

立法會
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Panel on Home Affairs

**Information note prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat
for the meeting on 19 December 2018**

**Enhancement of programming, audience building, and renewal of
permanent exhibitions of Hong Kong Science Museum**

Opened in 1991, the Hong Kong Science Museum ("HKScM") has 17 exhibition galleries occupying a total area of 7 245 sq m. Sixteen of these galleries are for permanent exhibitions and one (745 sq m) for housing temporary special exhibitions.

2. When the Panel on Home Affairs ("the Panel") discussed the Administration's progress report on enhancement of programming, audience building and renewal of permanent exhibitions of public museums on 21 December 2017, the Administration advised that the renewal works for the Biodiversity Gallery and Children Gallery of HKScM were completed in 2016 and 2017 respectively. Meanwhile, HKScM was pressing ahead with conversion/renewal works for the Palaeontology Gallery, Earth Science Gallery, Transportation Hall, Home Technology Hall and Food Science Hall. These renewal projects would be completed in phases by 2021.

3. The Administration further advised that HKScM would also convert the Telecommunications Gallery into a new InnoTech Gallery to showcase the development and achievements of frontier science and technology research by 2023. The total funding required for developing the new InnoTech Gallery was estimated at \$40 million, which covered preliminary studies and design of exhibition gallery, infrastructure and equipment, flooring and electrical work, as well as fabrication, installation and integration of interactive exhibits. The provision required would be reflected in the Estimates of the relevant financial years. The cash flow requirement of the InnoTech Gallery project is in the **Appendix**.

4. Members may wish to note that the permanent exhibitions of HKScM have been open to full-time students free of charge since August 2016 as part of the Administration's initiative to promote the appreciation of culture, art, history

and science and widen the audience base of the public museums.¹ According to the Administration, the attendance of HKScM had increased by 70.03% in the first year after the implementation of the initiative when compared with the attendance in the same period of the previous year.² Members expressed appreciation of the free admission arrangement and suggested that additional concessionary measures should be provided.

5. The Administration will consult the Panel on the non-recurrent allocation of \$20 million funding proposal for revamping permanent exhibitions of individual galleries of HKScM at the next meeting on 19 December 2018.

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
13 December 2018

¹ With effect from 1 August 2016, the permanent exhibitions of the Hong Kong Museum of Art, the Hong Kong Museum of History, the Hong Kong Heritage Museum, the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence and the Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum, have been open to all members of the public free of charge, whereas the permanent exhibitions of HKScM and the Hong Kong Space Museum have offered free admission to full-time students.

² According to the Administration, the annual attendance figures of HKScM for August 2015 to July 2016 and August 2016 to July 2017 are 1 064 586 and 1 810 134 respectively, representing an increase of 745 548 (70.03%) visitors.

Appendix

Cash flow requirement – Hong Kong Science Museum Innotech Gallery

	(\$'000)
2018-19	500
2019-20	5,000
2020-21	12,700
2021-22	12,500
2022-23	9,300
Total	40,000

[Source: Annex II to LC Paper No. CB(2)553/17-18(03)]