if the relevant bill is passed by mid 2008, the statutory body would be set up later in the year. Why should the Administration seek approval for the upfront endowment of \$21.6 billion in mid 2008, rather than in the next term of LegCo? <i>(Ir Dr Raymond HO Chung-tai)</i></p>	<p>The upfront endowment covers the capital costs of the facilities to be developed by WKCDA, and the operational costs (such as staffing costs and consultancy fees) of WKCDA up to the completion of the Phase 1 facilities. It is necessary to have the endowment approved before the establishment of WKCDA so that its work can commence immediately after its establishment.</p>
<p>Whether the amounts of \$21.6 billion and \$200 million for the upfront endowment and for the interim M+ will be sufficient to meet the relevant costs, bearing in mind that the trend of tender prices has been on the rise in recent years? <i>(Ir Dr Raymond HO Chung-tai)</i></p>	<p>The Administration is drawing up the detailed proposal for the interim M+ and will put this to the Subcommittee for discussion as soon as possible.</p>
<p>Of the \$21.6 billion upfront endowment, how much funding is earmarked for supporting artists and art groups? <i>(Dr KWOK Ka-ki)</i></p>	<p>While the \$21.6 billion upfront endowment does not cover the operating expenditure of the arts and cultural facilities in WKCD, each cultural venue would probably earmark a portion of its expenditure for providing support to related art groups.</p>

Questions raised by members	The Administration's response
	<p>Outside the context of WKCD, the Government's annual recurrent expenditure on culture and the arts amounts to around \$2.5 billion. The Administration has plans to increase resources to strengthen the development of cultural software and humanware, and will brief the Panel on Home Affairs on this subject shortly.</p>

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<p><i>"If the endowment is separated into a number of instalments paid over a period of time, the actual funding amount available for investment at any one time would be reduced."</i> (paragraph 21(b) of Paper No. WKCD-451) This is not a valid reason for not seeking approval of the endowment by instalments, as the actual funding amount can be adjusted at the time of disbursement.</p> <p>As statutory bodies are backed up by the Government, parties in the private sector are usually willing to offer more favourable terms in dealing with statutory bodies. Thus, approval of endowment by instalments should not create undue financial uncertainty for WKCD. Instead, proper monitoring by LegCo is a key consideration, and past experience indicated that the requirement to attend LegCo meetings cannot ensure public accountability. (Mr James TO Kun-sun)</p>	<p>Provision of funding through an upfront endowment of \$21.6 billion represents Government's long-term commitment to the WKCD project.</p> <p>The planning and implementation of the project required funding certainty. This is especially so if WKCD is to adhere to the timetable assumed in the Consultative Committee's recommendation - completing the construction of all the proposed facilities in Phase 1 (12 performing arts venues, and 70% of the M+, the Exhibition Centre and the Retail/Dining/Entertainment (RDE) facilities) by 2014-2015, i.e. within a time period of 6 to 7 years. It is estimated that the total cost for the development of the Phase 1 facilities is about \$20 billion.</p> <p>Moreover, before the commissioning of the various facilities, WKCD will need to draw up operational arrangements and enter into negotiations with relevant parties. The preparatory work would be seriously affected if the endowment was to be approved and paid by instalments.</p>
<p>The argument that the upfront endowment should be approved in one go because this represents Government's long-term commitment to the project is not logical.</p>	

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<p>The crucial consideration is to strike a balance between providing sufficient funding for the development of WKCD facilities and ensuring adequate monitoring by LegCo. Since the entire WKCD project is to be implemented in phases spanning from 2008 to 2031, it may be appropriate to approve the first instalment of the endowment to cover the costs from 2008 to 2014 and conduct a review in 2012-2013.</p> <p>M+ is novel concept and the public is very concerned about its long-term viability. It would be appropriate for LegCo to approve the funding requirement for M+ by instalments to ensure better monitoring by LegCo.</p> <p>The Administration should provide information on the total capital cost, with a breakdown by facilities, of the arts and cultural facilities and other facilities which would be developed by WKCDA during Phase 1 of the WKCD project. <i>(Mr LEE Wing-tat)</i></p>	<p>The upfront endowment of \$21.6 billion does not cover the operating deficits of the facilities to be operated by WKCDA. Such deficits would be met by the income from RDE facilities.</p>
<p>There are no strong justifications to approve and disburse the \$21.6 billion to WKCDA in one go. He also cannot see how the proposed measures can ensure the accountability of WKCDA. As such, he will object to the funding proposal.</p> <p>M+, which will require some \$10 billion for construction and operation, may become a white elephant. The huge financial commitment to the facility is disproportional when compared to the Government's</p>	

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<p>commitments to other social needs. (<i>Dr KWOK Ka-ki</i>)</p>	
<p>While LegCo is in support of the WKCD project in principle, it is incumbent upon LegCo Members to exercise vigilant monitoring of public expenditure. Instead of approving the endowment fund in one go, the Administration should submit funding proposals for the cultural venues one by one or in batches. (<i>Ms Emily LAU Wai-hing</i>)</p>	<p>According to the Consultative Committee's recommendation, the arts and cultural facilities and related facilities in WKCD should be developed as a cluster and planned holistically. Funding certainty for the development of the facilities is necessary and a one-off upfront endowment is most appropriate, having regard to the timeframe of the development of the Phase 1 facilities.</p>
<p>As the operating deficit of the arts and cultural facilities in WKCD is to be subsidized by the income from RDE facilities, it may turn out that RDE facilities operating in WKCD are very popular but are incompatible with the character of the cultural venues. (<i>Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung</i>)</p>	<p>The Consultative Committee has recommended that CACF should be integrated with RDE facilities where appropriate, so as to create synergy and attract people flow during the day and at night.</p> <p>The Administration intends that through legislation and administrative means, the integration of CACF with RDE facilities could be achieved, while the operation of WKCD could be financially self-sustaining.</p>

IV. Land matters

Questions raised by members	The Administration's response
<p>What is the relationship between the residential, office and hotel developments (the land for which would be disposed by the Government under the normal land sale mechanism) within WKCD and the facilities to be developed and operated by WKCDA? (<i>Mr James TO Kun-sun and Mr LEE Wing-tat</i>)</p>	<p>The Master Plan to be drawn up by WKCDA and approved by the Town Planning Board (TPB) will cover the entire WKCD. After the Master Plan is finalized, WKCDA will not have a role to play in the residential, office and hotel developments, which are outside its purview. However, the public may consider it desirable for the design and built form etc. of the various land uses within WKCD to complement one</p>

Questions raised by members	The Administration's response
	<p>another. The Administration welcomes suggestions from interested parties in this regard.</p>
<p>The relationship between the residential, office and hotel developments within WKCD and the facilities under the purview of WKCD is a very sensitive matter, involving a lot of interests. For instance, the value of the former type of developments would hinge on the disposition of various land uses and the design of infrastructural facilities. How would the Government ensure through the proposed legislation that commercial and property interests will not override the cultural objectives of WKCD. <i>(Mr LEE Wing-tat and Miss CHAN Yuen-han)</i></p>	<p>There will be clear delineation in the Master Plan between the sites to be disposed of by the Government and the sites to be granted to WKCD.</p> <p>Interfaces between the facilities within the purview of WKCD and other facilities and developments within WKCD will be very clearly specified in the relevant land grants. The relevant land grant conditions are not yet drawn up and can only be confirmed after the approval of the Master Plan.</p>
<p>It is still not clear how the Master Plan of WKCD will be drawn up. Will there be two discrete districts and will Government place the commercial and residential developments at the waterfront sites?</p> <p>The town planning work will take a long time. Is it possible to start the work right now with the involvement of the relevant sectors? <i>(Prof Patrick LAU Sau-shing)</i></p>	<p>The WKCD will not be split into two discrete sub-districts. The WKCD should adopt a holistic approach to do the planning. As such, some residential or commercial developments not under the purview of WKCD may be intermingled with the arts and cultural facilities. Upon finalization of Master Plan, those sites not within the purview of WKCD will be clearly delineated.</p> <p>The Planning Department will trigger the statutory planning process in early 2008. After the current Public Engagement exercise, the department will make a submission to TPB to propose to incorporate the major development parameters for WKCD into the relevant draft OZP based on the views received. Subject to the agreement of TPB the amendments to the OZP will be published for public</p>

Questions raised by members	The Administration's response
	<p>inspection. It is expected that a large number of submissions will be received. TPB, after consideration of the objections/submissions received, may or may not amend the OZP to meet the objections. If further amendments are to be made, TPB will gazette the further amendments for public inspection again. Upon the completion of the statutory planning procedure, the draft OZP together with the unwithdrawn objections will be submitted to the Chief Executive in Council for approval.</p> <p>Before the development parameters for WKCD are finalized, further town planning work on the preparation of the Master Plan may not be meaningful. Moreover, if the Administration was to commence the work in relation to the Master Plan before the establishment of WKCDA, the public might consider that this would impose unnecessary constraints on WKCDA in its preparation of the Master Plan.</p> <p>In the case of the Kai Tak Development, the whole public engagement process for the town planning work had taken about two years. The time required in the case of WKCD should be shorter as there is already a certain extent of community consensus on the town planning aspects of the district.</p>
<p>How would the Administration handle the planning of WKCD from a wider perspective to take into account the connectivity with and the need to revitalize neighbouring old districts?</p> <p>According to the Administration, before the relevant OZP is finalized,</p>	<p>Under the current public engagement exercise, a lot of views have been expressed on the proposed major development parameters for WKCD. If there is general consensus on the proposed development parameters, the Administration will seek TPB's agreement to incorporate the major</p>

Questions raised by members	The Administration's response
<p>the Administration will not conduct extensive public engagement specifically on the planning for WKCD, like the public engagement for the Kai Tak Development. As such, when WKCDA started to prepare the Master Plan, it may find the development parameters laid down in the OZP too restrictive. (Chairman)</p>	<p>development parameters into the relevant OZP first. More extensive public engagement could be carried out when WKCDA prepares the Master Plan. At that time, the issue of whether and how WKCD should be planned from a wider perspective covering the entire West Kowloon Reclamation could be brought up for public discussion. The proposed Planning Office will coordinate the planning process.</p>

Views expressed by members	The Administration's response
<p>The Administration should conduct thorough consultation with LegCo throughout the town planning process of WKCD. (Ms Emily LAU Wai-hing)</p>	<p>The Administration will brief and consult the relevant LegCo on town planning matters when appropriate.</p>
<p>The Administration's previous answer to the Subcommittee's question on the integration of WKCD with its neighbouring areas had no substance at all, reflecting that the Administration has given little thoughts on this aspect. (Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung)</p>	<p>Connectivity between WKCD and its neighbouring areas to attract people flow and achieve the synergy effect is a very important concept under the recommendations of the Consultative Committee. How this is to be implemented will be considered in the context of the Master Plan for WKCD.</p>

V. Public accountability

Questions raised by members	The Administration's response
<p><i>"The WKCDA should be required to submit three-year corporate plans and annual business plans to the Government for records."</i> (paragraph 17 of Paper No. WKCD-451) Should the corporate plans and business plans be subject to the Government's approval? (Mr James TO Kun-sun)</p>	<p>It is considered not desirable for the Government to interfere unnecessarily with WKCDA's operation. At present, there is no requirement on the Hong Kong Arts Development Council and the Hong Kong Arts Centre to submit corporate plans for approval by the Government.</p>

Questions raised by members	The Administration's response
<p>Will WKCDA be subject to the audit of the Audit Commission and if so, whether this will be specified in the legislation? (<i>Ir Dr Raymond HO Chung-tai</i>)</p>	<p>The accounts of WKCDA will be subject to audit by the Audit Commission and this will be specified in the legislation. In addition, the Administration proposes that WKCDA should be required to set up an audit committee, appoint an auditor and submit its annual reports and audited statements of accounts to the Government which will table them in LegCo.</p>
<p>The cultural venues in WKCD would have different designs. The assessment of tenders would probably place strong emphasis on design and other aspects to which standard assessment criteria would not be applicable. As such, there would be room for collusion and transfer of benefits. How the proposed legislation could address this concern? (<i>Mr LEE Wing-tat and Ms Margaret NG</i>)</p>	<p>The WKCDA would need to lay down guidelines for procurement of services, tendering arrangements etc. Many existing statutory bodies have laid down similar guidelines. The Administration would consider the need or otherwise to specify in the legislation the requirement on WKCDA to disclose such guidelines</p>

Views expressed by members	The Administration's response
<p>It should be specified in the legislation that as a norm, the meetings of WKCDA should be held in public and all the meeting papers of the statutory body should be made open and accessible to the public. (<i>Ms Emily LAU Wai-hing</i>)</p>	<p>The operation of WKCDA would be transparent. The Administration in principle does not object to WKCDA holding its meetings in public as a normal arrangement, but is aware that many discussions of WKCDA would involve private parties and commercial information. How these situations should be catered for in the legislation is an important consideration.</p>
<p>The proceedings of WKCDA should be transparent and information on its proceedings should be accessible to the public.</p>	<p>The Administration will carefully consider how to ensure easy public access to information on WKCDA's operation.</p>

Views expressed by members	The Administration's response
<p>The WKCDA should be required to set up certain committees for gauging views from the public and users on the operation of the facilities under its purview. <i>(Ms Margaret NG)</i></p>	<p>The Administration will make reference to the legislation on other statutory bodies regarding the requirement to set up particular committees apart from an audit committee.</p>

VI. Consultation

Questions raised by members	The Administration's response
<p>How many people has the Administration consulted on the recommendations of the Consultative Committee? The Wish Card used by the Administration to obtain public views is strongly biased towards the Administration's stance. <i>(Dr KWOK Ka-ki)</i></p> <p>The Administration should provide information on the public engagement work undertaken since the release of the Recommendation Report of the Consultative Committee, the groups or sectors which have been engaged/consulted and the number of people involved.</p>	<p>The Wish Card is only one of the many channels to solicit views from the public in the current three-month Public Engagement exercise. Since the launch of the exercise, the Administration has held tens of discussion sessions with relevant sectors, a few public forums and is conducting two telephone surveys. Together with the discussions with the arts and cultural sectors during the work of the Consultative Committee and its Advisory Groups, extensive consultation has been conducted. The Administration will report to LegCo on the consultative work done and views gathered in due course.</p>

VII. Other issues

Questions raised by members	The Administration's response
<p>The legislative timetable for the Bill on the establishment of WKCDA is very tight. Is it possible to introduce the Bill earlier? Will the Administration introduce a White Bill first? <i>(Ir Dr Raymond HO Chung-tai and Miss CHAN Yuen-han)</i></p>	<p>The Administration is working on the drafting of the Bill in full speed and plans to introduce the Bill in February 2008. The Administration will endeavour to introduce the Bill earlier, if possible. The introduction of a White Bill in the first place will probably lengthen the legislative process. However, the Administration is prepared to provide further details on</p>

Questions raised by members	The Administration's response
	the proposed legislation for discussion by the Subcommittee before the introduction of the relevant Bill.
<p>As some infrastructure facilities are to be built and managed by the Government, a lot of coordination between government departments and WKCD is required during the planning stage. How such coordination work would be done? <i>(Ir Dr Raymond HO Chung-tai)</i></p>	<p>Early establishment of WKCD is important to enable early planning of government infrastructure facilities. A major function of the proposed Planning Office in the Home Affairs Bureau is to provide the necessary interface between the Government and WKCD during the early stage of implementation of the WKCD project.</p>
<p>A lot of preparatory work needs to be done before the establishment of WKCD. Will there be a vacuum period before the Planning Office comes into operation? <i>(Ir Dr Raymond HO Chung-tai and Ms Margaret NG)</i></p>	<p>Approval for establishment of the proposed Planning Office will be sought in mid 2008. The Home Affairs Bureau will continue to undertake the coordination and preparatory work before the Planning Office comes into operation.</p>
<p>A lot of problems, in particular interface and coordination problems, could arise if a number of construction projects are to be carried out within six to seven years. Has the Administration made any assessment of the risks and difficulties involved? <i>(Mr LEE Wing-tat and Mr Abraham SHEK Lai-him)</i></p> <p>The Administration should provide information on the systems and mechanisms to handle the interface and coordination of the works projects for the arts and cultural facilities, retail/dining/entertaining facilities and infrastructure facilities which would be constructed during Phase 1 of the WKCD project.</p>	<p>The WKCD may use different approaches for delivery of the facilities in Phase 1. The construction schedules of the various facilities very much hinge on the disposition of the facilities in the Master Plan.</p>

Views expressed by members	The Administration's response
<p>The WKCD is a wrong concept. If arts and cultural facilities bear no roots from the community, those facilities would be lifeless. Spending money to build lavish facilities to create a new cultural district is analogical to putting a lot of fertilizer into the soil without seeds. Arts and cultural facilities should be scattered and should serve local communities. The huge investment in WKCD should be spent on relieving the shortfall of cultural facilities in poor districts instead.</p> <p>Hong Kong people want the WKCD project to be implemented properly, not hastily. They also expect LegCo to monitor the project vigilantly. Hasty scrutiny of the legislation will inevitably lead to serious problems. There should be a thorough process for debates and for assimilation of criticisms and views. <i>(Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung)</i></p>	<p>Apart from high arts, WKCD should have community and indigenous arts.</p> <p>The implementation of WKCD project will not cause the development of arts and culture in other areas to be overlooked. The Government would add cultural venues and provide more arts space in other districts if there are such needs.</p>
<p>It is very important that CACF in WKCD will be diverse in characteristics. If the venues can be developed at different times and embrace the characteristics of the respective periods, the outturn WKCD would be more interesting. There should be room for organic growth of arts and culture. <i>(Ms Margaret NG)</i></p>	<p>The Consultative Committee has been aware of the need for diversity, and has considered the option of developing the Phase 1 CACF under a longer timeframe. However, having regard to the present lack of arts and cultural facilities in Hong Kong and the views of the arts and cultural sectors, the Consultative Committee finally prefers the option of developing 12 performing arts venues and 70% of M+ during the first 6 to 7 years of the project.</p> <p>While WKCDA would need to plan CACF in a holistic manner, there would be a distinct planning process for each facility and WKCDA would consult relevant parties in designing each</p>

Views expressed by members	The Administration's response
	facility. Funding certainty would provide greater flexibility for WKCDA in deciding the implementation programme for individual facilities.
The Planning Office may need to commence operation earlier, say when scrutiny of the Bill on the establishment of the statutory body commences. Otherwise, longer time may be needed to collate information from relevant bureaux/departments during the Bill scrutiny process. <i>(Ms Margaret NG)</i>	

Council Business Division 1
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