

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CSTB207

(Question Serial No. 2184)

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:

Regarding the operating expenditure and manpower of the museums under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD), please inform this Committee of:

- (1) the number of Museum Passes sold in each of the past 5 years with a breakdown by Family Pass, Individual Pass and Concessionary Pass;
- (2) the attendance of each museum under the LCSD, the attendance involving Museum Pass holders, and the percentage of attendance involving Museum Pass holders over the total attendance in each of the past 5 years;
- (3) the expenditure on the repair and maintenance of equipment, and the expenditure on the acquisition and revamping of museum collections and exhibits of each museum under the LCSD in each of the past 3 years;
- (4) the number of professional training courses provided by the LCSD for conservators, the course content, the number of participants and the expenditure involved in each of the past 3 years; and
- (5) the numbers of museum trainees (conservation) and summer interns employed by the LCSD and the expenditure involved in each of the past 5 years.

Asked by: Hon LAM Chun-sing (LegCo internal reference no.: 36)

Reply:

- (1) The numbers of Museum Passes issued by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) in the past 5 years are set out in the table below:

	2018-19	2019-20 ⁽¹⁾	2020-21 ⁽¹⁾	2021-22 ^{(1) (2)}	2022-23 ^{(1) (3) (4)}
Individual Pass	13 266	10 771	7 271	20 106	9 566
Concessionary Pass	9 872	6 835	3 246	10 949	21 759
Family Pass	135 195	91 525	25 851	164 567	56 596

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) Fee-charging exhibitions in the period included “Mythologies: Surrealism and Beyond – Masterpieces from Centre Pompidou, Paris” of the Hong Kong Museum of Art and “The Science Behind Pixar” of the Hong Kong Science Museum.
 - (3) As at 28 February 2023.
 - (4) The permanent exhibitions at the Hong Kong Science Museum were fully open to visitors free of charge during the exhibition period of “The Hong Kong Jockey Club Series: The Big Eight – Dinosaur Revelation” (8 July 2022 to 22 February 2023).
- (2) The attendances of each museum and art space under the LCSD in the past 5 years are set out at Annex I. The attendance involving Museum Pass holders and the percentage of such attendance over the total attendance in the past 5 years are set out at Annex II.
 - (3) The expenditure on the repair and maintenance of equipment as well as the expenditure on acquiring museum collections of LCSD museums and art spaces in the past 3 years are set out at Annexes III and IV respectively. As the cost of revamping exhibits in LCSD museums is generally subsumed under exhibition expenditure, a breakdown of the expenditure for revamping exhibits is not available. That said, a provision of \$20 million was approved in 2019 for the Hong Kong Science Museum to replace exhibits in 5 of its permanent exhibition galleries. The actual expenditures covered by the provision were \$2.8 million in 2020-21 and \$970,000 in 2021-22, and the revised estimated expenditure for 2022-23 was \$2 million.
 - (4) The number of professional training courses provided by the LCSD for its conservation staff, the course content, the number of participants and the expenditure involved in the past 3 years are set out in the table below:

Financial Year	Number and Content of Professional Training Courses	Number of Participants	Expenditure (\$'000)
2020-21	2 (including practical conservation techniques and safety use of equipment)	13	40
2021-22	8 (including practical conservation techniques, conservation theories and safety use of equipment)	30	60
2022-23 (Estimate)	17 (including practical conservation techniques, conservation theories, monitoring museum environment and digital documentation)	53	1,060

- (5) The number of Museum Trainee (Conservation) and summer interns employed by the LCSD and the expenditure involved in the past 5 years are set out in the table below:

Financial Year	Museum Trainee (Conservation)		Summer Intern	
	Number^{Note}	Expenditure (\$'000)	Number	Expenditure (\$'000)
2018-19	2	270	17	260
2019-20	4	370	17	290
2020-21	2	320	34	540
2021-22	5	570	34	520
2022-23 (Estimate)	7	920	32	440

Note:

Museum Trainee (Conservation) is employed under a two-year contract. The number covers new recruits in the year concerned only.

Annex I to Reply Serial No. CSTB207

Attendance of Museums and Art Spaces
under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD)
between 2018-19 and 2022-23

Museum		2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 ⁽¹⁾
1	Hong Kong Museum of Art ⁽²⁾	-	116 493	233 273	579 036	519 263
2	Hong Kong Museum of History ⁽³⁾	1 238 417	654 849	132 298	257 145	287 782
3	Hong Kong Heritage Museum	660 506	538 610	94 243	326 427	406 983
4	Hong Kong Science Museum	1 285 870	875 809	101 930	1 074 769	1 058 995
5	Hong Kong Space Museum	983 175	652 833	55 466 ⁽⁴⁾	497 269 ⁽⁴⁾	555 451
6	Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence ⁽⁵⁾	64 507	-	-	-	62 177
7	Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum	90 558	56 184	10 811	47 386	61 940
8	Fireboat Alexander Grantham Exhibition Gallery	64 146	40 021	18 849	50 346	57 400
9	Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware	198 203	108 760	24 267	55 407	69 051
10	Hong Kong Railway Museum	277 775	200 702	66 779	134 354	144 617
11	Law Uk Folk Museum	16 164	9 771	2 875	7 880	7 633
12	Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum	41 173	35 033	9 041	19 107	19 419
13	Sam Tung Uk Museum	116 451	68 339	9 189	33 764	48 427
14	Sheung Yiu Folk Museum	42 590	30 015	16 860	26 592 ⁽⁶⁾	12 540 ⁽⁶⁾
15	Hong Kong Visual Arts Centre	75 156	42 494	12 907	38 640	39 656
16	Oil Street Art Space (Oi!)	180 627	129 708	39 011	81 835	553 613
17	Hong Kong Film Archive	145 490	106 203	21 205	44 497	56 456
Total		5 480 808	3 665 824⁽⁷⁾	849 004⁽⁷⁾	3 274 454⁽⁷⁾	3 961 403⁽⁷⁾

Notes

- (1) Attendance as at 28 February 2023.
- (2) The Hong Kong Museum of Art was temporarily closed from 3 August 2015 to 29 November 2019 for renovation.
- (3) The permanent exhibition of the Hong Kong Museum of History has been temporarily closed for renovation since 19 October 2020.
- (4) The Space Theatre of the Hong Kong Space Museum was temporarily closed from 1 May 2020 to 30 June 2021 for renovation.
- (5) The Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence was temporarily closed from 17 September 2018 to 23 November 2022 for major repair and renovation.
- (6) The Sheung Yiu Folk Museum was temporarily closed from 1 December 2021 to 22 December 2022 for repair.
- (7) Due to the impact of the COVID-19 epidemic, museums and venues under the LCSD were temporarily and intermittently closed from 2020 to 2022.

Annex II to Reply Serial No. CSTB207

Attendance Involving Museum Pass Holders
and Percentage of Such Attendance over Total Attendance
from 2018-19 to 2022-23

Financial Year	Use of Museum Pass	
	Attendance ⁽¹⁾	Percentage over Total Attendance
2018-19	407 676	7.4%
2019-20 ⁽²⁾	279 082	7.6%
2020-21 ⁽²⁾	74 874	8.8%
2021-22 ⁽²⁾	475 372 ⁽³⁾	14.5%
2022-23 ⁽²⁾⁽⁴⁾	233 802	5.9%

Notes

- (1) With effect from 1 August 2016, all visitors enjoy free admission to the permanent exhibitions of 5 museums including the Hong Kong Heritage Museum, Hong Kong Museum of History, Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence, Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum and the Hong Kong Museum of Art. Full-time students enjoy free admission to the permanent exhibitions of the Hong Kong Science Museum and Hong Kong Space Museum.
- (2) Due to the impact of the COVID-19 epidemic, museums and venues under the LCSD were temporarily and intermittently closed from 2020 to 2022.
- (3) Fee-charging exhibitions in the period included “Mythologies: Surrealism and Beyond – Masterpieces from Centre Pompidou, Paris” of the Hong Kong Museum of Art and “The Science Behind Pixar” of the Hong Kong Science Museum.
- (4) As at 28 February 2023.

Annex III to Reply Serial No. CSTB207

Expenditure on Repair and Maintenance of Equipment
of LCSD Museums and Art Spaces
from 2020-21 to 2022-23

	Museum	2020-21 (\$'000)	2021-22 (\$'000)	2022-23 (Revised Estimate) (\$'000)
1	Hong Kong Museum of Art and its branch museum ⁽¹⁾	19,590	18,870	20,230
2	Hong Kong Museum of History and its branch museums ⁽²⁾	32,590	32,480	17,430
3	Hong Kong Heritage Museum and its branch museums ⁽³⁾	19,670	20,350	20,650
4	Hong Kong Science Museum	17,380	16,970	19,660
5	Hong Kong Space Museum	16,760	26,040	17,880
6	Art Promotion Office ⁽⁴⁾	1,830	2,810	3,270
7	Intangible Cultural Heritage Office ⁽⁵⁾	820	680	910
8	Hong Kong Film Archive	14,870	16,100	19,090

Notes

- (1) Including the Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware.
- (2) Including the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence, Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum, Fireboat Alexander Grantham Exhibition Gallery, Law Uk Folk Museum and Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum.
- (3) Including the Hong Kong Railway Museum and Sheung Yiu Folk Museum.
- (4) Including the Hong Kong Visual Arts Centre and Oil Street Art Space (Oi!).
- (5) Including the Sam Tung Uk Museum.

Annex IV to Reply Serial No. CSTB207

Expenditure on the Acquisition of Museum Collections
for LCSD Museums
from 2020-21 to 2022-23

Museum		2020-21 (\$'000)	2021-22 (\$'000)	2022-23 (Revised Estimate) (\$'000)
1	Hong Kong Museum of Art	4,990	1,420	5,060
2	Hong Kong Museum of History	150	10	-
3	Hong Kong Heritage Museum	3,870	560	1,530
4	Hong Kong Science Museum	-	-	650

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