

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CSTB212

(Question Serial No. 0596)

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 Culture, Sports and Tourism

Question:

To further promote the exchange of culture and arts in the Greater Bay Area (GBA), the Government has proposed providing a total of \$135 million over 5 years, starting from the next financial year, to support performing arts groups and artists in Hong Kong in taking part in performances and productions in the GBA. It is anticipated that each year 1 000 Hong Kong artists will participate in these activities, with an audience of 40 000 from the GBA. In this regard, please advise this Committee of the following:

1. What is the staff establishment to be involved for the projects concerned? What is the estimated expenditure per year?
2. What requirements should the performing arts groups and artists satisfy in order to receive such support?
3. How will the performances and productions concerned be actually executed?

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 31)

Reply:

1. The work related to promotion of the exchange of culture and arts in the Greater Bay Area (GBA) is mainly undertaken by 4 Cultural Services Manager Grade members and 4 non-civil service contract staff. Following the recent full resumption of normal travel between Hong Kong and the Mainland, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) is in active discussion with local arts groups and performance venues across the GBA to relaunch the cultural exchange events which had been postponed on account of the COVID-19 epidemic as early as possible. The estimated expenditure is around \$25 million in 2023-24, anticipated to be subject to incremental increases to about \$28 million per year over the subsequent 4 financial years.
2. Those arts groups/artists wishing to stage performances in the GBA must be of notable professional standard, with capability and experience in organising programmes. In addition, the programme proposals submitted must have artistic value and audience

appeal in the GBA and fit the event themes or venue features, while meeting both technical and financial viability.

3. The LCSD will further explore new platforms for performances and exchanges through close liaison with its work partners across the GBA, with a view to enhancing the opportunities for local arts groups/artists to stage performances in the GBA. Meanwhile, the Department will finalise the details related to such performances and productions, including assessment of the programme needs and discussion of such arrangements as performance slots, venue and technical requirements, as well as publicity and ticketing.

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