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本函檔號 Our Ref.: TC T3 22/25/75 Pt. 2 來函檔號 Your Ref.: CB4/PL/EDEV 22/F, West Wing, Central Government Offices 2 Tim Mei Avenue, Tamar, Hong Kong

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11 May 2021

Clerk to Panel on Economic Development Legislative Council Secretariat Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central Hong Kong (Attn: Ms Shirley Chan)

Dear Ms Chan,

Thank you for your letter of 26 April 2021 to follow up on the discussion on the "Upgrading of facilities of the Hong Kong Wetland Park" Paper (CB(4)830/20-21(05)) at the Legislative Council Panel on Economic Development meeting held on the same day. The Panel requested the Government to provide the usage rates of the venues for hire in the Hong Kong Wetland Park ("HKWP") from 2016 to 2018 and to consider whether to convert the venues with low usage rates to other facilities under the proposed upgrading plan of HKWP so as to open up more space for visitors. Having consulted the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), our response is set out below.

There are currently three venues in HKWP available for hiring, i.e. "Audio Visual Theatre", "Multi-function Room 1" and "Multi-function Room 2". In addition to for renting out, the venues are also open for public by HKWP for whole-day film shows, public seminars, school programmes, volunteer training and public workshops, etc. Information on the use of the venues between 2016 and 2018 is set out at Annex. Considering the relatively low usage rates of the two "Multi-function Rooms", AFCD will explore converting part of the venues for exhibition or educational purposes and flexibly utilise other space for hiring.

Yours sincerely,

(Miss Maggie Chow) for Commissioner for Tourism

<u>Information on usage of venues for hiring and non-hiring @ purposes</u> <u>in the Hong Kong Wetland Park between 2016 and 2018</u>

Venue	Capacity	2016			2017			2018		
		Hiring	Non-hiring	Usage	Hiring	Non-hiring	Usage	Hiring	Non-hiring	Usage
		No. of times	No. of times	(%)#	No. of times	No. of times	(%)#	No. of times	No. of times	(%)#
		(No. of hours)	(No. of hours)		(No. of hours)	(No. of hours)		(No. of hours)	(No. of hours)	
Audio										
Visual	200	1 (1)	312 (1,404)	99.8	1 (21)	312 (1,404)	99.8	6 (14.5)	307 (1,381)	99.1
Theatre*										
Multi-										
function	50	9 (18)	295 (383)	28.5	15 (40)	148 (185)	16.0	12 (30)	156 (181)	15.0
Room 1*										
Multi-										
function	50	23 (64)	21 (32)	6.82	9 (63)	26 (30)	6.61	16 (40.5)	29 (48)	6.29
Room 2*										

Remarks:

- @ 'Non-hiring' usages include whole-day public film shows, public seminars, school programmes, volunteer training and public workshops etc arranged by the Hong Kong Wetland Park.
- # Excluding cleaning, venue preparation and maintenance period (2.5 hours), the available usage time for each venue is about 4.5 hours per day. Excluding approximately 52 closing days per year, the venues are available for 313 days usage (i.e. 1,408 hours).
- * The hiring charges for Audio Visual Theatre and Multi-function Room are \$445 and \$140 per hour respectively.