

立法會 *Legislative Council*

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Panel on Development and Panel on Home Affairs

Proposed appointment of Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project in the 2020-2021 session

Purpose

This paper invites members to consider whether a Joint Subcommittee to Monitor the Implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District Project ("Joint Subcommittee") should be appointed under the Panel on Development ("DEV Panel") and the Panel on Home Affairs ("HA Panel"), and if so, to also consider the proposed Terms of Reference, work plan and time frame for completion of work of the Joint Subcommittee.

Background

2. A joint subcommittee had been set up under DEV Panel and HA Panel since the Fourth Legislative Council ("LegCo") to monitor issues relating to the implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District ("WKCD") project, including the work of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority ("WKCDA"), the project's interface with arts and cultural development, and other related matters.

3. In the previous sessions of the Sixth LegCo, the Joint Subcommittee had followed up the recommendations of the former Joint Subcommittee formed in the Fifth LegCo, and had focused its work on the following areas:

- (I) the taking forward of the Development Plan for WKCD;
- (II) planning and development of core arts and cultural facilities ("CACF") and other associated facilities;
- (III) strategy for the development of cultural software;
- (IV) financial management and procurement procedures; and
- (V) governance and work of WKCDA.

Suggestions/recommendations of the Joint Subcommittee made in the previous sessions of the Sixth Legislative Council

4. In the course of its deliberations in the previous sessions of the Sixth LegCo, the Joint Subcommittee had made a number of suggestions/recommendations to the Administration and WKCDA, as set out in its report ([LC Paper No. CB\(1\)838/19-20](#) issued on 7 July 2020) submitted to DEV Panel and HA Panel. In gist, the Joint Subcommittee recommended that the Administration/WKCDA should:

The taking forward of the Development Plan for the West Kowloon Cultural District

- (a) closely monitor the works for the phased development of the Integrated Basement ("IB") to ensure timely delivery, and regularly report to LegCo about the expenditure position and progress of the IB project and the topside development projects to give early alert of any potential overspending and project delay;
- (b) continue to take forward the provision of public infrastructure works, such as roads, bridges, drainage, fire station, public pier and other ancillary facilities to support the whole WKCD;
- (c) identify a suitable site for the relocation of the operational facilities of Tsim Sha Tsui Fire Station Complex, before which not to proceed with the relocation;
- (d) ensure that the planned transport and pedestrian infrastructures for WKCD and the road improvement works for the West Kowloon Reclamation Development area will be completed in good time and public transport services will be available to cope with the increasing traffic demand, and facilitate marine access to WKCD;
- (e) closely monitor the actual parking demand and review the provision of parking facilities in WKCD, including that for coaches, as and when necessary;

Planning and development of core arts and cultural facilities and other associated facilities

- (f) continue to expedite delivery of CACF in WKCD; and explore means to bridge the funding gap in order to draw up a concrete timetable for the implementation of the Batch 3 facilities as early as practicable;
- (g) in preparation for the opening of the Hong Kong Palace Museum in two years' time, work out in due course the relevant operation details and the loan arrangements (including loan fees and costs) of items from the Palace Museum;
- (h) continue to press ahead for the completion of the M+ project based on the latest schedule, and determine the final project cost as soon as practicable after the expiry of the one-year defects liability period following the practical completion of the project;
- (i) exercise caution in selecting and acquiring artworks for M+ in accordance with the established strategy and acquisition criteria, and increase the percentage of Hong Kong works and items in the collection;
- (j) continue to take forward the construction of the Lyric Theatre Complex for timely opening in 2024, and in the meantime solicit views from the art community to draw up a suitable residency arrangement;

Strategy for the development of cultural software

- (k) allocate sufficient manpower resources to organize and promote arts and cultural education activities;
- (l) foster closer collaboration between the Home Affairs Bureau and WKCD to re-align the existing public arts and cultural facilities to complement the WKCD project;
- (m) set key performance indicators ("KPIs")/specific targets to evaluate the effectiveness of the cultural software development programmes, and whether the implementation of these programmes could dovetail with the progress of the hardware development in WKCD;

- (n) cooperate more with local tertiary institutions in staff training and development for its museums;

Financial management and procurement procedures

- (o) expedite the commercial developments in WKCD so as to generate income in a timely manner to meet the relevant expenses, and take measures to reduce the deteriorating deficit in the meantime;
- (p) draw up WKCD's long-term financing strategy as soon as practicable;
- (q) exercise robust monitoring of the Art, Commerce and Exhibitions ("ACE") Project under the Build-Operate-Transfer arrangement to ensure that the successful tenderer will fulfill its contractual obligations to operate ACE;

Governance and work of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority

- (r) as the WKCD project has progressed from the planning and construction phase to the operation phase, refine the set of KPIs to cover evaluation scopes like audience number and programme arrangements;
- (s) adopt advanced technology to help better understand the audiences' interest, needs and behaviour in order to seek improvements in its venue operations; and
- (t) exercise overall monitoring and control over the finances of M+ Ltd to ensure transparency of the operation and finances of M+ and its accountability to LegCo.

5. In the above connection, members may find it necessary to appoint a Joint Subcommittee in the 2020-2021 session to continue to follow up with the Administration/WKCD on the above suggestions/recommendations.

Proposed Terms of Reference

6. It is proposed that the Terms of Reference of the Joint Subcommittee in the 2020-2021 session could follow that of the Joint Subcommittee in the previous sessions of the Sixth LegCo, which is attached as **Appendix**.

Proposed work plan and time frame for completion of work

7. The Joint Subcommittee, if appointed, is proposed to continue to focus its work on the areas set out in paragraph 3 above and follow up the suggestions/recommendations set out in paragraph 4 above.

8. In accordance with rule 26(c) of the House Rules, the Joint Subcommittee is expected to complete its work within 12 months of its commencement and report to DEV Panel and HA Panel.

Advice sought

9. Members are invited to consider the proposed appointment of the Joint Subcommittee and endorse the proposed Terms of Reference, work plan and time frame for completion of work as set out in paragraphs 6 to 8 above.

10. If the proposed appointment of the Joint Subcommittee in the 2020-2021 session is endorsed by DEV Panel and HA Panel, arrangements for its activation will be subject to the relevant decision of the House Committee.

Council Business Division 1
Legislative Council Secretariat
21 October 2020

Appendix

Panel on Development and Panel on Home Affairs

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

Terms of Reference

To monitor issues relating to the implementation of the West Kowloon Cultural District project, including the work of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority, the project's interface with arts and cultural development, and other related matters.