

**For discussion**

**Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs**

**2020 Policy Address**

**Policy Initiatives of Home Affairs Bureau**

**Introduction**

The major policy responsibilities of the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) include youth development, sport, culture and arts, and district administration. The 2020 Policy Address proposes a series of policy initiatives on these aspects. This paper presents our background, new initiatives and major ongoing initiatives.

**Our Background**

2. The current-term Government strives to do its best in youth development work by addressing young people's concerns about education, career pursuit and home ownership, and encouraging their participation in politics as well as public policy discussion and debate. Over the past three years, we have continued with our efforts to nurture talent, provide space for entrepreneurship and construct youth hostels. The Youth Development Commission (YDC), chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration, was established in April 2018 to foster cross-bureau and cross-sectoral collaboration and strengthen communication with young people. We will continue to support the diversified development of our young people as well as their innovative and entrepreneurial endeavours. Besides, we will continue to provide various internship and exchange opportunities to help young people broaden their horizon, seize development opportunities and realise their aspirations.

3. For sports development, we will follow the Government's three policy objectives to continue promoting sports for all, supporting elite sports and promoting Hong Kong as a centre for major international sports events, which includes promoting sports in the community and in schools,

strengthening the support to athletes and attracting major international sports events to Hong Kong. Meanwhile, we will endeavour to implement the Kai Tak Sports Park project and build more community sports facilities.

4. On culture and the arts, our vision is to develop Hong Kong into an international cultural metropolis. We support the freedom of artistic expression and creation and foster the vibrant development of our cultures. We have been actively creating an environment conducive to the diversified development of culture and the arts; providing opportunities for wide participation in culture and the arts; devoting resources to nurturing talent and encouraging innovation; and supporting the preservation and promotion of traditional cultures.

5. We will continue to work closely with District Councils (DCs) so as to facilitate them to play an enhanced role in addressing district issues, managing district facilities, and implementing District Minor Works Programme and community involvement activities.

## **New Initiatives**

### **Youth Development**

#### **I. Youth Entrepreneurship**

6. The Government launched two new schemes under the Youth Development Fund (YDF) in March last year to further support youth start-ups in Hong Kong and the Mainland cities of the Greater Bay Area (GBA). It is estimated that around \$100 million will be granted under YDF to subsidise more than 10 NGOs to implement youth entrepreneurship projects, provide funding for around 200 youth start-ups and support services to about 4 000 young people. NGOs which will be introducing entrepreneurship projects will be announced soon.

7. In view of the unprecedented challenges brought about by the pandemic to the economy of Hong Kong, the Government will invite YDC to raise the funding of the current-round funding scheme so as to support more youth start-ups in strengthening their corporate governance, adaptability and digital competence, which will enable them to cope with the challenges against the business environment resulted from the pandemic and adapt to the “new normal”. Looking ahead, we will establish an Alliance of Hong Kong Youth Innovative and Entrepreneurial Bases in the Greater Bay Area. Organisations from Guangdong and Hong

Kong with strength and proven track record, such as innovative and entrepreneurial bases, universities, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), scientific research institutes, professional bodies, venture funds, etc. will be invited to join the alliance and jointly set up a one-stop information, publicity and exchange platform to support Hong Kong youth entrepreneurs in the Greater Bay Area.

## **II. Subsidising and Promoting Youth Outdoor Adventure Training Activities**

8. We will invite YDC to introduce a new funding scheme under YDF to sponsor eligible NGOs in providing local outdoor adventure training activities for young people in order to support their healthy personal development.

9. HAB will also continue to implement initiatives related to young people's concerns about education, career pursuit and home ownership, and participation in politics as well as public policy discussion and debate. These initiatives include Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth, youth entrepreneurship, youth internship and exchange, youth hostels, Funding Scheme for Youth Life Planning Activities and YDC Youth Ambassadors Programme, which are set out in paragraphs 1 to 8 of **Annex I**.

## **Sports**

### **I. Elite Sports**

10. With the Tokyo Olympic Games (OG) and Paralympic Games (PG) being postponed to 2021, we will continue to give our full support for the preparation of Hong Kong athletes and has provided additional funding to support more athletes in obtaining OG and PG qualifications. The Hong Kong Sports Institute (HKSI) has implemented appropriate anti-epidemic measures to help safeguard the health of our athletes, as well as made flexible arrangements to adjust training programmes and competition plans, in order to help our athletes gradually improve their performances in the months ahead to scale new heights with their best efforts in the Games. Due to the pandemic this year, our athletes lost their opportunities to attain sports results because most major international events were cancelled or postponed. Nevertheless, we will maintain the current athlete categories of elite athletes in 2021, so that the direct financial support to athletes will not be affected.

11. In addition, we are taking forward the pre-construction activities of the new facilities building of the HKSI to equip athletes with advanced

training and support facilities and strengthen support services to athletes on areas including physical fitness, sports science and sports medicine.

## **II. Open Space**

### **Transform Public Play Spaces**

12. To make the public play spaces more innovative and fun and to meet the needs of residents at the same time, the Government launched a five-year plan to transform more than 170 public play spaces under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) in 2019. Implementation of the 17 transformation projects in 2020-21 is in progress and funding for 8 transformation projects has been approved. We will expedite the transformation of public play spaces in order to let children in various districts enjoy the more challenging and fun play spaces sooner and to create more job opportunities for the construction industry.

### **To provide more "Inclusive Park for Pets" in LCSD venues**

13. As a new attempt of LCSD, the "Inclusive Park for Pets" aims at enabling park users with or without pets to enjoy park facilities together in an inclusive environment. Following the successful implementation of a Trial Scheme of "Inclusive Park for Pets" since January 2019, LCSD will regularise the current six "Inclusive Parks for Pets". To meet public aspiration for opening up more parks for them to visit with pets, LCSD plans to designate more than 30 additional leisure venues across the territory for use as "Inclusive Parks for Pets" in phases starting from 1 December 2020. Among them, more than 10 will be set up at promenade at harbourfront or parks nearby. Ancillary facilities of the venues will also be enhanced in light of the actual circumstances.

14. Ongoing sports-related initiatives under HAB are set out in paragraphs 9 to 24 of **Annex I**.

## **Culture and the Arts**

### **I. Art Technology**

15. With the advancement of technology, the integration of arts and information & technology has become a new trend in arts development. Technology application has extended the horizon of creativity in arts and brought new opportunities for the arts and creative industries. In the 2020

Policy Address, it is provided that HAB will spearhead a cross-bureaux task force that comprises representatives from HAB, Innovation and Technology Bureau, Commercial and Economic Development Bureau and Education Bureau, and invite the participation of representatives from the relevant sectors and non-government organisations in the formulation of strategies and measures to develop and promote Art Tech. We are now liaising with relevant bureaux with a view to commencing relevant work accordingly. In addition, we will be more proactive in encouraging the related sectors to apply for funding from the Arts and Sports Development Fund, the Innovation and Technology Fund, the Film Development Fund and the CreateSmart Initiative to implement projects that integrate technology and arts. We have set aside a total of \$100 million under various funds and will provide venues and complementary facilities for experimental use.

## **II. Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts**

16. The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (HKAPA) is the only higher education institution in Hong Kong that provides education and training in the performing arts and related technical arts. In the QS World University Rankings for Performing Arts 2020, the HKAPA continued to rank first in Asia and seventh globally. The Government supports the provision of new teaching facilities and a student hostel for the HKAPA in the Eastern District on Hong Kong Island to enrich teaching and learning infrastructure and experience, and to foster the healthy development of tertiary education in the performing arts. The Government will work closely with HKAPA to take forward relevant work.

## **III. Cultural Facilities**

17. The construction of the East Kowloon Cultural Centre (EKCC) is underway, targeting to open in 2023. EKCC will converge arts with technology. Equipped with all-round computerised stage facilities, an execution system and a live streaming system, EKCC will inject novel ideas and effects into the theatre. EKCC will serve as an incubator for artists and young people while nurturing audience; whereby creativity and the performing arts will lead Hong Kong into the smart era and further elevate Hong Kong's status in the international arts arena.

## **IV. Online platform “LCSD Edutainment Channel”**

18. The LCSD established an online resources centre in April 2020. Despite the partial closure of leisure and cultural venues in the pandemic, members of the public can still browse the LCSD's collections, watch

animals and plants, use electronic resources of the Hong Kong Public Libraries and appreciate different types of performing arts. More than 500 programmes have been showcased by the online resources centre. With a view to further promoting culture and sports with the internet, the LCSD would revamp the online resources centre as the “LCSD Edutainment Channel”, a round-the-clock online entertaining and educational platform for the public. A “101 Academy” series will be launched on the Channel, providing a systematic introduction to basic knowledge in culture, arts, science, sports as well as horticulture, with an objective to further promote recreation, sports and culture in the community. Not only can the public gain access to sports and cultural resources at their convenience, but also make use of the Channel to arouse their interest and deepen their knowledge in arts, culture, sports and recreation before watching a performance, competition or an exhibition. Furthermore, the online platform will feature online interactive programmes which provide interactive experiences to the public with the use of internet technology. The contents include virtual museum tours, online interactive sports training and interactive virtual park tours, etc.

19. The on-going initiatives of HAB in supporting the development of arts and culture, including the on-going support for local arts groups, the development of West Kowloon Cultural District and other cultural facilities etc., are set out in paragraphs 25 to 32 of **Annex I**.

## **Community Building**

### **Regulatory Regime for Property Management (PM) Industry**

20. The licensing regime under the Property Management Services Ordinance (Cap. 626) commenced on 1 August 2020 and will be fully implemented after a three-year transitional period. The licensing regime regulates the provision of PM services and sets qualification requirements for PM companies and PM practitioners, and can help raise professional standards of the PM industry to benefit owners and users of around 40 000 private buildings in Hong Kong. We will continue to work closely with the Property Management Services Authority (PMSA) to ensure a smooth and effective implementation of the regulatory regime by the PMSA.

21. HAB’s on-going initiatives on district administration and community building are enclosed in **Annex I** paragraphs 33 to 35.

## **Advice Sought**

22. Members are invited to note the initiatives of HAB as set out above.

Home Affairs Bureau  
December 2020

## **On-going Initiatives**

### **Youth Development**

#### *Youth Development Commission*

YDC was established in April 2018 to oversee the formulation and co-ordination of youth policies, and to steer the implementation of relevant measures by policy bureaux and departments. In March this year, the Government announced the re-appointments of the Vice-Chairman and 31 non-official members. To further enhance youth participation and facilitate the YDC to listen to young people's views, the Government has appointed more young people to the YDC for the new term. Among members of the new term of YDC, the average age of the eight new members is 26.

2. Besides, to further enhance the operation of YDC and to communicate with young people in a more open, direct and interactive manner, YDC has started organising online policy thematic meetings since this year, during which relevant policy bureaux, its members and young people would engage in focused discussion on specific policy issues, especially those related to education, career pursuits and home ownership, and participation in politics as well as public policy discussion and debate. YDC held the first online policy thematic meeting with the theme of “youth employment” in August this year to strengthen collaboration among relevant policy bureaux and stakeholders, facilitating them to have in-depth discussion on how to further assist young people's employment, thereby responding to their needs more effectively. YDC will continue to organise more online policy thematic meetings in the future to strengthen communication with young people.

#### *Youth Entrepreneurship*

3. HAB has all along been supportive of youth innovation and entrepreneurship, and hopes that young people could unleash their potential through starting their own businesses. Since its inception in 2017, the Space Sharing Scheme for Youth has met with enthusiastic response from all sectors. So far, 12 projects have been rolled out through collaboration between participating property owners and NGO operators. Moreover, we rolled out a successful pilot scheme on youth entrepreneurship in Shenzhen in 2018 and launched two brand-new funding schemes under YDF in 2019 to further support youth start-ups with businesses in Hong Kong and Mainland cities in GBA by providing more relevant start-up support and incubation services to Hong Kong



young people who intend to start their own businesses.

### *Broadening Horizons of Young People*

4. The Government is dedicated to helping our young people broaden their horizons. To this end, the Government has been actively launching internship and youth exchange programmes of various types and themes in the Mainland and overseas. Young people's health and safety are our primary concern. In light of the development of the COVID-19 pandemic, we requested all funded organisations of exchange and internship projects to suspend or postpone their projects in late January this year. At the same time, we have permitted funded organisations to organise local activities that do not involve crowd gatherings, such as online briefing sessions, seminars and training courses, for participants to learn about the culture, history, social features, people's way of life, latest development, etc. in the Mainland and overseas countries (particularly the exchange/internship destinations). We will re-launch various programmes subject to the development of the pandemic, as well as enhance the breadth and depth of all programmes to help young people widen their exposure, accumulate work experience and gain an understanding of the development opportunities of our country and around the world. Among others, the Thematic Youth Internship Programmes to the Mainland were expanded from two programmes in 2017 to a total of seven in 2019, with five more in the pipeline. We will also invite more enterprises to participate in the Scheme on Corporate Summer Internship on the Mainland and Overseas to offer more diversified corporate internship placements outside Hong Kong. Beside, we will continue to enhance our funding schemes for internship and exchange in order to better meet young people's needs.

### *Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth*

5. The current-term Government strives to encourage the participation of young people in public policy discussions. We have regularised the Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth ("MSSY") since 2018. People aged between 18 and 35 with a commitment to serve the community are recruited regularly to participate in government advisory committees. Given the positive feedback, starting from MSSY Phase IV, the number of participating committees in each phase will be increased from 10 to 15. Up to now, around 340 posts are held by young people who have been appointed to advisory and statutory bodies ("ASBs") directly or indirectly through MSSY. The overall ratio of appointed youth members in ASBs has increased from 7.8% in 2017 to 13% at present, gradually reaching the target of 15% within the current-

term Government.

### *Funding Scheme for Youth Life Planning Activities*

6. Life planning is a continuous and life-long process. It is also a crucial part of young people's transition from schools to the workforce. YDC injected additional resources to enhance the scheme last year to sponsor 24 NGOs in organising life planning activities in collaboration with 360 secondary schools. In view of the COVID-19 outbreak, we immediately allocated additional resources to the NGOs so that they could make use of technology and to organise activities that would enhance young people's well-being during the pandemic. The measure was well received by NGOs and so far they have since organized a total of more than 620 e-learning activities. In addition, as a response to the discussions during the aforementioned online policy thematic meeting, YDC will provide additional funding to subsidise life planning work so as to provide more intensive counselling support to secondary school students and young people in need, and guide them to explore multiple pathways, including further study and career options in both Hong Kong and Mainland cities in GBA.

### *YDC Youth Ambassadors Programme*

7. The YDC Youth Ambassadors (YAs) Programme introduced in 2018 aims at identifying and nurturing, in a systematic manner, more young talents who were committed to and passionate about serving the community. YDC has successfully recruited around 100 YAs. A series of training sessions and activities, including thematic seminars and exchanges and training outside Hong Kong have been organised for the YAs. Arrangements have also been made for them to serve as volunteers in large-scale and international events organised by the Government. During March this year, YDC YAs actively participated in anti-epidemic volunteer work jointly with charitable organisations to visit people in need in different districts, distribute anti-epidemic materials and show care. We will continue to implement the programme to develop the leadership skills of Hong Kong young people.

### *Youth Hostels*

8. To relieve the short-term accommodation needs of working youth, the Government has been actively taking forward the Youth Hostel Scheme (YHS). Considerable progress was made in the past three years, including relaxing the requirement to allow YHS tenants to apply for public rental housing, commencing the operation of the first youth hostel

in Tai Po, starting the construction of the largest youth hostel in Yuen Long, and launching a new project in Wan Chai. We will continue to take forward all youth hostel projects with the NGOs concerned to provide a total of around 1 760 places within the next two years, as well as another 1 600 places through five other projects currently in progress.

## **Sports**

### *Strengthening the Support to Sports Sector*

9. To support the further development of sports, the Government substantially increases the yearly subvention for the Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China (SF&OC) and 60 “national sports associations” (NSAs) progressively from about \$300 million in 2019-20 to more than \$500 million over a four-year period. The additional allocation for NSAs aims to enhance the promotion and development of sports in the community, youth training programmes, public participation, squad training at all levels, overseas exchange programmes/competitions; and enhance the corporate governance of NSAs. NSAs can also make use of the additional resources to improve their manpower and staff remuneration. As for SF&OC, the additional subvention is mainly for the further promotion of sports development in Hong Kong, provision of more exchange programmes for our young athletes and enhancement of the anti-doping scheme, etc.

### *Governance of NSAs*

10. To enhance the governance of NSAs, HAB will be providing a time-limited funding of \$5 million per year for five years (from 2020-21 to 2024-25) to SF&OC for reviewing the operation and internal monitoring mechanism of all NSAs. SF&OC has established a dedicated team to carry out the review. The major components of this review include the formulation of a code of governance, and an audit on the Articles of Association of all NSAs, composition of their executive boards and election mechanism, financial reporting and auditing mechanism, selection of athletes and appeal mechanism, etc. To set a good example, SF&OC will also conduct a review on its own operation and internal monitoring mechanism and make improvements as appropriate. We will closely monitor the progress of the review exercise.

### *Support for Disability Sports*

11. Promoting participation in sports by persons with disabilities

(PWDs) is one of the major sports development initiatives taken forward by the Government. Based on the recommendations made in the consultancy report on the study on “Sport for People with Disabilities in Hong Kong” and comments received in the public consultation, HAB has developed a detailed work plan in collaboration with the stakeholders and implemented various measures for the promotion and development of disability sports by phases. In the coming year, we will continue to implement the outreach services on recreation and sports and plan to extend the outreach programmes to PWDs with hearing impairment in workshops or centres by providing them with training on recreation and sports activities. Besides, we will continue to assist the Hong Kong Paralympic Committee & Sports Association for the Physically Disabled in its re-organisation with an aim to establishing the Hong Kong Paralympic Committee as an independent body in early 2021 in order to support athletes with disabilities in a more focused and systematic manner, including the handling of matters relating to classification of para-sports, promotion and development of different kinds of para-sports of Paralympic Games, etc.

### *Promotion of School Sport*

12. It has been the Government’s policy to encourage schools to open up their facilities for hire by community organisations as a means to fostering collaboration between schools and the community. To encourage schools to further open up their facilities, the Education Bureau (EDB) and HAB jointly launched the “Opening up School Facilities for Promotion for Sports Development Scheme” at the beginning of the 2017/18 school year to provide a subsidy to schools which opened up their facilities for organising sports activities by sports organisations. The objective is to increase the provision of sports facilities, while enhancing the sporting culture in schools and encouraging students to develop a healthy sporting habit on the other. With the Scheme completing its third year of commissioning, the Government has introduced a number of enhancement measures. Schools that have successfully opened up their facilities are now entitled to apply for subsidies that allow the construction or improvement of sport facilities, and purchase of sport equipment. Also, to utilise the school facilities for more sports programmes, the Scheme continues allowing other organisations with experiences of holding sports programme to join. Among the 132 schools that had indicated interest in joining the Scheme in the 2019/20 school year, we are pleased to report that 123 squad training, young athletes training programmes and district sports activities have been held in 48 schools, partnering with 28 sports organisations. The number of participating schools and sports organisations increased as compared to the previous years despite the

impact of the earlier social unrest and recent pandemic situation. As at 31 October 2020, 124 schools have indicated interest in joining the Scheme in the coming school year of 2020/21. Around 320 programmes are planned to be held in 66 schools by 40 sports organisations. EDB and HAB will continue improving the Scheme to encourage the participation of more schools and sports organisations.

#### *Territory wide Physical Fitness Survey for the Community*

13. A healthy lifestyle effectively raises physical fitness level, which in turn affects how well people on the job or at school can fulfill their potential. It also brings a positive long-term effect to the quality of manpower and medical burden of a society. Physical health is closely related to physical activities. The level of fitness of the citizens also reflects how much they exercise. Physical fitness is thus an important indicator in evaluating the policy on the promotion of sports in the community. To enable more members of the public to understand the importance of physical exercise to health, and to develop a strong sporting culture in the community, the Government will conduct another territory-wide Physical Fitness Survey (the Survey), having done that previously in 2005-06 and 2011-12. The Survey will collect the latest data of the citizens' physical fitness, so as to facilitate the formulation of long-term goals and policies in promoting sports in the community. The Advisory Committee for the Survey comprising members of the Community Sports Committee, representatives from professional organisations and multiple Government bureaux and departments (such as HAB, LCSD, the Department of Health and EDB) has been established in 2019 to provide advice on the implementation, promotional strategies, data collection and report writing of the Survey. We are now inviting tenders for the selection of professional agencies to undertake the implementation of the Survey. The data collection is anticipated to be held from mid-2021 to early 2022, and survey results should be available by early 2023.

#### *Football Development*

14. Following the Project Phoenix in 2011-15 and the Five-Year Strategic Plan in 2015-2020, the Government accepted the recommendations of the Football Task Force (FTF) and the Sports Commission to provide time-limited funding for three football seasons from 2020/21 to 2022/23 for the Hong Kong Football Association (HKFA) to implement its Vision 2025 Strategic Plan (V2025 Plan). We will earmark \$19.7 million annually to provide funding support for relevant administrative and technical posts and football development initiatives of the HKFA.

15. Furthermore, the HAB has granted in-principle support to some football development initiatives. These initiatives mostly focus on the development of young players and continuous capacity building in football professionals. The total funding sought by the HKFA for these initiatives with in-principle support is \$12.8 million. The final amount to be earmarked by the HAB for these initiatives will be subject to the FTF's review of the HKFA's further submission of programme details, including justifications, implementation plans and performance targets and indicators.

16. The HKFA is required to submit quarterly reports on its achievement of the performance targets and indicators set out in the funding agreement. The HAB will closely monitor the performance of the HKFA and conduct a review of its implementation of the V2025 Plan by end-2022.

#### *Support to Elite Athletes*

17. We have injected \$250 million into the Hong Kong Athletes Fund to increase scholarship awards in support of the dual career development of athletes and provide more cash incentives for full-time athletes when they retire from sports. The enhanced measures have benefited a first batch of 35 athletes.

#### *Major Sports Events*

18. The HAB is committed to developing Hong Kong into a centre for major international sports events. In November 2004, the Major Sports Event Committee launched the "M" Mark System to support NSAs in organising major international sports events in Hong Kong in a sustainable way. In order to attract more major international sports events to be hosted in Hong Kong, the Government allocated \$500 million to the Major Sports Events Matching Grant Scheme in April 2019 with a view to encouraging more sponsorships from the business and private sectors to support NSAs in bringing more higher-level major sports events.

19. In 2019, a total of 15 major sports events were granted "M" Mark status, including three new "M" Mark events. Amongst them, five were cancelled or postponed owing to the social incidents in 2019. Details are listed at **Annex II**. In 2020, all major sports events have been cancelled or postponed in the light of the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

20. For "M" Mark events affected by the social incidents and the pandemic, the Government has rolled out special support measures,

including providing a special direct grant to the relevant NSAs in order to help alleviate their financial burden. As the current economic situation has adversely affected the contribution of commercial sponsors, the Government will increase the maximum amount of direct grant from \$2 million to \$6 million to encourage the hosting of major sports events including high level exhibition matches in 2021.

### *Increase and Enhance Sports and Recreation Facilities*

21. The Government is actively implementing the Five-Year Plan for Sports and Recreation Facilities (Five-Year Plan). Out of the 26 projects, 16 projects have been approved by LegCo, involving a total of around \$6.3 billion. The pre-construction activities / construction works have been commenced for 11 projects, with the remaining to commence within 2020 or in early 2021. Projects with approved funding from the LegCo will provide 3 heated swimming pools and 11 open spaces (including 2 5-a side football pitches, 4 tennis courts, 3 basketball courts, 2 lawn bowling greens and 2 cycling grounds) as well as implement the pre-construction activities for 1 amenity complex (comprising sports centre and swimming pool) and the redevelopment of 1 sports ground. We would endeavour to seek funding approval on other projects under the Five-Year Plan as soon as possible.

### *Kai Tak Sports Park*

22. The design, construction and operation contract of the Sports Park commenced in February 2019. Ground breaking took place in April 2019. Preliminary designs on architecture, structure, building services and landscape architecture have generally been completed. Detailed design including the façade, interior fitting out, signage, security and information technology system are in progress.

23. The design of the Sports Park stresses on its connectivity to the neighbourhood. The 50 000-seat main stadium has adopted the “Pearl of the Orient” as its façade design theme, fully leveraging the view of the Victoria Harbour and thereby showcasing the characteristics of Hong Kong. The Indoor Sports Centre comprises an arena with 10 000 seats. The Main Stadium and the Indoor Sports Centre will provide world-class facilities where a variety of large-scale events can be held. Besides, the 5 000-seat Public Sports Ground is suitable for holding athletic activities and local football and rugby events. More than 8 hectares of Public Open Space is provided, including a platform across Shing Kai Road, a landscaped garden, waterfront promenade, passive amenities and park features such as outdoor courts, children’s playgrounds, fitness stations, jogging trail, and a cycle track connecting

the cycle track network in the Kai Tak Development Area.

24. Piling works have generally been concluded, with the completion of 6 522 out of 6 734 number of piles. Substructure, basement and superstructure works are in progress. Off-site prefabrication including the Main Stadium retractable roof drive system and steel truss members are also in progress. Earlier this year, the COVID-19 pandemic affected the off-site prefabricated production works outside Hong Kong. The production works, however, have fully resumed to keep up with the progress. Based on the latest programme and work progress, the Sports Park is scheduled for completion in the second half of 2023.

### **Culture and the Arts**

25. To consolidate Hong Kong as an international cultural metropolis, this term of Government is committed to enhancing the cultural facilities and has set aside \$20 billion to do so.

26. We have increased the provision for arts and culture consecutively in 2018-19 and 2019-20. The overall provision for arts and culture has increased by 27% from about \$4.28 billion in 2017-18 to about \$5.43 billion in 2020-21. Increased financial support enables different arts groups to shine in local and international arts scenes.

#### *Cultural Exchanges*

27. We will continue to support artists and arts groups from Hong Kong to perform and organise exhibitions on the Mainland (especially the Greater Bay Area) and overseas, as well as organised many international cultural activities, such as the Festival Hong Kong 2019 – A Cultural Extravaganza@Shanghai, the 11<sup>th</sup> Asia Cultural Co-operation Forum, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Museum Summit, etc. We are preparing to organise “Hong Kong Week” activities in Guangzhou and Seoul next year to promote Hong Kong to more different cities.

#### *Cultural Facilities*

28. We endeavour to provide more cultural facilities in support of the cultural and art development of Hong Kong. Apart from EKCC which is being constructed, we are actively planning the construction of the New Territories East Cultural Centre in Area 11 of Fanling and the Heritage Conservation and Resource Centre in Area 109 of Tin Shui Wai. Following the funding approval of the FC of LegCo in 2018, the pre-



construction activities of the two projects are scheduled for completion in the first half of 2022 and the first half of 2021 respectively. For the pre-construction activities of the expansion of Hong Kong Science Museum and Hong Kong Museum of History, we have obtained the funding approval from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council in July this year and would commence the pre-construction activities in the fourth quarter of 2020. Expected completion date is first quarter of 2023. Other cultural facility projects to be rolled out in the coming years include the expansion of the Hong Kong City Hall, the renovation of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre, etc. These projects are at different planning stages and we will consult the relevant stakeholders when details of the projects are ready.

29. The Hong Kong Public Libraries will continue to plan and enhance its library facilities and services to meet the community needs and promote reading culture by organising educational activities in partnership with schools and community organisations. With additional funding of \$30 million, a three-year “Pilot Programme for Promotion of Local Publications and Reading Culture” has been implemented since April 2020 to support the publishing sector to develop a new electronic database of book data for local publications.

### *Museum Services*

30. To nurture the scientific literacy of the general public, the Science Promotion Unit was established in the LCSD in April 2020. A series of programmes are now being established to allow the public to access science popularisation activities conveniently, and bring the science culture to schools and every corner of the city. The programmes pique the curiosity of the general public to learn through crowd learning.

### *West Kowloon Cultural District*

31. The Xiqu Centre and Freespace in West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) were opened in January and June 2019 respectively. Other major arts and cultural facilities in WKCD, including the M+, the Hong Kong Palace Museum and the Lyric Theatre Complex, are scheduled for completion and will come on stream in the next few years.✓

32. On the software side, West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (WKCD A) will continue to strengthen cooperation with arts groups, education institutions and local communities, to organise a variety of quality arts and cultural programmes and broaden Hong Kong’s cultural exchange with other places, with a view to enriching people’s cultural life,

building audiences, nurturing local talent and promoting professional development. The Government will continue to support the WKCD project through monitoring and facilitating the planning, development and operation of arts and cultural facilities by WKCDA, seeking funding approval from the Finance Committee of Legislative Council for the construction of infrastructure works, as well as implementing the Enhanced Financial Arrangement.

## **District Administration**

### *District-led Actions Scheme*

33. The District-led Actions Scheme (DAS) has been implemented for 18 districts since 2016-17. It has been very well-received by the local communities since its implementation. With a view to responding to the public aspirations more effectively, the annual recurrent provision for DAS has been increased from \$63 million to \$80 million from 2020-21 onwards to further address long-standing problems and capitalise on opportunities in the districts. The 18 District Offices, in collaboration with DCs, local communities and related government departments, are forging ahead with 54 projects under the scheme to improve environmental hygiene, enhance management of public space and capitalise on opportunities in the districts in 2020-21.

## **Community Building**

### *Building Management*

34. Proper building management not only helps create a safe and quality living environment, but also fosters community building. As such, the Government has been providing guidance and support to owners, residents and residents' organisations such as owners' corporations (OCs) on all fronts to assist them in building management. Since the start of the current term of the Government, the Home Affairs Department (HAD) has issued the revised Code of Practice (CoP), Best Practice on Building Management and Checklist on Procedural Propriety on Building Management. HAD has also introduced a number of support services, including the Building Management Dispute Resolution Service, the Pilot Scheme on Advisory Services to Owners' Corporations, the Central Platform on Building Management and the Pilot Scheme on Free Outreach Legal Advice Service on Building Management. Among others, we regularised the Owners' Corporations Advisory Services Scheme in March 2020 to enhance support to OCs, and assist them in complying

with the CoP, as well as adopting the Best Practices and the Checklist in handling building management matters.

35. On the other hand, preparation is underway to regularise the Building Management Professional Advisory Service Scheme in 2021, which provides owners of old buildings in need (include those of “three-nil” buildings<sup>1</sup>) with a range of professional advisory and follow-up services on building management through engaging experienced property management companies.

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<sup>1</sup> “Three-nil” buildings are buildings which do not have OCs or any forms of residents’ organisation, or do not engage property management companies.

**“M” Mark Events in 2019**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Event Name</b>	<b>Organiser</b>	<b>Total funding amount approved (\$ million)</b>
1	2018/19 TISSOT UCI Track Cycling World Cup Hong Kong, China	The Cycling Association of Hong Kong, China	3*
2	Standard Chartered Hong Kong Marathon 2019	Hong Kong Amateur Athletic Association	No funding application
3	LONGINES Masters of Hong Kong 2019	Hong Kong Equestrian Federation	No funding application
4	Cathay Pacific/HSBC Hong Kong Sevens 2019	Hong Kong Rugby Union	No funding application
5	FIVB Volleyball Nations League Hong Kong 2019	Volleyball Association of Hong Kong, China	4*
6	Seamaster 2019 ITTF World Tour – Hang Seng Hong Kong Open	Hong Kong Table Tennis Association	5*
7	Kitchee vs Manchester City – Jockey Club Kitchee Centre Cup	Hong Kong Football Association	11
8	2019 World Rowing Coastal Championships presented by Dah Sing Bank	Hong Kong, China Rowing Association	12
9	YONEX-SUNRISE Hong Kong Open Badminton Championships 2019 part of the HSBC BWF World Tour Super 500	Hong Kong Badminton Association	4.8*
10	2019/20 TISSOT UCI Track Cycling World Cup Hong Kong, China	The Cycling Association of Hong Kong, China	3.5*
11	Hong Kong Open 2019 (Golf)	Hong Kong Golf Association	No funding application (Event postponed)
12	2019 CCB (Asia) Hong Kong International Dragon Boat Races	Hong Kong China Dragon Boat Association	Event cancelled
13	Prudential Hong Kong Tennis Open 2019	Hong Kong Tennis Association	Event cancelled
14	New World Harbour Race 2019	Hong Kong Amateur Swimming Association	Event cancelled
15	Everbright Sun Hung Kai Hong Kong Squash Open 2019	Hong Kong Squash	Event cancelled

\* Approval was also granted for using Leisure and Cultural Services Department venues at a notional charge.