
Chapter 7

Youth, Sport, Arts and Culture

Preamble

Young people are precious assets of our society and our future. Our youth development policy will focus on creating opportunities for them and helping them to realise their potential. We will continue to partner with relevant NGOs to foster a culture of multi-faceted excellence and offer multiple avenues for young people to pursue their studies, career and interests.

Engaging the Commission on Youth, uniformed groups and NGOs, we aim to enhance our networking with young people, promote positive values amongst them and facilitate their overall development.

The Government's policy for developing sport in Hong Kong is threefold - to promote sport in the community, to support elite sport, and to maintain Hong Kong as a centre for major international sports events. Underlying these objectives is the view that participation in sport contributes significantly to good physical and psychological health, and provides a basis for social interaction and a sense of belonging to the community.

On culture and the arts, our vision is to develop Hong Kong into an international cultural metropolis with a distinct identity grounded in Chinese traditions and enriched by different cultures. We are providing opportunities for wide participation in culture and the arts; offering opportunities for those with potentials to develop artistic

talents; supporting the preservation and promotion of our traditional cultures (including intangible cultural heritage) while encouraging artistic creation and innovation; and developing Hong Kong into a prominent hub of cultural exchanges. We will continue to strengthen our cultural software to tie in with the development of the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD).

New Initiatives

We will:

Youth Development

- Introduce a scholarship scheme to promote the culture of multi-faceted excellence, through subsidising additional undergraduate places for Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education graduates who excel in sports, arts and music as well as community service. (HAB)
- Enhance our support to youth exchange and internship activities. (HAB)
- Continue to promote the Working Holiday Scheme arrangements between Hong Kong and other countries and to explore the signing of such arrangements with more countries so that more of our young people can enrich their global exposure. (LWB)
- Explore with employers and various organisations how pilot projects can be launched under the Youth Employment and Training Programme to provide young people with appropriate pre-employment training, work attachment, on-the-job training and employment support services. (LWB)
- Step up our partnership with NGOs to promote multiple pathways for youths, by organising more life planning activities for senior secondary students and their parents, as well as enhancing publicity work on this front. (HAB)

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- Plan and provide a variety of physical, discipline and team building training to the youth through enhancement of different types of activities of the Junior Police Call. (SB)
 - Enhance our support to youth development by strengthening the youth network at district level, providing additional resources to uniformed groups, especially to assist needy student members, and providing rental discount to social enterprises providing youth service and young entrepreneurs in leasing retail shops in Youth Square. (HAB)
 - Expand the Cadet Corps of Auxiliary Medical Service with a view to strengthening youth training in respect of leadership, discipline and team building. (SB)
 - Organise a Youth Summit, a culmination of the “i-Relay Youth Integrity Project” with the engagement of ICAC Ambassadors recruited from 17 local tertiary education institutions, to promote exchanges on integrity-related issues amongst tertiary students from Hong Kong, the Mainland and overseas. (ICAC)
 - Expand the Youth Hostel Scheme by launching two new projects by the Hong Kong Association of Youth Development and the Hong Kong Girl Guides Association. (HAB)

Sport

- Build new indoor sports centres in Sha Tin and Tuen Mun. (HAB)

Civic Affairs

- Work with the Ping Wo Fund Advisory Committee and stakeholders to mount a dedicated publicity campaign against gambling problems in the run-up to 2014 FIFA World Cup. (HAB)

Arts and Cultural Facilities

- Build a cross-district community cultural centre in Ngau Tau Kok to enhance the provision of cultural facilities in the Kowloon East region. (HAB)
- Renovate the Hong Kong Museum of Art to provide additional gallery space for displaying the works of local and international artists. (HAB)
- Support the WKCD Authority to apply for a minor relaxation of development intensity of WKCD with a view to optimising the development potential of the site and providing more facilities to support the development of the arts and cultural sector. (HAB)

On-going Initiatives

We are:

Youth Development

- Working with the Commission on Youth on youth development activities to help the youth cultivate a positive approach to life and fulfil civic duties. (HAB)
- Enhancing communication with youths through the district network to encourage their participation in community affairs, including organising more exchange activities. (HAB)
- Providing more opportunities for youngsters to serve in underprivileged areas in the Mainland under the “Service Corps” programme. (HAB)
- Taking forward the Youth Hostel Scheme by actively working with the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals and the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups on the two pilot projects at Hollywood Road and Tai Po respectively. (HAB)
- Working to highlight the Youth Square as a focal point for youth development. The Youth Square provides venues and facilities to the youths and youth organisations at affordable prices. (HAB)

- Working with the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education to promote civic education outside schools with emphasis on “respect and inclusiveness”. To enhance social harmony, we are promoting the importance of respectful communication as well as accommodating people with diverse cultural background, different views and perspectives. (HAB)
- Working with the Commission on Youth, the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education and youth uniformed groups to provide young people with appropriate non-formal education and training. We will make use of the Youth Square and the Civic Education Resource Centre to enhance the promotion of youth development and civic education outside schools, including the civic and social participation of young people and national education. (HAB)
- Overseeing the provision of support services for youths at risk, including the implementation of the pilot Cyber Youth Outreaching Projects. (LWB)

More Sports Facilities

- Planning and building new sports facilities to help promote the development of sport at all levels. (HAB)
- Planning the Multi-purpose Sports Complex at Kai Tak in consultation with the sports community and other stakeholders. (HAB)

Promoting Sport

- Promoting sport in the community by –
 - working with District Councils and “national sports associations” to introduce more sports programmes to suit the needs of people of different age groups;
 - liaising with the business sector to sponsor free attendance at major sports events for more people from lower income backgrounds;
 - strengthening the promotion of major sports events to encourage more spectator participation and promote Hong Kong as an international events centre;
 - helping “national sports associations” implement effective feeder systems for the early identification of potential elite athletes; and
 - organising events such as the “Sport For All Day” to promote regular and continued participation in sport. (HAB)
- Providing more opportunities for students from lower income backgrounds to take part in school sports programmes through the introduction of a Student Athlete Support Pilot Scheme. (HAB)
- Supporting the long-term development of football by investing in the Hong Kong Football Association’s “Project Phoenix” programme and providing direct financial assistance to district-based football teams. (HAB)

- Strengthening the monitoring of “national sports associations” that receive government subvention to improve their corporate governance. (HAB)
- Supporting “national sports associations” to host major international sports events, in particular a new Women’s Tennis Association Event in Hong Kong from 2014 onwards. (HAB)

Supporting Elite Athletes

- Supporting the strategic growth of the Hong Kong Sports Institute as a world-class institution for the training and all-round support of elite athletes. (HAB)
- Funding our elite athletes’ preparation for the 2014 Asian Games, Youth Olympics and other major international sports events. (HAB)

Supporting Arts Groups

- Providing funding and other support for the major performing arts groups to –
 - provide quality performing arts programmes for the community; and
 - enhance the development of performing arts in Hong Kong through (i) promoting arts education and audience building, (ii) supporting the grooming of local talents and arts groups as well as (iii) fostering artistic creation and innovation. (HAB)

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- Supporting small and medium performing arts groups by –
 - engaging them in the Leisure and Cultural Services Department's (LCSD's) programmes and activities, including (i) year-round cultural presentations, arts festivals and other performing arts programmes, (ii) audience building and arts education activities as well as (iii) the Venue Partnership Scheme;
 - presenting their performances in both LCSD and non-LCSD venues; and
 - sponsoring their productions through the provision of free venue, ticketing services, publicity support, and in some cases programme fees. (HAB)
 - Providing policy and funding support to the Hong Kong Arts Development Council to –
 - support its work in promoting the development of the arts in Hong Kong; and
 - provide funding and other types of support to small and medium arts groups. (HAB)
 - Implementing the Arts Capacity Development Funding Scheme to support larger scale and cross-year arts and cultural initiatives/projects to –
 - enhance capacity development of promising arts groups and arts practitioners; and

- encourage the community and private sector to sponsor the arts. (HAB)

Grooming Arts Talents

- Enhancing measures to strengthen the training and development of arts administrators, curators and stage technicians over five years since 2013-14. These include attachment/internship opportunities for young people and scholarships for art professionals to attend training programmes at overseas and local organisations. (HAB)
- Supporting the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts to improve grooming of talents to meet the needs of the arts sector. (HAB)
- Promoting the work of young and talented art practitioners to the local and overseas communities through –
 - various performing and visual arts programmes organised by LCSD; and
 - acquisition and commissioning of local artists' artworks by LCSD. (HAB)
- Providing funding and policy support to the Hong Kong Arts Development Council for implementing various training and internship schemes for grooming local artists in various art forms. (HAB)

Promoting Arts and Cultural Programmes

- Promoting knowledge and appreciation of various art forms by the community through audience building, arts education and public art projects organised by LCSD, the Hong Kong Arts Development Council and other arts organisations funded by the Government. (HAB)
- Promoting Hong Kong as a cultural hub of Asia through cultural exchange programmes/activities at international and regional levels. (HAB)
- Facilitating the promotion of major arts and cultural events and festivals in Hong Kong, so as to highlight our status as an international city. (HAB)
- At the district level, (i) lining up quality cultural programmes to support district arts festivals, and (ii) launching specially curated entertainment programmes, community cultural events, student performances, etc. through LCSD for audience development and arts education. (HAB)

Cultural Facilities, Museums and Libraries

- Planning and building new cultural facilities taking into account community needs. (HAB)
- Enhancing the management and optimising the use of existing performance venues through the Venue Partnership Scheme. We will continue to identify alternative arts venues for cultural performances to address the venue shortage problem. (HAB)

- Supporting small and medium performing arts groups in using venues not managed by LCSD prior to the coming on-stream of WKCD facilities. This will enrich the cultural life across districts and foster a more vibrant and lively arts scene. (HAB)
- Enhancing public museum facilities and services and entering into collaborative partnership with various sectors to create an inspiring cultural environment that promotes creativity and learning. (HAB)
- Enhancing library facilities and services to better achieve the broad cultural mission of Hong Kong Public Libraries. (HAB)

Intangible Cultural Heritage

- Supporting the research, preservation and promotion of Hong Kong's intangible cultural heritage, including Cantonese opera, an important form of local art genre. We are also compiling Hong Kong's first intangible cultural heritage inventory list. (HAB)
- Promoting knowledge and appreciation of China's intangible cultural heritage through ongoing exhibitions and performances organised in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture. (HAB)

West Kowloon Cultural District

- Monitoring the development of arts and cultural facilities in WKCD by the WKCD Authority, including –
 - monitoring the planning, design and construction processes for the facilities in WKCD;

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- co-ordinating interface issues of WKCD with the integrated basement, public infrastructure and community facility projects in the vicinity; and
 - co-ordinating the interface between venues in WKCD and other arts and cultural venues managed by the Government and its collaborators. (HAB)
- Working closely with the WKCD Authority to enrich people's cultural life through –
- organising a variety of quality arts and cultural programmes to nurture local talents and build up audiences; and
 - broadening Hong Kong's exchanges with other places in contemporary art, performing arts and visual culture. (HAB)