

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB159

(Question Serial No. 2324)

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (4) Performing Arts

Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Vincent LIU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

One of the tasks of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) is to present and promote cultural, entertainment and film programmes. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the actual and estimated expenditures of the following programmes organised by the Audience Building Office in the past 2 financial years as well as the current financial year?
- (i) Community Cultural Ambassador Scheme
 - (ii) Community Oral History Theatre Project
 - (iii) School Performing Arts in Practice Scheme
 - (iv) School Culture Day Scheme
 - (v) Performing Arts Appreciation Project for Secondary Students
 - (vi) Arts Experience Scheme for Senior Secondary Students
 - (vii) General Education in Arts Programme for Tertiary Students
 - (viii) Let's Enjoy Cantonese Opera in Bamboo Theatre
- (b) What are the actual and estimated expenditures of the following festivals organised by the Festivals Office in the past 3 financial years as well as the current financial year?
- (i) International Arts Carnival
 - (ii) Thematic Arts Festival - New Vision Arts Festival
 - (iii) Thematic Arts Festival - World Cultures Festival

- (c) How many arts activities were organised under the Community Cultural Ambassador Scheme (CCAS) in 2019 and 2020 respectively? What was the expenditure involved in each activity?
- (d) The LCSD introduced the Community Arts Project (CAP) under the CCAS in 2018-19. How many arts and cultural activities were organised under the CAP in the past year? What was the expenditure involved? How many activities are expected to be organised in this year? What is the estimated expenditure?
- (e) In the 2019-20 Budget, the Financial Secretary allocated an additional funding of \$51 million to the LCSD for organisation of enhanced community arts activities for a period of 5 years from 2019-20 to 2023-24. What programmes were launched or how many arts and cultural activities were organised in the past year? What were the details and expenditures involved? How many activities are expected to be organised with the above additional funding in this year? What is the estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 23)

Reply:

- (a) The expenditures of the programmes organised by the Audience Building Office (ABO) of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) from 2019-20 to 2021-22 are set out below:

| | Direct Production Cost (\$'000) | | |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | 2019-20 | 2020-21 (Estimate) | 2021-22 (Estimate) |
| (i) Community Cultural Ambassador Scheme ⁽¹⁾ | 10,088 | 7,880 ⁽³⁾ | 12,515 |
| (ii) Community Oral History Theatre Project | 140 | 0 ⁽³⁾ | 120 |
| (iii) Audience Building Programmes for Students ⁽²⁾ | 7,440 | 8,009 | 8,690 |
| (iv) Let's Enjoy Cantonese Opera in Bamboo Theatre | 450 | 265 ⁽⁴⁾ | 0 ⁽⁴⁾ |

Notes

- (1) Expenditure on Community Arts Project is included.
- (2) The ABO currently organises various programmes targeting students, including "School Performing Arts in Practice Scheme", "School Culture Day Scheme", "Performing Arts Appreciation Project for Secondary Students", "Arts Experience Scheme for Senior Secondary Students", "General Education in Arts Programme for Tertiary Students" and "Arts on Air: Creative Arts Project in Primary Schools". Adjustments to programme contents will be made from time to time to meet changing needs.

- (3) With some of the scheduled activities being postponed to 2021-22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a decrease in expenditure for 2020-21 compared to that for 2019-20.
- (4) To avoid duplication with the Cantonese opera education programmes organised by Xiqu Centre of the West Kowloon Cultural District, the ABO will suspend “Let’s Enjoy Cantonese Opera in Bamboo Theatre” from 2021-22 onwards, with the resources to be re-allocated to other schemes.
- (b) The expenditures of the 3 festivals organised by the Festivals Office from 2018-19 to 2021-22 are set out below:

| | Direct Production Cost (\$'000) | | | |
|--|--|----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 (Estimate) | 2021-22 (Estimate) |
| (i) International Arts Carnival/ WeWeWebWeb Carnival ⁽⁵⁾ | 10,541 | 12,257 | 4,689 | 1,485 |
| (ii) Thematic Festival – New Vision Arts Festival ⁽⁶⁾ /ReNew Vision ⁽⁵⁾ | 20,262 | N.A. | 9,376 | 27,605 |
| (iii) Thematic Festival – World Cultures Festival ⁽⁶⁾ | N.A. | 18,148 | N.A. | N.A. |

Notes

- (5) Due to the COVID-19 pandemic situation, the “International Arts Carnival” and the “New Vision Arts Festival” in 2020 were cancelled and replaced by “WeWeWebWeb Carnival” and “ReNew Vision”, new online platforms launched to showcase artistic creation.
- (6) The LCSD organised the World Cultures Festival and New Vision Arts Festival in the autumn of alternate years since 2002. To facilitate brand building and positioning, the New Vision Arts Festival has become an annual festival from 2020 onwards.
- (c) The number of projects/activities held under the Community Cultural Ambassador Scheme (CCAS) in 2019 and 2020 and their average expenditure are set out below:

| Community Cultural Ambassador Scheme | 2019 | 2020 (Estimate) |
|---|-------------|----------------------------|
| Number of projects | 20 | 21 |
| Number of activities | 569 | 220 ⁽⁷⁾ |
| Average expenditure of each project (\$'000) | 520 | 490 ⁽⁸⁾ |

Notes

- (7) Due to the COVID-19 pandemic situation, there is a significant decrease in the number of activities held in 2020 compared to that of 2019.

(8) As some of the projects of the CCAS 2020 were of relatively smaller scale and lower budget, the average expenditure of the 21 projects is slightly lower compared to that of 2019.

- (d) To further enhance the CCAS which has been implemented for many years, the LCSD invited arts groups/arts practitioners with rich experience and potential to curate the Community Arts Project with enhanced and sustained impact. The number of activities and the expenditures of the Community Arts Project in 2020-21 and 2021-22 are set out below:

| Community Arts Project | 2020-21 (Estimate) | 2021-22 (Estimate) |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Number of activities | 70 | 80 |
| Direct production cost (\$'000) | 2,600 | 1,700 |

- (e) To further promote arts development and enhance artistic ambience in the community, the LCSD launches the Community Arts Scheme (CAS) to provide additional resources to match recurrent funding from district councils on a one-to-one ratio. As a start, the Department collaborated with Wan Chai and Sai Kung District Councils to launch the Scheme in 2019-20. Building on the success of the Scheme, the Department extended the Scheme to the Southern, Sham Shui Po, Islands, and Kwun Tong districts in 2020-21, and plans to include the 18 districts across the territory in 2021-22. The number of CAS activities scheduled for 2020-21 to 2021-22 and their expenditures are set out below:

| Community Arts Scheme | | 2020-21 (Estimate) | | 2021-22 (Estimate) | |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|--|
| District | Description | No. of Activities | Direct Production Cost (\$'000) | No. of Activities | Direct Production Cost (\$'000) |
| Sai Kung ⁽⁹⁾ | a. Cantonese Opera-cum-Shadow Puppetry Project for Youngsters b. "Body in Time" Dance Project for Elderly c. 8 activities covering different art forms | 22 | 1,459 | 66 | 1,333 |
| Wan Chai ⁽⁹⁾ | a. Cantonese Opera-cum-Shadow Puppetry Project for Youngsters b. "Mountain No Mountain" Cross-disciplinary Art Project ^(10&11) c. 10 activities covering different art forms | 10 | 396 | 70 | 1,361 |
| Islands ⁽⁹⁾ | a. "Defying Gravity" Musical Project b. 10 activities covering different art forms | 1 | 50 | 47 | 900 |

| Community Arts Scheme | | 2020-21 (Estimate) | | 2021-22 (Estimate) | |
|-------------------------------------|--|-----------------------|--|-----------------------|--|
| District | Description | No. of Activities | Direct Production Cost (\$'000) | No. of Activities | Direct Production Cost (\$'000) |
| Southern ⁽⁹⁾ | a. "Our Days Down South" Musical Project b. 12 activities covering different art forms | 7 | 186 | 31 | 654 |
| Sham Shui Po ⁽⁹⁾ | a. "When I was just a Little Kid" Musical Theatre Project b. 19 activities covering different art forms | 11 | 63 | 26 | 987 |
| Kwun Tong ⁽⁹⁾ | a. "Dialogue of Past and Present" Ancient Instruments Project b. 29 activities covering different art forms | 16 | 232 | 36 | 858 |
| Central and Western ⁽¹¹⁾ | a. "Rebooting Arts in Central and Western District" Theatre Project b. 12 activities covering different art forms | | | 32 | 700 |
| Eastern ⁽¹¹⁾ | a. "Dance on E" Community Dance Project b. 12 activities covering different art forms | | | 29 | 700 |
| Kowloon City ⁽¹¹⁾ | a. "My Main Stage Music Production Programme in Kowloon City" b. 12 activities covering different art forms | | | 62 | 700 |
| Yau Tsim Mong ⁽¹¹⁾ | a. "Fantasie in Yau Tsim Mong" Musical Project b. 12 activities covering different art forms | | | 35 | 700 |
| Wong Tai Sin ⁽¹¹⁾ | a. "Drumming Art - Energy and Power" Percussion Project b. 12 activities covering different art forms | | | 35 | 700 |
| Kwai Tsing ⁽¹¹⁾ | a. Landing at Kwai Tsing - Songs for Everyone b. "Good Times of Kwai Tsing" Theatre Project c. 12 activities covering different art forms | | | 63 | 1,250 |
| North ⁽¹¹⁾ | a. "The Story about District in the North" Theatre Project b. "North District Harmonious Music" Harmonica and Recorder Project c. 12 activities covering different art forms | | | 53 | 1,250 |

| Community Arts Scheme | | 2020-21 (Estimate) | | 2021-22 (Estimate) | |
|---------------------------|--|-----------------------|--|-----------------------|--|
| District | Description | No. of Activities | Direct Production Cost (\$'000) | No. of Activities | Direct Production Cost (\$'000) |
| Sha Tin ⁽¹¹⁾ | a. Community Music Scheme in Sha Tin b. 62 activities covering different art forms | | | 82 | 1,325 |
| Tai Po ⁽¹¹⁾ | a. "Stories Crossing@Tai Po" Theatre Project b. "Wherefore Tai Po Story Hunt in Alleys and Lanes" Puppetry Project c. 12 activities covering different art forms | | | 71 | 1,250 |
| Tsuen Wan ⁽¹¹⁾ | a. "Dancing in Tsuen Wan" Contemporary Dance Project b. 12 activities covering different art forms | | | 38 | 700 |
| Tuen Mun ⁽¹¹⁾ | a. Cantonese Opera-cum-Shadow Puppetry Project for Youngsters b. "Musical! Step-up" Musical Project c. 30 activities covering different art forms | | | 68 | 1,475 |
| Yuen Long ⁽¹¹⁾ | a. "Feeling the Countryside, Understanding the History, Sharing the Culture" Theatre Project b. "Dancing All Around Yuen Long" Dance Project c. 24 activities covering different art forms | | | 63 | 1,400 |

Notes

- (9) Due to the COVID-19 pandemic situation, finale performances for the CAS in Wan Chai and Sai Kung districts in 2019-20 were postponed to November 2020. Most of the activities under the 2020-21 CAS in the 6 districts, namely Wan Chai, Sai Kung, Southern, Sham Shui Po, Islands and Kwun Tong districts, are also postponed to 2021-22. The additional costs incurred for the postponement are included in the expenditures.
- (10) Wan Chai District Council requested to launch another project on multi-arts in 2021-22 to tie in with the development of the arts in the district.
- (11) Proposals pending approval from the district councils.