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### Replies to supplementary questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2017-18

**Director of Bureau : Home Affairs Bureau**

**Session No. : 14**

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**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**S-HAB01**

**(Question Serial No. S0042)**

Head: (53) GS: Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (700) General non-recurrent

Programme: (4) Recreation, Sport and Entertainment Licensing

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Mrs Betty FUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

1. It is indicated in Reply Serial No. HAB054 that the Operations Consultancy for the Kai Tak Sports Park (KTSP) will be completed in 2019. However, at a meeting of the Panel on Home Affairs in February, the Government has already quoted information from the consultancy study to give support to the "Design-Build-Operate" approach. In this connection, is the quotation from the consultancy study which is not yet completed in line with the current procedures?
2. The Project Cost Management Office made improvements to the project design, resulting in a reduction in the estimated construction cost of the KTSP by \$2 billion. Please provide a detailed breakdown of the expenditure reduced.

Asked by: Hon LAW Kwun-chung, Nathan (Member Question No. 48)

Reply:

1. According to the delivery schedule of the Operations Consultancy, the consultant has to complete various tasks and submit reports to the Government in stages. While the consultancy study is still in progress, we consider and adopt as appropriate the recommendations in the consultancy reports submitted by the consultants in taking forward the planning and preparatory work for the Kai Tak Sports Park project. This is in line with the existing practices and procedures for handling consultancy study.
2. The estimated cost of the construction works for the Sports Park is about \$23.8 billion in September 2016 prices. It is lower than the estimated cost of about \$25.2 billion given to the Legislative Council in 2015 mainly because we have taken the office building and hotel out of the scope of the construction works for separate development and made improvement to the design such as removing the basement carpark and relocating it to ground level to save cost.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**S-HAB02**

**(Question Serial No. S0044)**

Head: (53) GS: Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (6) Subvention: Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, Hong Kong Arts Development Council and Major Performing Arts Groups

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Mrs Betty FUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

With regard to the Art Development Matching Grants Pilot Scheme (the Pilot Scheme) launched by the Government in 2016 and the matching fund scheme launched by the Hong Kong Art Development Council itself, the matching grants are provided for the amount of donations/sponsorship that applicant organisations raised at a 1:1 ratio, rather than granted to the applicants by project. It can be seen that the approval given to a project depends much on the applicant organisation's ability to raise donations/sponsorship. Has the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) put in place any corresponding publicity measures to encourage donations/sponsorship when launching the Pilot Scheme? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons? Will the HAB consider introducing such measures?

In addition, when will the HAB plan to review the Pilot Scheme? When conducting such a review, will the HAB consider adjusting the percentages of the funding to the 3 types of eligible arts groups/artists?

Asked by: Hon LAW Kwun-chung, Nathan (Member Question No. 50)

Reply:

Under the Art Development Matching Grants Pilot Scheme (Pilot Scheme) launched in June 2016, eligible arts groups and arts organisations may apply for matching grants if they are able to secure donations/sponsorships. Eligible arts groups and arts organisations for the Pilot Scheme include arts groups which had completed 2 rounds of Springboard Grants Scheme under the Arts Capacity Development Funding Scheme, the 9 major performing arts groups, the Hong Kong Arts Festival Society and the Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC), which are relatively more established in the sector capable of raising private donations and sponsorships. By providing matching grants to these groups on a pilot basis, we hope to widen their sources of funding and further promote a donation culture and encourage community support for arts and cultural development.

For small and medium arts organisations under the HKADC's own matching fund scheme (MFS) which are less experienced in raising donations/sponsorships, the HKADC has organised training courses, sharing sessions and workshops to help arts groups and arts administrators to enhance their capacity in fundraising, arts administration, arts marketing and promotion. In addition, the Home Affairs Bureau and HKADC also issued press releases to announce the launch of the Pilot Scheme and the MFS.

The Advisory Committee on Arts Development will assess the overall effectiveness of the Pilot Scheme after the first round of applications, and conduct a review upon the completion of the third round, with a view to submitting its recommendations to the Secretary for Home Affairs on the way forward.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**S-HAB03**

**(Question Serial No. S0045)**

Head: (53) GS: Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (700) General non-recurrent

Programme: (6) Subvention: Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, Hong Kong Arts Development Council and Major Performing Arts Groups

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Mrs Betty FUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

The Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) indicated that the commitment of \$8.72 million for the “implementation of Arts Space Project at Genesis by the Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC)” would be provided for the HKADC to cover the costs required for the project, including renovation cost, startup cost and rental subsidies for emerging artists. Further to Reply Serial No. HAB062, the HAB has reserved \$1 million in 2016-17 under this item to fund HKADC’s operating budget for the “ADC Artspace”. Will the HAB please provide details of the expenditure items involved in the estimated amount of \$1 million?

Moreover, it is said that “the HKADC will explore with the owner the possibility of continuing the scheme beyond 2020”. As there is such a need in the arts sector, will the HAB please give an account of the review mechanism adopted for the scheme and the indicators to review the effectiveness of the scheme with a view to assessing its feasibility and sustainability? If no, please list the reasons.

Asked by: Hon LAW Kwun-chung, Nathan (Member Question No. 51)

Reply:

For the purpose of cash flow projection, the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) has reserved \$1 million in 2016-17 under Subhead 700 Item 802 to fund the Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC)’s operating budget for the “ADC Artspace”. The HAB disburses funding to the HKADC on a reimbursement basis based on actual expenditures. The actual expenditure under this item in 2016-17 is \$523,030, covering renovation cost (\$363,726) and rental subsidies for emerging artists (\$159,304).

All arts studios in the “ADC Artspace” have been leased to artists since the implementation of the scheme in November 2014. The over-subscription and full occupancy of the arts studios indicate that the scheme is well received by the artists.

The current lease with the owner of the premises will end in 2020 and the HKADC will approach the owner to discuss the possibility of continuing the present arrangement at an appropriate juncture. The Government acknowledges the needs of local arts community for more arts space and will continue to support the work of HKADC in this area, including the development of the Tai Po Art Centre and the additional art space in the ex-Aberdeen Fire Station site.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**S-HAB04**

**(Question Serial No. S0050)**

Head: (53) GS: Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Social Harmony and Civic Education

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Mrs Betty FUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

The Bureau mentioned in Reply Serial No. HAB057 that “not all planned exchange visits could eventually take place for various reasons”, and therefore the actual expenditure of last year was \$1.1 million less than the estimated one. What are the details of “various reasons” for visits not taking place? Has the Bureau projected that the above “various reasons” will occur again this year? If not, will the Bureau review the considerations in preparing the estimates? In 2015-16 and 2016-17, the expenditure per capita of every participant was about \$16,364, but the estimated expenditure per capita this year is \$20,857, representing an increase of nearly \$4,500 (over 27.5%). Will the Bureau please give the reasons for the increase of the per capita expenditure and provide the details?

Asked by: Hon LAW Kwun-chung, Nathan (Member Question No. 56)

Reply:

Under the existing International Youth Exchange Programme (IYEP), the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) liaises direct with governments of overseas partner countries to arrange youth exchange activities. HAB will discuss with the relevant organisations in individual overseas countries the detailed arrangements of the visits, including the programmes and schedules, the receiving capacity, funding availability and technical difficulties etc. While HAB has been actively exploring opportunities for international youth exchange, not all potential partner countries will eventually join the IYEP, and some countries may not be able to arrange exchange visits every year due to their own circumstances. As a result, the estimated expenditure may have to be revised to reflect the updated position.

For the IYEP in 2017-18, apart from the existing 5 partner countries, HAB is exploring new youth exchange opportunities with a few overseas partners. Sufficient funding has to be reserved in the 2017-18 estimate to cater for the airfare, lodging and other costs involved (and relatively higher costs have been provided in view of the possible long-distance travel). As the destinations of the exchange visits for the IYEP in 2017-18 may be different from those in the previous years, it would not be appropriate to compare the estimated expenditure in 2017-18 with the actual expenditures in 2015-16 and 2016-17 on a per head basis.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**S-HAB05**

**(Question Serial No. S0051)**

Head: (53) GS: Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Social Harmony and Civic Education

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Mrs Betty FUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

In Reply Serial No. HAB053, the Bureau did not provide a) the lists of organisers and b) the mode(s) of award under the International Youth Exchange Programme and the Summer Exchange Programme in the past 3 years. Does the Bureau maintain the relevant information? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LAW Kwun-chung, Nathan (Member Question No. 57)

Reply:

The Home Affairs Bureau has been organising the International Youth Exchange Programme (IYEP) and the Summer Exchange Programme (SEP) by itself during the past 3 years. Service providers were appointed through quotation process in accordance with the prevailing government rules and procedures to assist in providing logistical support to the visits. The Chinese Young Men's Christian Association of Hong Kong was awarded the contracts for the IYEP exchange visits in the past 3 years; for the SEP, the Jetour M.I.C.E. Services Limited was awarded the contract in 2014-15 and the Hong Thai Travel Services Limited was awarded the contracts in 2015-16 and 2016-17.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**S-HAB06**

**(Question Serial No. S0052)**

Head: (53) GS: Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (700) General non-recurrent

Programme: (2) Social Harmony and Civic Education

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Mrs Betty FUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

In Reply Serial No. HAB053, the Bureau established an item 808 “International Youth Exchange Programme” under Subhead 700. The Bureau said that an amount of \$3 million was planned for the item this year and “the expenditure is expected to increase gradually in subsequent years”. However, when asked about the details of the estimated expenditure, the Bureau stated that the Programme was “still in the planning stage” and it was “unable to provide the details at this stage”. Will the Bureau please inform this Committee of the anticipated time for using up the provision of \$100 million?

Asked by: Hon LAW Kwun-chung, Nathan (Member Question No. 58)

Reply:

Under our preliminary estimate, the provision of \$100 million can support the new funding scheme for about 6 years. The actual annual expenditure and the duration that the present provision could support the programme will depend on the actual amount of sponsorship granted each year. We will have a much better idea of the cash flow under the programme after we have processed the first batch of applications in 2017-18.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**S-HAB07**

**(Question Serial No. SV027)**

Head: (53) GS: Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Social Harmony and Civic Education

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Mrs Betty FUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

A follow-up question on Reply Serial No. HAB053:

In the 2017-18 Budget, the Financial Secretary proposes to allocate an additional non-recurrent provision of \$100 million to expand the International Youth Exchange Programme. With the additional allocation, the Home Affairs Bureau plans to launch a new funding scheme to sponsor community organisations to organise overseas youth exchange programmes. In this connection, will the Government please provide the estimation of the cash flow of the \$100 million provision after 2017-18 and the basis of the estimation?

Asked by: Hon LAW Kwun-chung, Nathan (Member Question No.)

Reply:

Under our preliminary estimate, the cash flow for the new funding scheme in 2017-18 is \$3 million. The actual annual expenditure and the duration that the present provision of \$100 million could support the programme will depend on the actual amount of sponsorship granted each year. We will have a much better idea of the cash flow under the programme after we have processed the first batch of applications in 2017-18. At present, our preliminary estimate is that the provision of \$100 million can support the new funding scheme for about 6 years.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****S-HAB08****(Question Serial No. SV026)**Head: (53) GS: Home Affairs BureauSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (4) Recreation, Sport and Entertainment LicensingControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Mrs Betty FUNG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home AffairsQuestion:

A follow-up question on Reply Serial No. HAB068:

Regarding the funding provided by the Government to full-time elite athletes through the Hong Kong Sports Institute, what are the respective average amounts of personal allowances and funding for each athlete?

Asked by: Hon LUK Chung-hung (Member Question No.)Reply:

Eligible elite athletes (including senior squad members, junior and student athletes) receive from the Hong Kong Sports Institute (HKSI) direct financial support (DFS) according to their achievements in national or international tournaments, where an inflation/deflation factor is incorporated in the grant levels. The level of grants for full-time athletes in 2017-18 is as follows :

<b>Categories of full-time athletes</b>	<b>Monthly grant (\$)</b>
Elite A+	33,040-38,840
Elite A	26,350-31,030
Elite B+	19,750-23,330
Elite B	14,170-16,750
Elite C	10,160-11,940
Senior Squad	6,600-7,770
Junior/Secondary Student Athlete A	6,600-7,770
Junior/Secondary Student Athlete B	4,880-5,750
Junior/Secondary Student Squad	3,060-3,590

The average amounts of direct financial support provided by the Government to full-time elite athletes through the HKSI in the past 5 years are set out below –

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Number of full-time athletes	218	269	279	312	350
Direct financial support to full-time athletes (\$ million)	39.51	40.74	50.15	59.08	64.7
Average amount of direct financial support per full-time athlete (\$ million)	0.1812	0.1514	0.1797	0.1893	0.1828

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**S-HAB09**

**(Question Serial No. S0057)**

Head: (53) GS: Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (5) Culture

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Mrs Betty FUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

In Reply Serial No. HAB084, the Government indicates that it will provide financial support to more than 20 art groups and agreements have been reached in principle to support more local art groups and artists to perform in major overseas and Mainland cities. In this connection, please provide the following information:

- 1) the criteria adopted by the Government for selecting local art groups and artists to perform in major overseas and Mainland cities; and
- 2) the names of the 20-odd funded art groups, their approved amounts of funding and the details of their performances overseas and in the Mainland.

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (Member Question No. 63)

Reply:

- 1) In celebration of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the Government has budgeted around \$50 million in 2017-18 to support arts and cultural performances and related activities by local art groups and artists outside Hong Kong. Funding allocation by the Government for each activity is based on its consideration of other competing alternatives and the reasonableness of the budget proposed by the concerned art groups.
- 2) Under Head 53, the Home Affairs Bureau has earmarked a total of around \$26 million to support a world tour by the Asian Youth Orchestra and a music event to be organised by Hong Kong Arts Development Council in London. As for the remaining \$24 million, it is funded by the Mainland Offices and overseas Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices as part of their celebration activities. Out of this \$24 million, about half of it has been budgeted for additional touring performances by the 9 major performing arts groups and the remaining amount is for supporting the outbound performances of other performing arts groups including more than 10 small

and medium-sized art groups. The funding allocation is subject to further changes as some of the performances are still being lined up.

As stated in reply Serial No. HAB084, the allocation of funding to more than 20 art groups has already been agreed in principle subject to the completion of formalities and finalisation of the performance venues and schedules with agencies outside Hong Kong. As of today, art groups with their performance confirmed are listed in the table below –

	<b>Name of organisations/ arts groups</b>	<b>Art form</b>	<b>Location of performance venues</b>
1.	Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra	Music	Overseas (Asia and Europe) and Mainland
2.	Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra		Overseas (Asia and Australia)
3.	Chung Ying Theatre Company	Theatre	Overseas (North America) and Mainland
4.	City Contemporary Dance Company	Dance	Overseas (Asia)
5.	Hong Kong Dance Company		Overseas (Europe)
6.	Hong Kong Sinfonietta	Music	Overseas (Europe)
7.	Zuni Icosahedron	Theatre	Overseas (North America)
8.	Hong Kong Repertory Theatre	Theatre	Mainland
9.	Hong Kong Ballet	Dance	
10.	Hong Kong Arts Development Council <sup>1</sup>	Music	Overseas (Europe)
11.	Musicus Society	Music	Overseas (Europe)
12.	Tang Shu Wing Theatre Studio	Theatre	Overseas (Europe)
13.	Rhythm and Tempo	Dance	Overseas (North America)
14.	Hong Kong Generation Next Arts	Music	Overseas (North America)
15.	Vantage Music Ltd	Music	Overseas (North America)

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<sup>1</sup> Hong Kong Arts Development Council will organise the “Hong Kong Music Series”.

	<b>Name of organisations/ arts groups</b>	<b>Art form</b>	<b>Location of performance venues</b>
16.	Hong Kong Arts Festival Society <sup>2</sup>	Dance	Overseas (Asia)
17.	Perry Chiu Experimental Theatre	Theatre	Overseas (Asia)
18.	Hong Kong Children and Juvenile Chinese Opera Troupe	Cantonese Opera	Overseas (Australia)
19.	Asia Youth Orchestra	Music	Overseas (Europe, North America, Asia) and Mainland
20.	Fung Lam and Teriver Cheung	Music	Mainland
21.	Trey Lee and Oliver Triendl		

<sup>2</sup> The programme “Danz Up” by Hong Kong Arts Festival Society.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**S-HAB10**

**(Question Serial No. SV025)**

Head: (53) GS: Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (5) Culture

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Mrs Betty FUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

Follow-up questions concerning Reply Serial No. HAB083:

- (i) a total of 11 applications were received and approved under the first round of the Art Development Matching Grants Pilot Scheme launched by the Government. In this connection, please list in detail the amount of grant approved for each application.
- (ii) the Hong Kong Art Development Council launched its own matching fund scheme (MFS) in August 2016 and an estimated total amount of \$4.2 million, involving 18 projects and 17 small and medium arts organisations, has been approved under the first round of the MFS. In this connection, please provide the funding details and the information on funded arts organisations.

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (Member Question No.)

Reply:

- (i) 11 applicants<sup>1</sup> under the first round of the Art Development Matching Grants Pilot Scheme were received and approved, involving a total commitment of around \$50 million. As the final amount of matching grants to be disbursed to each of these 11 applicants would depend on documentary proof of actual amount of donation and sponsorship successfully raised to be submitted by the applicants, a breakdown by art groups/organisations is not yet available.

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<sup>1</sup> The 11 applicants are: Opera Hong Kong Limited, Premiere Performances of Hong Kong Limited, Hong Kong Arts Festival Society, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra, Hong Kong Sinfonietta, Hong Kong Repertory Theatre, Chung Ying Theatre Company, Hong Kong Dance Company, Hong Kong Ballet and City Contemporary Dance Company.

- (ii) The 18 projects approved (involving 17 arts groups/organisations) by the Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC) under the first round of its own matching fund scheme (MFS) and the respective art groups/organisations granted with the matching fund are set out in the table below –

<b>Projects*</b>	<b>Arts groups/organisations receiving matching fund under HKADC's first round of MFS</b>
Be Inspired! Artist Nurturing Scheme	Arts with the Disabled Association Hong Kong
(a) 學校推廣計劃(人生百味@戲曲) (b) 小青苗暑期粵劇培訓班	Hong Kong Young Talent Cantonese Opera Troupe
Comix Home Base Tribute to Master Series III: Old Master Q – Indulging in Imagination	Hong Kong Arts Centre
「讓文學被看見—香港文學生活館文藝展覽系列」	The House of Hong Kong Literature Limited
Seenable Music – Audible VA	Hong Kong Institute of Aesthetic Education
Monster Education	Cinematic Theatre Limited
“The Lu-tings” in Edinburgh Festival Fringe	Theatre Horizon Arts Limited
Creative Student Award Scheme 2017	Hong Kong Society For Education in Art Limited
The Compendium of Hong Kong Literature 1950-1969	The Education University of Hong Kong
V is for Vision – staff training scheme	Edward Lam Dance Theatre Limited
Hoichiu x Skyhigh Sand Animation Program	St James' Settlement
Bel Canto Ensemble Training & Concert 2017	Bel Canto Singers Foundation Limited
Ink Global – Education and Public Engagement Programme	Young Artists Development Foundation Limited
Sun Museum Exhibitions and Lectures in early 2017	Simon Suen Foundation Limited
HKACA “Art-Music” Schools and Community Development Programme	Hong Kong Art and Culture Anywhere Foundation Association
Monteverdi on the go	SingFest Limited
To Love Red Nose	Pop Theatre Limited

\* Only Chinese names are available for some projects.

The total amount of matching fund approved by HKADC for the 18 projects is estimated to be \$4.2 million. The actual amount of matching fund to be disbursed by HKADC to individual arts groups/organisations would depend on the documentary proof on receipt of donations/sponsorships, and breakdown by art groups/organisations is not yet available.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**S-HAB11**

**(Question Serial No. S0053)**

Head: (53) GS: Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (7) Subvention: Duty Lawyer Service and Legal Aid Services Council

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Mrs Betty FUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

A follow-up question at the special meeting of the Finance Committee

A follow-up question on home affairs

Pursuant to Reply Serial No. HAB090, concerning the question of whether the Government will extend the Duty Lawyer Service to police stations, the Government stated that the Legal Aid Services Council completed a study in 2016 regarding the provision of legal assistance to detainees at police stations. What are the findings of the study? Is it feasible to conduct a study on the provision of legal assistance to detainees at police stations? If yes, will the Government adopt the recommendations in the study report? What is the implementation timetable of providing legal assistance to detainees at police stations?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (Member Question No. 59)

Reply:

The findings of the study on “Legal Assistance to Detainees at Police Station” completed by the Legal Aid Services Council (LASC) were set out in its Annual Report 2015/2016 which was tabled at the Legislative Council on 8 February 2017. In gist, LASC recommended that a publicly funded legal assistance scheme be introduced on a pilot basis for no longer than 2 years and as a start, 4 representative police stations may be involved in the pilot scheme.

As the proposed provision of legal assistance to detainees at police stations would entail substantial financial and operational implications, the Government would need to carefully examine its feasibility in consultation with relevant bureaux and departments. The Government will take into account LASC's findings and brief the Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services on the issue in mid-2017.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**S-HAB12**

**(Question Serial No. S0054)**

Head: (53) GS: Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Social Harmony and Civic Education

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Mrs Betty FUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

A follow-up question on home affairs:

Pursuant to Reply Serial No. HAB086, the Bureau did not provide the expected completion dates for the youth hostel projects in Sheung Wan, Mong Kok and Jordan. However, in a Legislative Council question session earlier on, the Government has provided the expected completion dates for the aforementioned youth hostel projects that the projects will be completed respectively between late 2019 and late 2020. Why did the Government fail to provide the completion dates this time? Is the delay of any youth hostel projects a result of procedural problems relating to the town planning application and their failure to change the land use? Are there any other reasons for the delayed delivery of youth hostel projects apart from procedural problems in making town planning applications?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (Member Question No. 60)

Reply:

The expected completion dates provided in early 2016 for some of the Youth Hostel Scheme (YHS) projects were preliminary estimates. While 2 projects have secured funding approval from the Legislative Council (LegCo), the others still have to complete various procedures, such as technical feasibility studies, lease modifications and town planning applications, before they could be considered for resource allocation. We will continue to work closely with the relevant non-government organisations to assist them in resolving technical issues and taking forward the projects.

We are actively implementing the 6 YHS projects and aim to complete the first one in late 2018. We are confident that we will be able to achieve the target of providing 3 000 hostel places and will seek funding approval from the LegCo for the construction and provide the estimated completion dates of various youth hostel projects as soon as they are ready.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****S-HAB13****(Question Serial No. S0060)**Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (000) Operational ExpensesProgramme: (3) Heritage and MuseumsControlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Ms Michelle LI)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home AffairsQuestion:

Regarding Reply Serial No. HAB207, the actual attendance of the 2 major exhibitions jointly organised by the Hong Kong Heritage Museum (HKHM) and Palace Museum, namely “The Extraordinary in the Ordinary: Chairs for Viewing the World through Time” and “Ceremony and Celebration – The Grand Weddings of the Qing Emperors”, fell short of the estimated figures by 51 825 and 41 336 respectively. The difference was much larger compared to other major exhibitions. Although the difference was even larger for “Dunhuang – Untold Tales, Untold Riches”, its total ticket proceeds were higher than those of the 2 exhibitions.

Among the major exhibitions held at the HKHM, “Ceremony and Celebration – The Grand Weddings of the Qing Emperors” incurred the highest expenditure with the lowest ticket proceeds.

As for the exhibition “Western Scientific Instruments of the Qing Court” organised by the Hong Kong Science Museum, the estimated attendance was 250 000 but the actual attendance was only 139 004, marginally more than half of the estimated figure. Its reception was even worse compared to the 2 exhibitions organised by the HKHM.

In this connection, please inform the Committee of the following:

1. Has the Government examined the reasons for the difference between the estimated and actual attendance of the above 3 exhibitions? In view of the 2 upcoming exhibitions to be co-organised with the Palace Museum this year, will the Government adjust downward their expenditures and estimated attendance in the light of past experience?
2. Since the ticket proceeds of the 2 exhibitions held at the HKHM were low compared to other exhibitions, will the Government cut down the number of similar exhibitions from the perspective of cost-effectiveness?
3. According to the Government, exhibitions themed on the Palace Museum were popular among local residents and foreign visitors. However, their actual attendance

and ticket proceeds are not supportive of the statement. In this connection, will the Government review its collaboration with the Palace Museum, including holding abeyance to the signing of any agreement with the Palace Museum in June? If not, what are the reasons?

4. The Palace Museum of Taiwan houses some of the gems of the royal collections from imperial establishments including the Forbidden City, Mukden Palace, Mountain Resort, Summer Palace, Jingyi Palace and Guozijian, as well as artefacts returned by Japan after the Second World War. Spanning over a period of 8 000 years from the Neolithic to the present, these collections outweigh their counterparts in Beijing in terms of amount and variety. If it is the Government's intention to deepen public understanding on Chinese history and civilisation, will it explore the opportunity for co-organising major exhibitions with the Palace Museum of Taiwan? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LAU Siu-lai

Reply:

1. We take into account various factors such as the number of exhibitions planned to be held in the year, the theme, attractiveness, scale and duration of each exhibition in estimating attendance figures. Deviation between the estimated and actual attendance of individual exhibitions is possible due to seasonal fluctuation of visitation, the level of admission charges, the availability of other attractions during the exhibition period, etc. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) will enrich both the content and the presentation as well as strengthen the promotional activities of the coming 2 exhibitions to be co-organised with the Palace Museum this year.
2. One of the missions of the public museums is to enhance public understanding of and appreciation for the richness of both local and world culture through organising exhibitions on different topics. The LCSD will continue to organise exhibitions on a wide array of themes to meet the varied and manifold needs of the visitors. Following the new initiative on free admission to the permanent exhibitions of designated museums with effect from August 2016, the LCSD will ensure that the admission fees for special exhibitions will be set at reasonable levels to boost museum visitation.
3. In 2012, the LCSD signed a collaborative agreement with the Palace Museum under which annual exhibitions are co-organised to display the rich diversity of the Palace Museum's collection. Since then, 4 exhibitions have been organised with different themes. These exhibitions attracted a total of some 430 000 visitors. The long-term collaboration between the LCSD and the Palace Museum not only provides valuable opportunities for our community and visitors to appreciate the precious heritage relics of China, but also enhances the professionalism of our museums particularly in the field of conservation and museology. The LCSD will continue to conduct regular reviews on the collaboration with its partners on the mode of co-operation and presentation of exhibitions to encourage more visitors to the museums.

4. From time to time, the LCSD explores opportunities to strengthen cultural exchanges and co-operation with museum institutions around the world with a view to bringing in quality exhibitions to Hong Kong. The LCSD will continue to identify suitable partnering organisations, taking into account various factors such as the positioning, mission and willingness of respective museums; as well as the appropriateness, distinctiveness and appeal of the exhibitions, etc.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**S-HAB14**

**(Question Serial No. S0061)**

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational Expenses

Programme: (5) Public Libraries

Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Ms Michelle LI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

Regarding Reply Serial No. HAB209, will the Government provide further information on the following:

1. The monthly average numbers of users and utilisation rates of public libraries in the past year;
2. Further to the above question, the hourly average numbers of users and utilisation rates of public libraries from 3 p.m. to the closing time on weekdays (Monday to Friday other than library closing days and public holidays) each month;
3. As the utilisation of Tin Shui Wai North Public Library is close to saturation and the utilisation rates of Hung Hom Public Library, Sheung Shui Public Library and Shek Kip Mei Public Library are over 85%, whether additional computer workstations will be provided; if yes, please state the number of additional workstations to be provided, the cost and the timetable; if no, please state the reasons;
4. The criteria adopted by the Government for determining the number of computer workstations in the libraries and for providing additional workstations.

Asked by: Hon LAU Siu-lai

Reply:

The monthly average attendance figures of each public library in 2016 are tabulated at **Annex**, while the hourly average attendance figures are not available.

The number and function of the computer workstations provided in libraries depend on the types of libraries, and the floor area and scope of services of the individual library. For Tin Shui Wai North Public Library, Hung Hom Public Library, Shek Kip Mei Public Library and Sheung Shui Public Library, the numbers of workstations currently provided in these libraries have taken into account the space available in these libraries. The Leisure and



Cultural Services Department would regularly review the number of computer workstations at various libraries with a view to optimising the utilisation and enhancing the services.

## Attendance of public libraries in 2016

District	Public Libraries	Monthly Average Attendance
<b>Hong Kong Island</b>		
Central & Western	City Hall	66 699
	Shek Tong Tsui	46 141
	Smithfield	23 744
Eastern	Chai Wan	49 597
	Electric Road	21 811
	North Point	26 528
	Quarry Bay	42 705
	Siu Sai Wan	34 345
	Yiu Tung	15 693
Southern	Aberdeen	49 761
	Ap Lei Chau	19 714
	Pok Fu Lam	19 133
	Stanley	12 940
Wanchai	Hong Kong Central Library	331 941
	Lockhart Road	48 783
	Wong Nai Chung	14 881
<b>Kowloon</b>		
Kowloon City	Hung Hom	28 208
	Kowloon	53 243
	Kowloon City	20 025
	To Kwa Wan	43 711
Kwun Tong	Lam Tin	77 697
	Lei Yue Mun	13 945
	Ngau Tau Kok	48 803
	Sau Mau Ping	13 624
	Shui Wo Street	48 673
	Shun Lee Estate	14 347
Sham Shui Po	Lai Chi Kok	62 798
	Po On Road	82 984
	Shek Kip Mei	24 771
	Un Chau Street	24 699

District	Public Libraries	Monthly Average Attendance
Wong Tai Sin	Fu Shan	18 083
	Lok Fu	22 309
	Lung Hing	25 812
	Ngau Chi Wan	37 875
	San Po Kong	68 492
	Tsz Wan Shan	31 577
Yau Tsim Mong	Fa Yuen Street	49 471
	Tai Kok Tsui	36 822
	Tsim Sha Tsui	13 672
	Yau Ma Tei	51 731
<b>New Territories</b>		
Islands	Cheung Chau	18 912
	Mui Wo	3 902
	North Lamma	576
	Peng Chau	2 820
	South Lamma	147
	Tai O	2 669
	Tung Chung	35 724
Kwai Tsing	North Kwai Chung	39 911
	South Kwai Chung	56 611
	Tsing Yi	64 081
North	Fanling	55 635
	Fanling South <sup>(1)</sup>	10 682
	Sha Tau Kok	2 531
	Sheung Shui	71 310
Sai Kung	Sai Kung	26 416
	Tiu Keng Leng	82 231
	Tseung Kwan O	59 979
Sha Tin <sup>(2)</sup>	Lek Yuen	19 852
	Ma On Shan	80 622
	Sha Tin	106 349
Tai Po	Tai Po	96 278
Tsuen Wan	Shek Wai Kok	10 196
	Tsuen Wan	109 401

<b>District</b>	<b>Public Libraries</b>	<b>Monthly Average Attendance</b>
Tuen Mun	Butterfly Estate	17 950
	Tai Hing	33 404
	Tuen Mun	115 095
Yuen Long	Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai	109 618
	Tin Shui Wai North	33 248
	Yuen Long	82 630
<b>Mobile Library</b>		
	Mobile Library 1	3 238
	Mobile Library 2	2 143
	Mobile Library 3	1 670
	Mobile Library 4	2 818
	Mobile Library 5	1 766
	Mobile Library 6	2 238
	Mobile Library 7	3 682
	Mobile Library 8	5 147
	Mobile Library 9	5 015
	Mobile Library 10	2 233
	Mobile Library 11	2 580
	Mobile Library 12	2 873

Notes

- (1) Fanling South Public Library (Small Library) was opened in August 2016.
- (2) Excluding the Yuen Chau Kok Public Library which was fully commissioned on 30 March 2017.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**S-HAB15**

**(Question Serial No. S0040)**

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (-) Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Ms Michelle LI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

It is indicated in HAB192 that this year's monthly wages of non-skilled workers in the outsourced service contracts remain low in the range of \$8,060 to \$9,920, same as last year. However, the salary of civil servants remunerated on the Model Scale 1 Pay Scale has increased by at least 4.7% to the range of \$12,115 to \$15,775. According to a survey by the Hong Kong Confederation of Trade Unions, wage level accounts for only 10% to 20% of the technical score, which translates to a mere 3% to 6% of the entire contract. It does little to help raise wages for outsourced workers. In this connection, does the Leisure and Cultural Services Department have plans to further increase the weighting of wage level in tender evaluation so as to raise wages for outsourced workers?

Asked by: Hon LAW Kwun-chung, Nathan

Reply:

In line with the Government's procurement procedures, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) adopts a transparent, open and fair competition tendering approach with marking scheme to evaluate the technical and price aspects of tenders and awards contract to the tender that delivers quality as well as economic efficiency. LCSD has been adopting a marking scheme for tender evaluation with the assessment criteria of wage level and working hours for non-skilled workers. As the outsourcing service tenders of the Department are operating smoothly, there is no plan at this stage to increase the technical weighting in the marking scheme. LCSD will, however, review the arrangement in a timely manner with reference to the Government's relevant policies and financial status.

- End -

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**S-HAB16**

**(Question Serial No. S0041)**

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Recreation and Sports, (5) Public Libraries

Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Ms Michelle LI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

1. It is indicated in HAB210 that according to the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines, there appeared to be a shortage of sports grounds only in the territory. In fact, there is yet a shortage of 16 sports centres, on top of those planned but not yet completed. In this connection, what is the timetable for the completion of the sports centres and sports grounds planned but not yet completed?
2. Further to HAB210, please provide information on the planning standards and provision of open spaces and major community facilities in the planning areas of the 18 districts.

Asked by: Hon LAW Kwun-chung, Nathan

Reply:

1. The timetable for sports centres and sports grounds under construction or planning is set out in the Annex.
2. In planning new and improved sports and recreation facilities, the Government makes reference to not only the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines (HKPSG) but also other relevant considerations including the current provision of sports facilities at the territory-wide and district levels, the policy objective of sports development, utilisation rates of existing facilities, demographic changes, the advice of District Councils, site availability and technical feasibility. We shall continue to plan sports and recreation facilities to meet the needs of individual district according to the criteria as stated above.

**Sports Centres and Sports Grounds under Construction or Planning****A. 8 Sports centre projects under construction**

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Tentative Works Completion Date</b>
1	Public Library and Indoor Recreation Centre in Area 3, Yuen Long	Will be opened to the public in 2017
2	Sports Centre in Area 4, Tsing Yi	Will be opened to the public in 2017
3	Sports Centre between Tsuen Wan Park and Tsuen Wan Road, Tsuen Wan	2017
4	Government Complex in Area 14 (Siu Lun), Tuen Mun	2019
5	Sports Centre in Area 24D, Sha Tin	2019
6	Sports Centre, 5-a-side soccer pitch and public library facilities at Northwest Kowloon Reclamation Site 6, Sham Shui Po	2020
7	Sports Centre, community hall and football pitches in Area 1, Tai Po	2021
8	Sports Centre at Choi Wing Road, Kwun Tong	2021

**B. 9 Sports centre projects under different planning stages**

1	Kai Tak Sports Park (Sports Centre) *
2	Sports Centre in Area 103, Ma On Shan
3	Sports Centre and Open Space at Aldrich Bay
4	Sports Centre and Town Plaza at Sai Kung
5	Sports Centre at Kam Tin Pak Heung
6	Sports Centre at Lai Chi Kok
7	Sports Centre in Area 6, Tai Po
8	Sports Centre in Area 12, Yuen Long
9	Sports Centre in Area 39, Tung Chung

**C. Sports Grounds under different planning stages**

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Project Title</b>
1	Kai Tak Sports Park (Sports Ground) *
2	Sports Ground and Open Space in Area 16, Tuen Mun – Pre-construction works *

Note

- \* We are planning to consult the relevant LegCo Panels and seek the funding approval of the Finance Committee for these projects in 2016-17.

- End -



**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**S-HAB17**

**(Question Serial No. S0043)**

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Ms Michelle LI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

As indicated in the reply in HAB232, it was announced in the Policy Address that the Government plans to earmark a total of \$20 billion to launch 26 projects in the coming 5 years to develop sports and recreation facilities in different districts. However, there are only 5 projects of which have specific commencement dates while there is no timetable for the remaining 21 projects. In this connection, of the \$20 billion, what are the estimated expenditures involved for 2017-18 and 2018-19?

Asked by: Hon LAW Kwun-chung, Nathan

Reply:

As regards the remaining 21 projects, they are at different planning stages. The timetable, the estimated capital and recurrent cost of the projects are being worked out. We will provide details when we consult the relevant LegCo Panels and seek funding approval of the Finance Committee on these projects in the years to come.

- End -