

立法會
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**Public Works Subcommittee of the Finance Committee
of the Legislative Council**

**Minutes of the 16th meeting
held in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex
on Wednesday, 13 May 2020, at 8:30 am**

Members present:

Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP (Chairman)
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP
Hon CHAN Hak-kan, BBS, JP
Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP
Hon Claudia MO
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, SBS, JP
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen
Hon CHAN Han-pan, BBS, JP
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP
Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan
Hon Alvin YEUNG

Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin
Hon CHU Hoi-dick
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP
Hon HO Kai-ming
Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding
Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH
Hon Tanya CHAN
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP
Hon HUI Chi-fung
Hon LUK Chung-hung, JP
Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH
Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai
Hon Jeremy TAM Man-ho
Hon Vincent CHENG Wing-shun, MH, JP
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS
Hon CHAN Hoi-yan

Members attending:

Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki
Hon SHIU Ka-fai, JP
Hon Kenneth LAU Ip-keung, BBS, MH, JP

Member absent:

Hon KWONG Chun-yu

Public officers attending:

Mr Howard LEE Man-sing	Deputy Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury) ³
Mr LAM Sai-hung, JP	Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)
Ms Bernadette LINN, JP	Permanent Secretary for Development (Planning and Lands)

Ms Maisie CHENG Mei-sze, JP	Permanent Secretary for the Environment
Ms Margaret HSIA Mai-chi	Principal Assistant Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Treasury) (Works)
Mr Jack CHAN Jick-chi, JP	Under Secretary for Home Affairs
Ms Iona SHAM Hiu-tung	Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs (Culture)2
Ms Winnie HO Wing-yin, JP	Deputy Director of Architectural Services
Mr Henry LOK Wan-pak	Senior Project Manager 333 Architectural Services Department
Miss Eve TAM Mei-yee	Assistant Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Heritage and Museums)
Ms Ronne YUEN Yuet-po	Head (Museum Projects and Development) Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms Paulina CHAN Shuk-man	Museum Director (Science Museum) Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Ms Belinda WONG Sau-lan	Museum Director (Museum of History) Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Mr Paul CHENG Ching-wan	Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs (Recreation and Sport)1
Mr Stephen IP Shing-tak	Chief Technical Adviser (Subvented Projects) Architectural Services Department
Attendance by invitation:	
Dr Trisha LEAHY, BBS	Chief Executive Hong Kong Sports Institute
Dr Tony CHOI	Deputy Chief Executive Hong Kong Sports Institute

Dr Raymond SO	Director Elite Training Science & Technology Hong Kong Sports Institute
Ms Monita HO	Associate Director (Estate Office) Hong Kong Sports Institute
Mr AU King-tung	Executive Director DLN Architects Hong Kong Limited
Mr C K CHAN	Executive Director Arcadis Design & Engineering Limited
Ms Lysander LAM	Director Arcadis Hong Kong Limited

Clerk in attendance:

Ms Doris LO	Chief Council Secretary (1)2
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Staff in attendance:

Mr Keith WONG	Council Secretary (1)2
Ms Christina SHIU	Legislative Assistant (1)2
Ms Christy YAU	Legislative Assistant (1)8
Ms Clara LO	Legislative Assistant (1)9

Action

The Chairman advised that this meeting would continue to examine the funding proposals (i.e. items 3 to 13) carried over from the meeting on 11 May 2020. The 11 funding proposals involved a total funding allocation of \$45,231.7 million. He reminded members that in accordance with Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedure ("RoP") of the Legislative Council ("LegCo"), they should disclose the nature of any direct or indirect pecuniary interests relating to the funding proposals under discussion at the meeting before they spoke on the proposals. He also drew members' attention to Rule 84 of RoP on voting in case of direct pecuniary interest.

Head 703 — Buildings

PWSC(2019-20)25 75RE Expansion of Hong Kong Science Museum and Hong Kong Museum of History

Head 708 — Capital Subventions and Major Systems and Equipment

54QJ New facilities building of the Hong Kong Sports Institute

2. The Chairman advised that the proposal, i.e. [PWSC\(2019-20\)25](#), sought to upgrade part of 75RE (i.e. pre-construction activities for the expansion of the Hong Kong Science Museum ("HKScM") and the Hong Kong Museum of History ("HKMH")) and part of 54QJ (i.e. pre-construction activities for the new facilities building of the Hong Kong Sports Institute ("HKSI")) to Category A at the estimated costs of \$72.8 million and \$54.7 million in money-of-the-day prices respectively. The Subcommittee started discussing this paper at the last meeting and would now continue with the discussion.

3. Mr WU Chi-wai opined that it was undesirable for the Administration to group the funding proposals for the pre-construction activities for three different venues (i.e. the expansion of HKScM and HKMH and the new facilities building of HKSI) under one agenda item, as members would find it difficult to focus their discussion on the works at specific venues. He requested the Administration to undertake that separate funding proposals would be submitted to LegCo in respect of the main works for the expansion of the two museums and of the new facilities building of HKSI.

4. Under Secretary for Home Affairs ("USHA") said that as the expansion works of HKScM and HKMH were implemented as one project which included the construction of facilities for shared-use by the two museums, the Administration would submit one funding proposal to LegCo in respect of the main works for the expansion of the two museums. As for the main works of the new facilities building of HKSI, the Administration would submit a separate funding proposal to LegCo.

Expansion of Hong Kong Science Museum and Hong Kong Museum of History

5. Pointing out that HKScM and HKMH were located at the centre of Tsim Sha Tsui East, Mr Tony TSE, Mr Vincent CHENG and Mr Jeremy TAM enquired how the Administration would enhance the connectivity of the museum complex with Tsim Sha Tsui District and Tsim Sha Tsui East when planning the expansion of the two museums.

6. USHA indicated that as HKScM and HKMH, having been built some 20 years ago, were walled buildings with an old architectural design layout, and their accessibility was unsatisfactory. Therefore, when implementing the expansion of the two museums, the Administration planned to remove the existing walls and build a piazza allowing 24-hour public access. In addition, the Administration initially planned to build a footbridge at Science Museum Road that would be connected to the existing footbridge system that linked up the Cross-Harbour Tunnel Toll Plaza, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University and Tsim Sha Tsui East, so as to enhance the accessibility and exposure of the museum complex, increase its connectivity with the neighbourhood and provide more leisure and activity spaces for the public.

7. Mr CHU Hoi-dick opposed the proposed expansion of HKMH given his worry that the future exhibition content of HKMH (especially those of *The Hong Kong Story* exhibition) might be politically manipulated and distorted. He then asked whether the project scope and cost estimate of the expansion of HKMH could be separated from that of HKScM; if not, he would have no choice but to vote against the entire funding proposal for the expansion of the two museums.

8. Deputy Director of Architectural Services ("DDArchS") said that under the proposed project, two sites (i.e. Site 1 and Site 2 as shown at Annex 1 to Enclosure 1 to the government paper) were reserved for the respective expansion of HKMH and HKScM. However, the expansion works of the two museums were inter-related. As the project would be implemented in phases, the two sites would be used for temporary reprovisioning of some facilities of the two museums, thereby allowing the continuous provision of museum services during the construction period. Moreover, facilities for shared-use by the two museums would also be built at the two sites. Therefore, the expansion works for the two museums must be taken forward together under a single works project, and separate implementation was not feasible.

9. Mr Tony TSE and Dr Fernando CHEUNG enquired about the completion date of the entire expansion project of HKScM and HKMH.

10. USHA and DDArchS said that the Government was expected to commence the pre-construction activities for the expansion project in the third quarter of 2020 after obtaining the funding approval of the Finance Committee. Upon completion of the pre-construction activities in the second quarter of 2023, the first phase expansion of the two museums would commence. The expected completion dates for phase one and two were 2026 and 2030. DDArchS added that the expansion had to be implemented in phases for the museums to remain in operation during the expansion works,

resulting in a longer construction period. The Government would, together with the engineering consultant it engaged, focus on exploring ways to compress the works programme so as to complete the entire expansion project as soon as possible.

11. Mr Tony TSE suggested that the Administration should consider organizing a design competition in respect of the expansion of HKScM and HKMH, so as to engage the local architecture and design sectors in the project. DDArchS said that the Government would later embark on the design of the expansion project in the hope of injecting new elements to the image of the two museums. The Architectural Services Department would then work with the Leisure and Cultural Services Department ("LCSD") to explore the feasibility of organizing a competition to invite the local architecture and design sectors to submit their concepts in the design work of part of the project.

12. Mr Tony TSE suggested that the Administration should, in implementing the expansion project of the two museums, provide public facilities for shared-use by HKScM and HKMH so as to save resources. USHA indicated that the Government planned to provide new public facilities, including a restaurant and a souvenir shop, outside HKScM and HKMH for shared-used by the two museums.

13. Dr Fernando CHEUNG enquired whether the Administration would consider inviting social enterprises to operate the shared restaurant of HKScM and HKMH. Assistant Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Heritage and Museums) ("AD(HM)/LCSD") said that the restaurant in HKMH was currently operated by a social enterprise. However, LCSD had yet to finalize the operation arrangement of the new restaurant and souvenir shop to be provided in the future. The above suggestion would be considered.

14. Dr Junius HO queried the \$63.1 million high consultants' fees for design and preparation of tender documents in the cost estimate of the pre-construction activities for the expansion of HKScM and HKMH. He opined that such tasks could be taken up by the Administration to save the consultants' fees.

15. DDArchS remarked that given the complexity of the expansion project of HKScM and HKMH and the need to implement the project in phases, it was necessary to engage a consultant to take up the design work and prepare the tender documents. The estimated consultants' fees were set by drawing reference to the tender prices of recent government projects of similar scale.

Exhibitions and activities organized by Hong Kong Science Museum

16. Mr MA Fung-kwok and Mr Vincent CHENG expressed support for the proposed project. Mr CHENG was concerned that HKScM could not attract young visitors as its exhibits were outdated. He hoped that the Administration would, through the expansion project, introduce new elements to the exhibitions and activities of HKScM.

17. The Deputy Chairman hoped that the Administration would, in implementing the expansion project of HKScM, consider providing dedicated galleries for local universities and research institutions to exhibit and showcase their scientific research products and technologies on a long-term basis so as to promote local scientific research. In addition, he pointed out that some members of the local information technology sector had offered to lend their collection of old computers to HKScM for exhibition. He hoped that consideration could be given to staging such kind of exhibition at HKScM to showcase the evolution of computers, and space could be provided for keeping such items with educational value.

18. USHA said that views put forward by members on the future development of HKScM would be considered. He pointed out that the floor area of HKScM would be increased by 8 500 square metres ("m²") after the expansion, of which 2 000 m² would be dedicated to educational purpose. Lively and interactive exhibits would be acquired to attract young visitors. Moreover, HKScM had also endeavoured to collaborate with science museums around the world in recent years and had replaced its exhibits on a regular basis in order to stage more attractive exhibitions. The replacement work was expected to complete in 2024. AD(HM)/LCSD supplemented that the Government planned to build a museum collections centre in Tin Shui Wai for safe-keeping of valuable items when they were not in display.

19. Mr WU Chi-wai pointed out that the Hong Kong Space Museum ("HKSpaceM"), positioned as the museum for the popularization of astronomy and space science, shared a similar educational role as HKScM. He enquired whether the Administration would consider swapping the locations of HKMH and HKSpaceM, so that HKSpaceM and HKScM would be located adjacent to each other to achieve a synergy effect.

20. AD(HM)/LCSD and Museum Director (Science Museum), Leisure and Cultural Services Department, replied that with its unique architectural feature, HKSpaceM had become part of the iconic structures at the

Tsim Sha Tsui harbourfront alongside the adjacent Hong Kong Cultural Centre. Constrained by its floor area and limited space for development, HKSpaceM focused on staging OMNIMAX shows and astronomy-themed exhibitions. The Government planned to provide a dedicated exhibition area in the new annex building of HKScM for showcasing cutting-edge science and technologies, including the latest space technology. The Government expected that the different positioning as mentioned above could bring visitors from HKSpaceM to the museum complex in Tsim Sha Tsui East in the future.

Exhibitions and activities organized by Hong Kong Museum of History

21. Mr LUK Chung-hung and Dr Priscilla LEUNG expressed support for the proposed public works project. They opined that the exhibitions and activities staged at HKMH must present a faithful account of important historical events, including the Opium War, so that young visitors could have a correct understanding of history. Dr LEUNG also suggested that the Administration should introduce technological elements to the exhibitions of HKMH and present historical events in a light-hearted and interactive manner to enhance the attractiveness of HKMH to youngsters.

22. Mr Jeremy TAM, Mr WU Chi-wai, Dr KWOK Ka-ki, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Mr Andrew WAN and Dr Helena WONG opined that the exhibitions and activities staged at HKMH should not shy away from presenting historical events and subjects that were politically sensitive. Moreover, faults should not be concealed and achievements boasted, and an unbiased stance should be adopted in narrating the history of Hong Kong.

23. USHA said that HKMH always presented historical events in an unbiased manner. Moreover, LCSD had appointed museum expert advisers and a Museum Advisory Committee. The panel of expert advisers comprised historians, academics, etc., who were seasoned professionals in disciplines such as history, archeology and heritage. They would provide expert advice for LCSD on the collections and exhibition content of LCSD museums. He added that LCSD would consider introducing new technologies (including virtual reality and artificial intelligence) for presenting historical events at HKMH after the expansion, so as to make the exhibitions more interesting.

24. Mr Alvin YEUNG and Dr KWOK Ka-ki opined that there should be dedicated exhibitions at HKMH on the historical events of Hong Kong, including the "1967 riots" in the 1960s and the social events that happened between 2019 and 2020 arising from the opposition to the Fugitive Offenders and Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Legislation (Amendment)

Bill 2019. Dr Helena WONG also opined that HKMH should add in new exhibition content on Hong Kong's development since its reunification with China.

25. Museum Director (Museum of History), Leisure and Cultural Services Department, said that the existing *The Hong Kong Story* permanent exhibition at HKMH gave an account of Hong Kong's development from 400 million years ago to its reunification with China in 1997. She pointed out that in planning *The Hong Kong Story* permanent exhibition, HKMH sought to provide visitors with a more comprehensive picture of Hong Kong's history by featuring major historical events (including the "1967 riots") in the context of *The Hong Kong Story* rather than giving a separate account of specific events. She added that LCSD determined the exhibition content based on its independent and professional judgment and in consultation with museum expert advisers and the Museum Advisory Committee.

26. The Chairman drew members' attention to paragraph 36 of the Public Works Subcommittee ("PWSC") Procedure, which provided that the speeches made by members must relate directly to the agenda item. On wider questions of policy, including how the Administration should arrange the exhibitions and the exhibition content of HKMH, members could raise such questions in the full Council or at an appropriate Panel. He also reminded members not to express their political stances while raising questions to officials.

27. Mr Abraham SHEK supported the direction given by the Chairman in accordance with paragraph 36 of the PWSC Procedure and opined that other members should focus their discussion on the content of the proposed projects. Mr CHU Hoi-dick disagreed with the Chairman's direction and opined that the exhibition content of HKMH after its expansion was directly related to the design and construction of its new annex building. The Chairman should allow members to speak on the subject.

28. Pointing out that the Hong Kong Palace Museum ("HKPalaceM") was expected to open in 2022, Ms Tanya CHAN enquired whether the Administration had plans of forging a partnership between HKMH and HKPalaceM.

29. USHA said that HKMH was positioned as the museum on Hong Kong's history, while HKPalaceM would mainly display artefacts from the Palace Museum. AD(HM)/LCSD supplemented that various museums under LCSD had staged exhibitions jointly with the Beijing Palace Museum. LCSD would, through the regular communication mechanism with the

West Kowloon Cultural District Authority, explore opportunities to forge cooperation between HKPalaceM and other museums.

Attendance of Hong Kong Science Museum and Hong Kong Museum of History

30. Dr CHENG Chung-tai and Dr Junius HO opined that the Administration should formulate strategies for the long-term development of LCSD museums in order to make them more attractive and increase their attendance. Dr CHENG, Dr HO and Mr Andrew WAN enquired how the expansion of HKScM and HKMH would ensure an adequate level of attendance of the museums and generate reasonable income in the long run.

31. USHA said that LCSD had all along endeavoured to launch attractive exhibitions at its museums and replace the content of permanent exhibitions on a routine basis. Statistics indicated that HKScM and HKMH received around 1 million visitors in each of the past few years. In 2017, HKScM even attracted 2 million visitors, indicating that the two museums remained attractive to the public of Hong Kong. AD(HM)/LCSD supplemented that the floor area for staging exhibitions in both museums would increase significantly after the expansion, making it possible to stage exhibitions of larger scale. Past exhibition experience indicated that large-scale exhibitions would more likely attract more visitors and commercial sponsorships, which would in turn generate more income for the museums.

32. Mr Andrew WAN enquired whether the Coronavirus Disease 2019 outbreak would have any implications on the attendance of HKScM and HKMH in the long run according to the Administration's estimate. USHA expected that the attendance of the two museums would remain stable in the long run.

New facilities building of the Hong Kong Sports Institute

33. Noting from the government paper that the new facilities building of HKSI would be provided with a 40-room sports residence area, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen enquired about the major use of the residence. Mr CHAN and Mr Holden CHOW opined that HKSI should provide athletes' hostel in the new facilities building in order to provide lodging for more full-time athletes at HKSI. Mr Jeremy TAM suggested that should vacancies arise, part of the guest accommodation could be used for providing short-term lodging for local athletes who needed to stay at HKSI.

34. Chief Executive, Hong Kong Sports Institute ("CE/HKSI"), said that HKSI had always provided guest accommodation for visiting teams, foreign athletes or coaches coming to Hong Kong to assist in training of local athletes, as well as relevant foreign sports professionals participating in HKSI's seminars. Arrangement could be made for local athletes to take free lodging at the guest accommodation at HKSI on grounds of training needs. USHA supplemented that after completion of the new facilities building, 96 places at the existing guest accommodation would be converted for use as athletes' hostel, bringing the number of athletes' hostel places to 518, a capacity expected to meet the needs of full-time athletes.

35. Mr LUK Chung-hung suggested that the Administration should consider including football as one of HKSI's elite sports. USHA replied that members' views would be considered.

36. Mr MA Fung-kwok declared that he was a member of the Board of Directors of HKSI. Expressing support for developing the new facilities building at HKSI, Mr MA considered that this would boost HKSI's effort to enhance the training for athletes. He suggested that the Administration should reserve land for the future expansion of HKSI, so that HKSI would have sufficient space for providing more training facilities for athletes. Ms Claudia MO enquired whether the future development needs of HKSI in the next one to two decades could be met by the proposed new facilities building project.

37. CE/HKSI said that HKSI would have an increase in net operating floor area by 8 940 m² after completion of the new facilities building, which was expected to meet HKSI's development needs in the next decade. She believed that the Government would provide the necessary assistance should HKSI need more land for provision of additional training facilities.

38. Mr WU Chi-wai expressed support for the pre-construction activities for the proposed new facilities building of HKSI. He enquired whether the current design of the new facilities building had maximized the plot ratio of the site.

39. Executive Director, DLN Architects Hong Kong Limited said that the new facilities building was designed to meet the development needs of HKSI in the next decade. It was not necessary to maximize the plot ratio of the site, or else wastage would be caused by development of redundant floor area. He added that there were still several idle sites within the precinct of HKSI. Consideration might be given to developing new facilities at those sites should other development needs of HKSI arise in the future.

[At 10:20 am, the Chairman asked members whether they agreed to extend the meeting for 15 minutes to 10:45 am, and no members raised objection.]

40. The Chairman said that the Subcommittee would continue to discuss this item at the next meeting. The meeting ended at 10:44 am.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
16 June 2020