

立法會

Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)2297/10-11(03)

Ref : CB2/PS/2/08

Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project

Background brief prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat for the meeting on 11 July 2011

Interim programmes and activities in the West Kowloon Cultural District before the commissioning of Phase I facilities

Purpose

This paper provides background information on the interim programmes and activities in the West Kowloon Cultural District ("WKCD") before the commissioning of Phase I facilities, and summarizes the relevant views and concerns of members of the Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project ("the Joint Subcommittee").

Background

2. On 4 March 2011, the Board of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority ("WKCDA") announced its selection of City Park ("CP") designed by Foster+Partners as the preferred Conceptual Plan Option ("CPO"). Based on CP, WKCDA will prepare a detailed Development Plan for WKCD for public consultation scheduled for 2011 summer before submitting it to the Town Planning Board for consideration by 2012. According to WKCDA, Phase I of WKCD is expected to be completed by 2015.

3. At its meeting in January 2011, the Joint Subcommittee noted from the Administration and WKCDA that in the period prior to the commissioning of the Performing Arts ("PA") venues in WKCD, interim programmes and activities would be organized, with a view to familiarizing the public with WKCD and its objectives. According to WKCDA, its Performing Arts Committee ("the PA Committee") would adopt the following objectives in planning programme directions for 2010-2013 -

- (a) nurturing, educating and building audience in the community;
- (b) nurturing artistic and administrative talents;
- (c) establishing an international network for WKCD; and
- (d) helping in the planning and management of the future PA facilities.

4. The Joint Subcommittee also noted that WKCDA had been in discussions with local educational institutes and arts organizations, such as the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts and the Arts Administrators' Association, to bring more capacity building programmes to Hong Kong in the coming years. WKCDA would also work with community groups, schools, tertiary institutions, district networks and arts and cultural groups to promote various art forms, including performing arts, visual arts, moving image and popular art, starting with an outdoor event at the WKCD site in late 2011. A Creative Learning Unit under WKCDA would be established in 2011 to forge partnerships with community and arts groups and facilitate collaborations. In addition, WKCDA would support and fund various capacity-building initiatives (such as the Advanced Cultural Leadership Programme run by the University of Hong Kong in association with the Clore Leadership Programme in the United Kingdom) to provide more learning opportunities for practising professionals and to train new talents.

Concerns of members

5. The Joint Subcommittee has not specifically discussed the interim programmes and activities before the commissioning of Phase I facilities in WKCD. Nevertheless, in its discussion on software development to promote WKCD at its meeting on 14 January 2011, members raised concerns about the nurturing of arts professionals and audience building before the launch of Phase I of WKCD. Their concerns are summarized in the ensuing paragraphs.

Nurturing of arts professionals and audience building

6. Some members were worried that upon the launch of Phase I of WKCD in 2015, Hong Kong might still lack sufficient arts professionals/administrators and audience. They considered that audience-building and nurturing of arts professionals required not only the efforts of the Home Affairs Bureau ("HAB") but also its collaboration with other government departments such as the Education Bureau ("EDB"). The Chief Secretary for Administration, who was the Chairman of WKCDA, should be hands-on in facilitating the collaboration among various government bureaux to promote arts education in schools. To

demonstrate its commitment to the promotion of arts and culture in Hong Kong, the Government should also earmark a certain percentage of its recurrent expenditure for the development of cultural software every year.

7. On the Administration's plan to attract audience from places outside Hong Kong (e.g. the populous Pearl River Delta), there was a concern whether the populous regions on the Mainland could help build a strong audience base for WKCD, in view of the problem of under-attendance for arts and cultural programmes there. Members also noted that with the support of the former Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") of WKCDA, the elements of arts education had been incorporated into the three CPOs. There was a worry about whether WKCDA would continue to attach importance to arts education after the departure of the former CEO.

8. According to the Administration, HAB had all along been maintaining close liaison with EDB in nurturing arts professionals and cultivating audience base. The development of cultural software would be supported by three pillars, viz. strengthening the arts education for youngsters and adults, enriching the contents of arts and cultural programmes, and broadening the audience base. The Administration had also been stepping up efforts to enlarge the audience base through arts education. For instance, \$22 million had been allocated to the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD") to support student participation in arts education activities for developing youngsters' interest in arts and culture. To tie in with the new senior secondary curriculum, LCSD had implemented various new programmes, such as "A Journey on Learning the Arts for New Senior Secondary Students" and "Arts Experience Scheme for Senior Secondary Students". The Creative Learning Unit under WKCDA would promote arts education in collaboration with EDB and schools.

Relevant papers

12. A list of the relevant papers with their hyperlinks at the Legislative Council's website is in the **Appendix**.

**Relevant papers on
Interim programmes and activities in the WKCD
before the commissioning of Phase 1 facilities**

Committee	Date of meeting	Paper
Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project	16.4.2010 Item II(b)	Agenda Minutes
	14.1.2011 Item III(c)	Agenda Minutes

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
8 July 2011