

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**(Question Serial No. 2435)**

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

Programme: (3) Heritage and Museums

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism

Question:

It is mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2023-24 under Programme (3) that the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) will organise major exhibitions including “Joan Miró - The Poetry of Everyday Life” at the Hong Kong Museum of Art; “Virtually Versailles” and “Out of Thin Air: Hong Kong Film Arts & Costumes” at the Hong Kong Heritage Museum; and “Material Tales: The Life of Things” and “Science Fiction: Voyage to the Edge of Imagination” at the Hong Kong Science Museum. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

- a. What are the estimated expenditures on the above exhibitions, and the audience building plans for the exhibitions to enhance the community's knowledge and appreciation of the arts?
- b. Please tabulate the attendance figures of permanent exhibitions at museums under the LCSD in the past 3 years.
- c. Please tabulate the expenditure and details of the renewal or modification of permanent exhibitions at LCSD museums in the past 3 years.
- d. As the epidemic is easing off, the museums are fully open again, and the number of visitors is also on a constant rise. However, the estimated attendance for 2023 is only about 250 000 more than the actual figure in 2022. What criteria are adopted for making a projection in that regard?
- e. As for exhibitions attendance outside museums, the estimate for 2023 only stands at 253 000, which is 12 030 less than the actual attendance in the midst of the epidemic in 2021, and far below the target of 1 million. What criteria are adopted for making a projection in that regard? Is there any plan to make the attendance meet the target?

Asked by: Hon FOK Kai-kong, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 5)

Reply:

- a. The estimated expenditures on the exhibitions mentioned in the question and the audience building plans to enhance the community’s awareness in arts appreciation through the exhibitions are set out in the table below:

<b>Exhibition</b>	<b>Estimated expenditure<sup>Note</sup> (\$'000)</b>	<b>Audience building plan for the exhibition to enhance the community’s knowledge and appreciation of the arts</b>
Joan Miró – The Poetry of Everyday Life	20,000	Including docent service for exhibition, talks, interactive games at education corner and performances, etc.
Virtually Versailles	3,250	Including docent service for exhibition and talks, etc.
Out of Thin Air: Hong Kong Film Arts & Costumes	5,700	Including docent service for exhibition, talks, workshops, film screenings and post-screening talks, etc.
Material Tales: The Life of Things	13,000	Including docent service for exhibition, talks and workshops, etc.
Science Fiction: Voyage to the Edge of Imagination	14,500	Including docent service for exhibition, talks and concerts, etc.

Note: Estimated expenditure to be borne by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) (including funding from sponsorship).

- b. The attendances of permanent exhibitions at museums of the LCSD in the past 3 years are set out at Annex I.
- c. The expenditures and details of the renewal of permanent exhibitions at museums of the LCSD in the past 3 years are set out at Annex II.
- d. Museums will take into account various factors, such as the number of exhibitions planned to be held in the year, the theme, duration and attractiveness of each exhibition, in estimating the attendance figures. To celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the LCSD museums organised a number of major exhibitions in 2022, which attracted a substantial number of visitors. In particular, the exhibition “Big Eight – Dinosaur Revelation” attracted an attendance of more than 850 000 visitors. Although the LCSD will continue to organise more exhibitions to attract visitors in 2023, the estimated attendance is not expected to be much higher than that in 2022.
- e. Museums will take into account various factors, such as the number of exhibitions planned to be held in the year, the theme, duration and attractiveness of each exhibition, and the maximum capacity of venues, in estimating exhibitions attendance outside museums. The LCSD museums will continue to identify suitable exhibition venues, such as community and government buildings, cultural and recreational facilities/venues, and outdoor venues, for off-site exhibitions. In 2023-24, the LCSD

will continue to organise the “Art@Harbour” project to provide mega art event along the Victoria promenade. This project will boost the exhibitions attendance outside museums substantially, but since the event will only be launched in March 2024, the estimated figure for 2023 is lower than the target attendance.

**Attendances at Permanent Exhibitions  
at Museums of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department**

Venue	2020-21 <sup>(1)</sup>	2021-22 <sup>(1)</sup>	2022-23 <sup>(1) (2)</sup>
1. Hong Kong Museum of Art			
(a) Ordinary to Extraordinary – Stories of the Museum	110 457	–	–
(b) The Wisdom of Emptiness – Selected Works from the Xubaizhai Collection	21 471	–	–
(c) Hong Kong Experience • Hong Kong Experiment	125 308	–	–
(d) The Best of Both Worlds – Acquisition and Donation of Chinese Antiquities	40 113	–	–
(e) Lost and Found – Guardians of the Chater Collection	37 307	–	–
(f) From Dung Basket to Dining Cart – 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Birth of Wu Guanzhong	33 904	–	–
(g) A Pleasure Shared – Selected Works from the Chih Lo Lou Collection	33 904	–	–
(h) A Taste for Life – The Collection and Connoisseurship of Mr Low Chuck-tiew	45 496	91 637	–
(i) Avowal through Withdrawal – Selected Paintings and Calligraphies from the Chih Lo Lou Collection	25 809	–	–
(j) Wu Guanzhong – Sketching from Nature	25 809	–	–
(k) NOT a fashion store!	14 510	519 803	–
(l) Art of the South Nanling: A Selection of Guangdong Painting from the Hong Kong Museum of Art	–	217 426	–
(m) When Form Matters: Following the Path of Lui Shou-kwan to Zen Painting	–	140 412	–
(n) Touching: A journey through Chinese landscapes from the Xubaizhai Collection	–	61 075	139 570
(o) #popcolours: The Aesthetics of Hues in Antiquities from the HKMoA Collection	–	44 505	135 821
(p) Contemplation: Highlights of the Donation of the Jingguanlou Collection	–	24 585	–
(q) Palette of a Centenarian: Selected Works of Zhu Qizhan from the Jingguanlou Collection	–	–	17 500
(r) Mastering Masterpieces: The Essentials of Chinese Landscape Paintings	–	–	133 983
(s) Wu Guanzhong: Sketching Vitality	–	–	133 983
(t) In-Between	–	–	225 497

Venue	2020-21 <sup>(1)</sup>	2021-22 <sup>(1)</sup>	2022-23 <sup>(1) (2)</sup>
(u) Shopping in Canton: China Trade Art in the 18th and 19th Centuries	–	–	222 780
(v) City Rhymes: The Melodious Notes of Calligraphy	–	–	179 615
(w) Palette of a Centenarian: Selected Works of Zhu Qizhan from the Jingguanlou Collection (Phase II)	–	–	67 348
(x) The Connoisseurship and Collection of the Master of Chih Lo Lou	–	–	67 348
2. Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware			
(a) Let's Talk about Tea through the Ages	18 004	42 254	54 018
(b) Chinese Ceramics and Seals Donated by the K.S. Lo Foundation	6 263	13 153	15 033
(c) Seal Carving in Lingnan	6 263	13 153	15 033
3. Hong Kong Museum of History			
(a) The Hong Kong Story <sup>(3)</sup>	73 174	–	–
(b) Recreating a Classic – The Best Features of The Hong Kong Story	15 446	209 368	245 558
4. Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence <sup>(4)</sup>	–	–	62 177
5. Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum	10 811	47 386	61 940
6. Fireboat Alexander Grantham Exhibition Gallery	18 849	50 346	57 400
7. Law Uk Folk Museum	2 875	7 880	7 633
8. Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum	9 041	19 107	19 419
9. Hong Kong Heritage Museum			
(a) T. T. Tsui Gallery of Chinese Art	31 960	173 913	235 230
(b) Chao Shao-an Gallery	24 671	153 201	138 358
(c) Cantonese Opera Heritage Hall	24 443	162 165	250 504
(d) Children's Discovery Gallery	12 274	187 680	286 840
(e) Jin Yong Gallery	37 416	180 754	245 499
(f) Hong Kong Pop 60+ <sup>(5)</sup>	–	163 332	289 325
10. Hong Kong Railway Museum	66 779	134 354	144 617
11. Sheung Yiu Folk Museum <sup>(6)</sup>	16 860	26 592	12 540
12. Hong Kong Science Museum	81 147	680 725	1 038 542 <sup>(7)</sup>
13. Hong Kong Space Museum	55 466	352 389	317 710
14. Hong Kong Film Archive <sup>(8)</sup>	2 514	6 651	1 783
15. Sam Tung Uk Museum	9 189	33 764	48 427

## Notes

- (1) Due to the impact of the COVID-19 epidemic, museums and venues under the LCSD were temporarily and intermittently closed from 2020 to 2022.
- (2) Attendance as at 28 February 2023.
- (3) The permanent exhibition of the Hong Kong Museum of History has been temporarily closed for renovation since 19 October 2020.
- (4) The Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence was temporarily closed from 17 September 2018 to 23 November 2022 for major repair and renovation.
- (5) The new permanent exhibition “Hong Kong Pop 60+” at the Hong Kong Heritage Museum was opened to the public on 28 July 2021.
- (6) The Sheung Yiu Folk Museum was temporarily closed from 1 December 2021 to 22 December 2022 for repair.
- (7) As the “Big Eight – Dinosaur Revelation” special exhibition was housed in a permanent exhibition hall, the figure covers the attendance at both the aforesaid special exhibition and the permanent exhibition.
- (8) The permanent exhibition at the Hong Kong Film Archive was temporarily closed from 21 April 2022 to 3 January 2023 for renovation.

**Expenditures on and Details of  
Renewal of Permanent Exhibitions  
at Museums of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department**

<b>Museum</b>	<b>2020-21 (\$'000)</b>	<b>2021-22 (\$'000)</b>	<b>2022-23 (Revised Estimate) (\$'000)</b>	<b>Details</b>
1. Hong Kong Museum of History	12,190	18,760	20,510	Academic research and data collection for exhibitions, application for usage rights for photos and images, recording and shooting of photos and videos, production of audio-visual programmes, and commissioning of exhibition design firm for the related work. The permanent exhibition has been temporarily closed for renovation since 19 October 2020.
2. Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence	1,190	5,520	20,380	Acquisition of exhibits for the new permanent exhibition and the Historical Trail, application for usage rights for photos and images, production of multimedia programmes, and commissioning of exhibition design firm and exhibition production house for the related work. The Museum was re-opened on 24 November 2022.
3. Hong Kong Heritage Museum	11,060	14,100	680	Research on Hong Kong popular culture, acquisition of exhibits, application for usage rights for photos and images, production of multimedia programmes, and commissioning of exhibition production house for fabrication of exhibits and fitting-out of an exhibition gallery, which was opened on 28 July 2021.

<b>Museum</b>	<b>2020-21 (\$'000)</b>	<b>2021-22 (\$'000)</b>	<b>2022-23 (Revised Estimate) (\$'000)</b>	<b>Details</b>
4. Hong Kong Railway Museum	2,670	520	1,000	Completion of content updating of permanent exhibition and addition of interactive exhibits. Upgrading of museum facilities and relocation of historic train coach No. 313 for display in the museum.
5. Hong Kong Science Museum				
(a) 5 permanent exhibition halls	3,300	2,600	25,440	The Earth Science Gallery was opened on 23 April 2021. Fabrication of exhibits and fitting-out of the Palaeontology Gallery commenced in January 2022, and are scheduled for completion in June 2023.
(b) Telecommunications Gallery	990	440	1,000	Acquisition and testing of exhibits of the InnoTech Gallery.
(c) Replacement of exhibits	2,800	970	2,000	Replacement of exhibits of the Electricity and Magnetism Gallery and the Mathematics Hall.

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