

ITEM FOR FINANCE COMMITTEE

HEAD 95 – LEISURE AND CULTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT New Subhead “Acquiring and Commissioning Artworks by Local Artists” New Item “Acquiring and Commissioning Artworks by Local Artists”

Members are invited to approve a new commitment of \$50 million under a new subhead to be created under Head 95 Leisure and Cultural Services Department for acquiring and commissioning artworks by local artists.

PROBLEM

To foster the development of visual arts and nurture local artistic talent in the field, we need to provide additional funding for acquiring and commissioning more artworks by local artists.

PROPOSAL

2. The Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (DLCS), with the support of the Secretary for Home Affairs (SHA), proposes to create a new commitment of \$50 million for the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) to acquire and commission artworks by local artists.

JUSTIFICATION

3. It is the Government’s cultural policy to develop Hong Kong into an international cultural metropolis. To achieve this policy objective, LCSD has been making continued efforts in nurturing artistic talent. To strengthen the development of visual arts and groom local artists in the area of visual arts, we consider it important to provide artists with opportunities to showcase their artworks on a frequent and continual basis. One of the most effective means is to acquire their

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artworks and display them in our public museums, and commission their artworks for public arts projects. This could help promote their profile and build their audience, which provides a solid basis for their development in the arts sector. To augment our efforts in nurturing and promoting local artists, we see the need to provide LCSD with a dedicated funding for acquiring and commissioning local artworks.

Acquisition of Artworks by Local Artists

4. We propose to designate part of the \$50 million dedicated funding to the Hong Kong Museum of Art (HKMA) and Hong Kong Heritage Museum (HKHM) for the acquisition of local artworks so as to strengthen the roles of these museums in collecting, exhibiting, and promoting Hong Kong art and Hong Kong artists. The acquisition of local artworks will also be conducive to HKMA's work in promoting local art to the wider public in Hong Kong and to overseas audience through participation in international art biennials/triennials, exchange exhibitions etc.

Acquisition and Collection Strategy

5. LCSD will adopt the following acquisition and collection strategies for artworks of local artists –

- (a) Representative artists/media of different historical periods based on research on Hong Kong art history

While the birth of modern Hong Kong art is generally considered to be in the 1960s, its origin and lineage could be traced back to the 19th century with its strong relationship with Guangdong and its regional counterparts. LCSD will conduct a series of research on Hong Kong's art history with a view to identifying representative artists of the different historical periods up to the present time. Representative works by artists in different media and in different fields of visual arts from these historical periods will be collected to present a comprehensive Hong Kong art history and the local artistic development.

- (b) Individual masters' artworks

LCSD will systematically collect works of leading and emerging local artists to document their artistic development. Apart from established senior masters, LCSD aims to collect works of up-and-coming artists and artists who have participated in major

/international

international art biennials/triennials. The artworks to be acquired include photography, prints, paintings, calligraphies, sculptures, installations and mixed media. For contemporary artworks, LCSD plans to cover works in different media such as video, installation, new media, animation, digital art, sound art and other alternative media.

- (c) Winning entries and selected works of the Hong Kong Contemporary Art (Biennial) Award

The Award has been a signature event of the HKMA since 1975. It provides a periodic survey of contemporary Hong Kong art development. As the winning entries are selected through a highly competitive process, LCSD intends to collect some of the award-winning works as well as the best selected works so as to document the artistic achievements of different eras.

- (d) Selected artworks from public art projects

LCSD may acquire selected artworks commissioned by the Art Promotion Office (APO) for various public art projects (see paragraphs 10 to 12 below for details).

Procurement Procedures

6. After consulting the Corruption Prevention Department of the Independent Commission Against Corruption, LCSD has devised a set of procedures and assessment criteria for acquisition of artworks for museums including acquiring artworks of local artists. The major criteria include the artistic merit of the proposed acquisition, its relevance to museums' collections, its physical condition, price, display and education value, as well as the reputation of the artists.

7. As an integral component of the procurement procedures, LCSD invites its Museum Expert Advisers (Advisers) from the relevant panels¹ to give independent and expert advice on the relevant acquisition in accordance with the above procedures/criteria. The updated list of the Advisers on Art is at Enclosure 1.

Encl. 1

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¹ At present, 60 Museum Expert Advisers on Art have been appointed to a total of 6 specialized panels according to their areas of expertise. They are appointed by DLCS for a period of two years and are responsible for advising LCSD on museum related matters, in particular the acquisition of collection items and special projects.

The Advisers have been appointed to different panels according to their areas of expertise such as Hong Kong art, design, photography, Chinese antiquities, historical pictures, etc. The number of Advisers engaged for each acquisition depends on the value of the artworks. Specifically, at least one Adviser is engaged if the estimated value of the artwork is \$50,000 or less and three Advisers for those with an estimated value of over \$50,000. The Advisers are required to declare interest when conducting assessment to avoid conflict of interest. Each piece of artwork will only be acquired on the basis of unanimous support of the Advisers involved, including the price to be offered.

Display of Art Collections

8. The artworks to be acquired will form part of the art collection of our museums. They will be selected and displayed on a rotational basis in the permanent and thematic exhibitions of the museums and other venues including the new Oil Street Art Space which was open to the public in May 2013, as well as in outbound exhibitions presented overseas and in the Mainland. These artworks will also be digitalized and uploaded onto the museums' websites. In addition, the HKMA and HKHM have taken part in the Google Art Project since 2012. A total of 187 artworks have been uploaded on the Google platform last April, among which most are works of renowned Hong Kong artists. This platform enables us to share Hong Kong art with the global audience through a virtual wall-less museum, anywhere, anytime. The additional local artworks acquired will also be selected for uploading on this Google platform.

Co-ordination with M+ of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority

9. We are conscious of the need to co-ordinate and communicate with M+² of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (WKCDA) on each other's scope of museum collection to avoid competition for local artworks. M+ aims to build a world-class collection representative of the 20th and 21st century visual culture, encompassing the disciplines of visual art, design, architecture and moving image from Hong Kong, the Mainland, and expanding to other regions of Asia and the rest of the world. As for LCSD, the collection policy of its museums focuses mainly on Hong Kong so as to reflect the long-term development and cultural identity of Hong Kong art as well as the accomplishments of local artists. The scope will also be extended to cover the artistic and cultural heritage of South China particularly the Guangdong region which has strong connections with the

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² M+ is the new museum for visual culture to be developed by the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority.

development of Hong Kong art and culture. We will actively explore loaning of collections or collaboration with M+ in exhibitions to strengthen partnership. We will continue to strengthen communication and coordination with WKCDA in this regard.

Commissioning of Artworks by Local Artists

10. Public art provides a ready and easily accessible platform for members of the public to appreciate art in daily life. We plan to designate part of the \$50 million funding to the APO of the LCSD for commissioning local artworks for public display. The APO is tasked with promoting public art through collaboration with various sectors in the community. Flagship public art projects organized by APO include ArtAlive@Park (in collaboration with tertiary institutions), Artists in the Neighbourhood, Art@Government Buildings, Park Déco and Public Art Schemes. The APO also collaborates with the District Councils and community groups in organizing public art projects at the district level (e.g. Sai Kung District Council Public Art Project, and New Look for Public Places: Shanghai Street Public Art Project). Through these public art projects, Hong Kong artists are provided with opportunities to try out their ideas for site specific artworks, experiment with different creative media, and further develop their artistic careers.

11. For the purpose of commissioning artworks, LCSD will select the artists or artist teams through two channels, namely, open competitions and collaborations with art-related non-government organisations (NGOs). For open competitions, an adjudication panel comprising experts in public art, representatives of the districts/venues concerned and the Advisers, will be set up to select and recommend the appropriate artwork proposals for commissioning. The major selection criteria include artistic merits and creativity, technical competence of the artist/team, feasibility and safety of the proposal, as well as the costs of implementation, management, maintenance and repair. For collaboration projects, the appointed NGO partners must be art-related, non-profit making and have a good track record in executing similar commissioning projects. The independent advice of the Advisers as well as the views of the venue and district representatives will also be sought during the commissioning process.

12. We will identify more public places for the display of the commissioned artworks so that people in different districts can easily appreciate art at public places. For example, we plan to display more site-specific artworks that will blend in the environment of new government premises and public open spaces to be completed in the coming years (e.g. the New Annex of Ko Shan Theatre, the

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new West Kowloon Government Offices, the new Trade and Industry Tower in the Kai Tak Development Area, the Kwun Tong Industrial Heritage Park (at the current site of Tsun Yip Street Playground)). We will continue to promote the installation of functional artworks (e.g. park furniture) to inject creativity into public open spaces (e.g. parks, leisure and recreational facilities) and objects (e.g. benches, signage, lamp post, fence, railing, rubbish bin). Innovative street art will also be displayed at various locations to enhance citizens' experience in art in their daily life.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Capital Account

13. We propose to create a capital account commitment of \$50 million under LCSD as a dedicated funding for acquiring and commissioning local artists' artworks (as set out in paragraphs 5 and 11 respectively). The acquired artworks will be accessioned as museum and APO collections and selected for display for promoting art to the public. As each piece of artwork is unique and the acquisition cost is different, it is difficult to estimate the number of artworks that would be acquired, the allocation between acquisition and commissioning of artworks, as well as the annual cash flow requirements. To maintain the necessary flexibility (as with LCSD's use of existing recurrent funding for acquiring art collections in museums), there will not be any financial limit³ for each piece of artwork nor a specified period of time for using up the amount.

14. At present, funding for the acquisition and commissioning of artworks by local artists is included in LCSD's recurrent expenditure on acquisition or collection of artefacts and organising programmes for all its museums. From 2008-09 to 2012-13, LCSD's annual total expenditure on acquisition of local artworks ranged from \$1.69 million to \$6.10 million and the number of artworks acquired ranged from 142 to 1 628.

15. As the dedicated funding seeks to build up a greater momentum for promoting local artworks in the coming few years, we expect the dedicated funding of \$50 million will largely be spent in the first five years after the proposed commitment is approved. Once the commitment is approved and the capital account subhead is created, all new acquisition and commission of local artworks for museums and APO collection will be charged under the new commitment until the funding is depleted.

/Recurrent

³ Under the current arrangement, capital expenditure items costing more than \$150,000 each are charged to the Capital Account. Since an artwork may cost less than \$150,000, we propose that there will not be any lower financial limit for the proposed capital account as in other capital accounts.

Recurrent Expenditure

16. The proposal will not entail additional recurrent expenditure. No additional staff cost will be incurred.

IMPLEMENTATION

17. Subject to funding approval, we will start planning to acquire and commission artworks by local artists under the proposed capital account as set out in paragraphs 5 and 11 above.

CONSULTATION

Encl. 2

18. The proposal of acquiring and commissioning artworks by local artists was discussed at the meeting of Art Museum Advisory Panel⁴ held in April 2013 (the terms of reference and membership list of the Panel are at Enclosure 2). Panel members support the proposal.

19. We consulted the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Home Affairs on the proposal on 28 May 2013. Majority of the Members supported the proposal and the submission of funding application to the Finance Committee of the LegCo. At the meeting, Members opined that LCSD should ensure that the selection and acquisition of local artworks was conducted in a fair manner and consider allowing more public participation in the process. We explained that proper procedures would be followed to ensure that the selection process would be fair. We would also listen to views and allow more public participation where appropriate.

BACKGROUND

20. The Financial Secretary proposed in the 2013-14 Budget to allocate \$50 million for LCSD to acquire local visual artists' artworks, and to commission works of local artists for exhibition under public art schemes for promoting the profile of local artists and bringing their works to the attention of the art market.

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⁴ The Art Museum Advisory Panel is set up to advise the DLCS on the positioning of the art museums, strategies for business development, marketing and community involvement, as well as measures to enhance operational efficiency and accountability. Members are appointed by the SHA and comprise academics, museum experts, artists, art promoters, marketing experts and community leaders.

21. Currently, LCSD's art collections are held mainly in the HKMA and the HKHM. These two museums have been acquiring artworks of our local artists where appropriate.

22. The APO of LCSD has been promoting the profile and works of local artists, mainly through commissioning them to create artworks for public arts projects. These projects have proved to be very effective in promoting the profile of our artists and in nurturing the community's interest in art and Hong Kong artists.

Home Affairs Bureau
Leisure and Cultural Services Department
June 2013

**Museum Expert Advisers (Art) Appointed by
Director of Leisure and Cultural Services
(2012-13 to 2013-14)**

(Names are listed in alphabetical order and those with an asterisk denote multiple membership.)

a. Hong Kong Art

Mr. Gaylord CHAN	Ms. LI Wei-han, Rosanna
Mr. CHEUNG Yee, M.B.E.	Ms. LIU Siu-jane
Mr. CHU Hing-wah	Mr. LUI Chun-kwong
Dr. David CLARKE	Prof. MOK Kar-leung, Harold
Mr. FUNG Wing-kee, Raymond, J.P.	Mr. OU Da-wei
Dr. HO Siu-kee	Ms. Ellen PAU
Prof. HUI Cheuk-kuen, Desmond	Prof. Jeffrey SHAW
Mr. HUNG Hoi	Mr. TSANG Kwong-choi
Mr. HUNG Keung	Mr. VAN Lau, B.B.S.
Dr. LAI Yat-fong	Ms. WAN Lai-kuen, Annie
Dr. LAW Suk-mun, Sophia	Mr. WONG Wucius, B.B.S.
Mr. LEUNG Kui-ting	Mr. YIM Sen-kee, Rocco, B.B.S., J.P.

b. Design

Mr. CHAN Shui-lun, Dennis	Mr. LAU Siu-hong, Freeman, B.B.S.
Mr. CHAN Yau-kin, Alan, M.H.	Ms. LO Kai-yin, S.B.S.
Mr. CHEUNG Fuk-fan, Max	Mr. Walter MA
Mr. HON Bing-wah	Ms. MANN Lai-yin, Judy, M.H.
Dr. KAN Tai-keung, S.B.S.	Dr. Frankie NG
Mr. KU Jennings	Mr. WONG Ping-pui, Stanley
Prof. LAM H.T., Yanta	Mr. YIP Chi-wing, Alan

c. Hong Kong Photography

Mr. CHU Chai-kuen	Ms. LO Yuen-man, Yvonne
Mr. FUNG Hon-kee, Joseph	Mr. TAM Wai-ping, Lukas
Dr. LAI K., Edwin	Ms. WONG Wo-bik

d. Chinese Antiquities

Mr. Nigel CAMERON*	Dr. KWAN Sin-ming, Simon
Mr. CHUNG Wah-pui	Prof. Jenny SO
Mr. KOT See-for, M.H.	Mr. YANG Jianfang

/e. Chinese.....

e. Chinese Painting and Calligraphy

Prof. KAO May-ching
Dr. KOON Yee-wan
Mr. LAI Tim-cheung
Prof. LEE Yun-woon

Prof. TONG Kam-tang
Prof. WAN Qing-li
Dr. WONG Kwai-kuen, Leo, B.B.S.

f. Historical Pictures

Mr Nigel CAMERON*

Mr. Anthony HARDY

Mr. Peter J. THOMPSON, S.B.S.,
O.B.E., J.P.
Dr. TING Sun-pao, Joseph

Art Museum Advisory Panel
(20 October 2012 – 19 October 2014)

Terms of Reference

To advise the Director of Leisure and Cultural Services on:

- the positioning of the art museums;
- the business development strategies for the museums including but not limited to acquisition of collection items, organisation of exhibitions, conduct of research projects, drawing up measures and incentives for raising donations, attracting sponsorship as well as fostering partnership with corporations and other organisations;
- the marketing and publicity strategies to promote museum programmes and activities both locally, in the Mainland and overseas with a view to establishing a clear identity and branding for each of the major museums and to increase patronage;
- the community involvement strategies to enable more active participation by the community and closer collaboration with various stakeholders (e.g. local artists, collectors, local and overseas museums, cultural organisations, and educational institutions, etc.);
- the measures to strengthen the operational efficiency and accountability of public museums; and
- any other strategies or measures as proposed by Leisure and Cultural Services Department.

MEMBERSHIP

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Professional background</u>
Chairman:	Mr. LO Wing-sang, Vincent, B.B.S., J.P.	Consultant, Gallant Y T Ho & Co Director, The Ink Society
Members:	Ms. AU-YEUNG Wai-yin	Principal, Cognition College (Kowloon)
	Mr. FUNG Wing-kee, Raymond, J.P.	Adjunct Associate Professor, School of Architecture of The Chinese University of Hong Kong Board Member, West Kowloon Cultural District Authority

<u>Name</u>	<u>Professional background</u>
Dr. HO Siu-kee	Associate Professor and Programme Director of Master of Visual Arts, Academy of Visual Arts, Hong Kong Baptist University
Dr. KAN Tai-keung, S.B.S.	Founder, Kan & Lau Design Consultants
Dr. KWOK Viem, Peter, J.P.	Ex-Member, Council of the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (1.1.2010 – 31.12.2012)
Mrs. LEE CHANG, Nancy Maria	Director, The Ink Society
Ms. LI Wei-han, Rosanna	Non-official Member, Stamp Advisory Committee Artist, Sculptor
Prof. MOK Kar-leung, Harold	Chairman and Professor, Department of Fine Arts, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Ms. NG Mien-hua, Nikki	Group General Manager, Sino Land Company Limited Council Member, Hong Kong Arts Development Council
Mr. PONG Chun-ye, David	Executive Director, Shiu Wing Steel Limited Vice Chairman, The Ink Society
Ms. WONG Ying-kay, Ada, J.P.	Partner, Philip K.H. Wong, Kennedy Y.H. Wong & Co., Solicitors Member, Consultant Panel of West Kowloon Cultural District Authority
Mr. YIP Cheung-on, Alvin	Director, Jockey Club Design Institute for Social Innovation, Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Mr. YIP Chi-wing, Alan	Director, Yip Design Ltd.

Secretary

Chief Executive Officer (Culture) Special Duties, Leisure and Cultural Services Department