
Chapter 2

Quality City And Quality Life

Preamble

The development of Hong Kong into a knowledge-based economy requires talent from around the world, and a quality city life is essential to attracting talent. The concept of “Progressive Development” advocated by the Chief Executive is to develop a quality city life by striking a balance between economic development and environmental protection and conservation. In the arena of environmental protection, we launched a basket of new initiatives in areas such as air quality improvement, waste management and promoting a low-carbon economy and lifestyle. Environmental protection is a long-term and continuing commitment. The Government will continue to promote regional co-operation to improve air quality within the region, and to develop the PRD Region into a green and quality living area. Global warming is an international concern. We will meet the challenge of climate change with early planning. In particular, we will enhance energy efficiency and promote a low carbon economy — an economy based on low energy consumption and low pollution. Moreover, we will strengthen our cultural software, develop our audience base, and support more small and medium arts groups to tie in with the development of the West Kowloon Cultural District, which is proceeding as planned.

We will also continue our efforts to beautify the shoreline of Victoria Harbour by turning it into a landmark to be enjoyed by locals and visitors alike.

New Initiatives

We will:

- Oversee the progressive launch of digital audio broadcasting services by three commercial licensees and Radio Television Hong Kong as from late 2011/early 2012.
- Sponsor or organise large-scale promotion events to help the creative industries tap the Mainland and overseas market.
- Encourage exchanges among the creative talent in the Greater China Region, including sponsoring the organisation of exchange activities in Hong Kong, visits by local creative talent to creative events held in the Mainland and Taiwan, and studies on the development of creative talent in Hong Kong's neighbouring region.
- Collaborate with the Hong Kong Design Centre and other stakeholders to organise "Hong Kong Design Year" which will bring to the community various promotional activities to celebrate design excellence and vibrancy of the city.
- Enhance the support to the Hong Kong Design Centre to further drive the development of the local design sector.

- Collaborate with the Construction Industry Council on the development of a zero carbon building cum public open space to showcase state-of-the-art eco-building design and technology to the construction industry internationally and locally and to raise community awareness of sustainable living.
- Organise an international conference on heritage conservation in December 2011 to promote international exchange of insight and experience among esteemed heritage conservation professionals from both the public and the private sectors.
- Conduct a consultancy study on the feasibility, framework and implementation plan for setting up a statutory heritage trust in Hong Kong to take forward future heritage conservation efforts.
- In consultation with tree management departments, review the existing arrangements for tree risk management, including the manpower development arrangement, with a view to better protecting public safety through uplifting professional standard.
- Review the Drainage Master Plans in East Kowloon and West Kowloon with a view to assessing the flooding risks in these urban districts and proposing improvement measures.
- Conduct a study to identify stream courses with flooding risks and devise a warning system for residents living in adjacent areas.
- Arrange for the purchase and wholesale conversion of an existing industrial building for accommodating office facilities of Water Supplies Department.

- Explore the use of reclaimed water for toilet flushing and other non-potable uses in Sheung Shui, Fanling and the New Development Areas in the north-eastern part of the New Territories.
- Set up a dedicated team to oversee the formulation and implementation of water conservation measures.
- Promote efforts in combating climate change by carrying out carbon audits on major Government buildings and public facilities; encouraging companies to participate in identifying more room for carbon reduction; and exploring the possibility of setting up a carbon footprint repository.
- Enhance community participation in environmental protection through district-based education, promotion and publicity programmes and activities organised or sponsored by District Councils, so as to garner support from the community and encourage participation in waste reduction, energy and water conservation.
- Explore with the governments of Guangdong, Shenzhen and Macao the feasibility of requiring ocean-going vessels to switch to low-sulphur diesel while berthing at ports of Hong Kong and the PRD as well as setting up an Emission Control Area in PRD waters over the longer term; and study in collaboration with the relevant trades the feasibility of improving the quality of marine fuels sold locally to reduce emissions from vessels.
- Amend the Air Pollution Control Ordinance to ban all forms of asbestos.

- Strengthen the control of emissions from petrol and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicles using remote sensing equipment and advanced emission test; and set aside \$150 million for providing a one-off subsidy to owners of LPG taxis and light buses for replacing catalytic converters of their vehicles.
- Fund the purchase of 36 electric buses for trial by franchised bus companies, to test their performance and collect operational data.
- Expand the LPG filling network by searching for new sites suitable for use as petrol-cum-LPG stations and by incorporating suitable conditions in future tendering of petrol-cum-LPG filling stations a requirement on the minimum size of LPG filling facilities subject to safety and relevant considerations.
- Support the local environmental industry to participate in environmental exhibitions, trade missions and related events with a view to promoting the development and business opportunities of the industry in the Mainland and overseas.
- Prepare legislation to amend the Pesticides Ordinance to fulfill the obligations of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade.
- Formulate a licensing scheme to enhance regulation of private columbaria and consult the public on relevant proposals.

- Make a regulation under the Food Safety Ordinance to extend the existing import control regime for meat and poultry to cover poultry eggs.
- Amend the Harmful Substances in Food Regulations to prohibit the presence of hormones of exogenous origin in dried milk, condensed milk and reconstituted milk.
- Introduce monthly tickets for public swimming pools to encourage members of the public to swim regularly. Concessionary rates will be available for the elderly, people with disabilities, students and children.
- Align the fees for using public sports facilities and services in the urban area and the New Territories.
- Review the redevelopment potential of existing aged public rental housing estates so as to optimise the use of resources.

On-going Initiatives

We are:

- Promoting Hong Kong design and encouraging the use of design to add value to our goods and services and Government's interface with the public. This includes promoting Hong Kong's design services to the PRD.
- Promoting the development of the film industry through organising film festivals and business matching activities outside Hong Kong; promoting the business model of "multi-media, cross platform"; and facilitating the development of a digital distribution network.
- Encouraging the local creative industries to make good use of the \$300 million CreateSmart Initiative to support projects conducive to the development of the industries.
- Nurturing local creative talent in collaboration with the creative industries. This includes training and internship programmes for tertiary students and fresh graduates to obtain on-the-job training in the creative industries; and supporting our creative talent to participate in overseas competitions to showcase Hong Kong's creativity and to enhance the international profile of local creative talent.

- Working closely with our creative industries to further develop the signature events that have been successfully launched in Hong Kong for the different creative sectors, with a view to enriching Hong Kong's creative events calendar, and establishing the city as the prime location for holding creativity events in the region.
- Supporting the use of the online and smartphone platforms that have been developed for individual creative sectors in exploring new markets and promoting Hong Kong's creative industries worldwide. These platforms include the "build.hk" showcasing local architectural works, as well as the "Hong Kong Comics" that facilitates promotion and distribution of Hong Kong comics locally and overseas through smartphone applications.
- Working closely with the selected non-profit-making organisation (NPO) and its partners to implement the project of transforming the former Police Married Quarters on Hollywood Road into a creative industries landmark.
- Processing the applications for domestic free television programme service licence submitted by commercial operators.
- Gearing up for the launch of digital audio, digital television and community involvement broadcasting services for Radio Television Hong Kong.
- Overseeing the rollout of broadcast-type mobile television services by February 2012.
- Organising a wide range of promotional activities including the InnoTech Month during November 2011 to enhance the community's awareness of innovation and technology.

- Considering the way forward on the review of the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance.
- Continuing to enhance e-government services by enriching the Governmental portal, GovHK, to provide more personalised interface to suit individual needs for information and services, launching mobile applications and facilitating value-added re-use of public sector information.
- Continuing to implement green data centre strategy and practices within the Government with a view to reducing carbon footprints and environmental impact in government data centre operations.
- Continuing to provide diverse learning experiences for students, teacher professional development programmes and learning and teaching resources conducive to unleashing and realising the design and creativity potentials of students.
- Strengthening our arts and cultural development by taking a three-pronged approach: (a) programme development, (b) audience building, and (c) arts education and manpower training so as to bring arts to the people for everyone to have access to quality and diverse cultural contents.

- Using the annual investment return from the \$3 billion seed capital of the Arts and Sport Development Fund to promote the long-term development of sport, the arts and culture. Through the new Arts Capacity Development Funding Scheme, funding will be provided to enhance capacity development of promising arts groups and art practitioners as well as activities/projects of a large scale and/or a long time. The Scheme offers Project Grants and Springboard Grants, the latter matches private sponsorship to cultivate a supportive culture for the arts in the community and to foster a tripartite partnership among the Government, arts groups and the private sector to promote arts and cultural development in Hong Kong.
- Overseeing the implementation of the new Urban Renewal Strategy promulgated in February 2011, with particular emphasis on the work of the Kowloon City District Urban Renewal Forum and the Urban Renewal Trust Fund as well as alternative approaches to redevelopment undertaken by the Urban Renewal Authority (URA).
- Continuing to improve the greening, landscape and tree management regime through the adoption of a holistic approach embracing quality landscape planning and design in the upstream to professional vegetation management and maintenance in the downstream, with effective steer and co-ordination across departments in tree management, enhancement of professional expertise and increased community involvement.
- Working closely with the Legislative Council in the examination of the Lifts and Escalators Bill 2011 with an aim to strengthen the regulatory control over lift and escalator safety as early as possible.

- Continuing with the implementation of the “Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme” to promote public awareness of water conservation and facilitate users’ choice of water efficient plumbing fixtures and appliances.
- Working closely with the selected NPOs to implement projects in the first and second batches of buildings under the “Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme”.
- Proceeding with the invitation for proposals for the third batch of historic buildings under the “Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme”. We will assess the revitalisation proposals received and work closely with the selected NPOs to implement the projects.
- Taking forward the conservation and revitalisation of the Central Police Station Compound in partnership with the Hong Kong Jockey Club based on a revised conceptual design.
- Continuing with the development of a comprehensive cycle track network in the New Territories to improve the quality of living.
- Continuing to press ahead with the implementation of the comprehensive water mains replacement and rehabilitation programme.
- Continuing with the programme to complete the decking and/or landscaping of 16 sections of nullahs to improve the living environment, with 12 sections completed and the remaining to be completed in stages from 2012.

- Continuing with the preliminary design of the improvement work for the Yuen Long Town Centre Nullah to enhance the local environment quality and the ecological value of the nullah.
- Continuing to promote the wider use of energy efficient devices and adoption of renewable energy systems in public works projects.
- Continuing with the development of Greening Master Plans for the New Territories.
- Overseeing the implementation of the “Public Open Space in Private Developments Design and Management Guidelines” for the better provision of public open space in private developments.
- Continuing with the implementation of the package of measures to enhance building design to foster a quality and sustainable built environment and to control the problem of “inflated buildings”.
- Developing a performance-based regulatory system to facilitate modern and innovative building design.
- Working closely with the Legislative Council in the examination of the subsidiary legislation for implementing the mandatory building inspection scheme and mandatory window inspection scheme to require private building owners to inspect their buildings and windows regularly with a view to implementing the two schemes as early as possible.

- Continuing to work closely with the Hong Kong Housing Society and the URA to assist owners in need to carry out repair and maintenance works, including the \$3.5 billion “Operation Building Bright”. We are also continuing our efforts to enhance building management and maintenance of private buildings through public education, publicity and participation of professional bodies.
- Working closely with the Legislative Council in the examination of legislative amendments to enhance building safety, including enhanced control over advertising signboards and “sub-divided units”.
- Taking rigorous enforcement actions against unauthorised building works and responding efficiently to complaints against contraventions of the Buildings Ordinance.
- Continuing to implement the flood prevention programme to enhance the protection level in flood prone areas and aiming to complete the review of the Drainage Master Plans for northern and northwestern New Territories in end 2011.
- Continuing with the Landslip Prevention and Mitigation Programme to upgrade and landscape government man-made slopes, mitigate the landslide risk of natural terrain with known hazards, and conduct safety screening studies for private slopes.
- Continuing to work closely with the URA on area improvement schemes in Wan Chai and Mong Kok aimed at preserving local characteristics as well as beautifying the areas.

- Continuing to monitor the implementation of the pilot mediation scheme commissioned in January 2011 to encourage parties involved in or contemplating applications for compulsory sale for development under the Land (Compulsory Sale for Redevelopment) Ordinance to undertake mediation.
- Continuing the review of outline zoning plans to stipulate building height control and impose/revise relevant planning parameters where justified to lower the development intensity, with a view to improving the living environment.
- Implementing the revised schemes for the West Rail property development projects not yet tendered to comply with the requirements of quality and sustainable built environment and to increase the supply of small and medium-sized flats.
- Continuing to strengthen our work on harbourfront planning and rolling out more harbourfront enhancement initiatives for the enjoyment of residents and visitors alike. Our planning, land use and urban design of the harbourfront should be in line with our stated mission to protect Victoria Harbour, in collaboration with the Harbourfront Commission and the wider community.
- Continuing to provide through the Development Opportunities Office one-stop consultation and co-ordination services to land development proposals by non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and the private sector that will bring broader economic and social benefits to the community.

- Continuing to enhance community involvement in surveillance and appreciation of trees in Hong Kong through co-operation with District Councils, schools, NGOs and the industry so as to protect public safety and to foster a culture of care for our trees.
- Taking forward the establishment of an education centre to step up the promotion of water conservation through the provision of education resources to the community.
- Taking forward the implementation of the flood prevention scheme for the provision of an underground stormwater storage tank to relieve the flooding risks in Happy Valley and adjacent areas.
- Carrying out a study on the adoption of low carbon construction measures in the delivery of public works projects.
- Consulting the public on the Regional Co-operation Plan on Quality Living Area, and carrying out further in-depth studies with a view to finalising a strategy to transform the Greater PRD Region into a green and quality living area.
- Preparing for the full implementation of the Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance in September 2012.
- Implementing the buildings energy efficiency funding schemes, with \$450 million allocated by the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) to subsidise building owners to carry out energy-cum-carbon audits and energy efficiency projects. The funding schemes have been open for application since April 2009. Over 790 funding applications have been approved, involving a subsidy amount of over \$300 million.

- Implementing a comprehensive target-based green performance framework for new and existing government buildings to continue promoting environmental protection and energy conservation in government buildings.
- Implementing energy efficiency demonstration projects to demonstrate state-of-the-art energy efficient designs and technologies.
- Implementing the district cooling system at Kai Tak Development to meet the demand of air-conditioning for public and private non-domestic developments.
- Implementing the Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme.
- Continuing to promote the use of energy-efficient lighting installations and consulting the public on restricting the sale of incandescent light bulbs.
- Taking follow-up actions with a view to addressing concerns on external lighting with advice from the Task Force on External Lighting.
- Continuing to monitor the progress of the two power companies in developing commercial-scale wind energy projects.
- Continuing to tighten, whenever practicable, the statutory cap on the total emissions of power companies according to the Air Pollution Control Ordinance.

- Continuing with the implementation of the Regional Air Quality Management Plan together with the Guangdong Provincial Government to reduce the emission of four major air pollutants in the PRD Region.
- Continuing to work with the Guangdong authorities to map out the emission reduction arrangements for the next phase to further improve regional air quality.
- Continuing to implement the five-year “Cleaner Production Partnership Programme” to provide professional and technical support to Hong Kong-owned factories in the PRD Region with a view to promoting adoption of cleaner production technologies and practices.
- Continuing to tighten vehicle emission and fuel standards following the EU’s practices.
- Consulting stakeholders on a proposal for introducing roadside remote sensing and advanced emission testing to strengthen the control of emissions from petrol and liquefied petroleum gas vehicles.
- Preparing for implementation of the Motor Vehicle Idling (Fixed Penalty) Ordinance starting from December 2011.
- Providing incentives to encourage owners of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles to replace their old vehicles with those complying with the prevalent emission requirements for newly registered vehicles.

- Encouraging the use of environment-friendly private petrol cars and commercial vehicles by reduction in first registration tax.
- Continuing trials of retrofitting Euro II and Euro III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices to reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides. Subject to satisfactory trial results, we will fund the capital costs for installing the devices in the Euro II and Euro III franchised buses.
- Continuing to encourage the public transport sector and goods vehicle owners to test out green and innovative transport technologies through subsidies under the Pilot Green Transport Fund to improve roadside air quality and combat global climate change.
- Preparing to legislate for a new regime to control emissions of air pollutants from non-road mobile machinery, in light of the outcome of consultation with stakeholders.
- Mapping out the way forward for local ferries to use cleaner fuel or adopt other emission control measures in light of the findings of the trial of powering local ferries with ultra-low sulphur diesel.
- Continuing the implementation of the extended import ban of controlled products containing hydrochlorofluorocarbons and other scheduled substances by phases with a view to meeting the phasing out schedule in the Montreal Protocol.

- Continuing the implementation of the Air Pollution Control (Volatile Organic Compounds) Regulation, which was amended in October 2009, to limit the contents of volatile organic compounds in adhesives, sealants, vehicle refinishing paints and marine vessels paints by phases from January 2010.
- Drawing up the final recommendations for updating Hong Kong's Air Quality Objectives and developing an air quality management plan.
- Continuing to implement the initiatives in "A Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste in Hong Kong (2005-2014)" by –
 - (a) extending the territory-wide source separation of waste programme to promote waste recovery both at home and at work;
 - (b) monitoring the operation of EcoPark;
 - (c) engaging the public in continued discussions on possible municipal solid waste charging as a direct economic disincentive to reduce waste at source;
 - (d) implementing the three landfill extension schemes;
 - (e) completing the feasibility and environmental impact assessment studies for the Integrated Waste Management Facilities development, and planning for the tendering of the project;

- (f) completing the tendering of the first phase Organic Waste Treatment Facilities; and
 - (g) commencing the feasibility and environmental impact assessment studies for the second phase Organic Waste Treatment Facilities.
- Drawing up detailed proposals for extending the Producer Responsibility Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags to cover all retail shops.
 - Continuing to develop detailed proposals for the mandatory Producer Responsibility Scheme for waste electrical and electronic equipment.
 - Continuing to construct the sludge treatment facility to avoid the disposal of large amount of sewage sludge at landfills.
 - Continuing to deliver inert construction and demolition materials to the Mainland for reclamation purposes. We will liaise with the Mainland authorities to identify more possible sites for the reuse of the inert materials.
 - Continuing to implement Stage 2A of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme with the aim of completing the construction works within 2014. We commenced a study to review Stage 2B of the Scheme in June 2010. Based on the results to be obtained under the study, we will draw up a timetable for building the biological treatment plant under Stage 2B.

- Continuing to monitor the water quality of Tsuen Wan beaches and reopening them by phases in view of the significant improvement in water quality upon commissioning of the Advance Disinfection Facilities of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme Stage 2A in March 2010. Four beaches, namely, Lido Beach, Casam Beach, Approach Beach and Hoi Mei Wan Beach, have been re-opened in June 2011. Improvement works to the facilities at the remaining three beaches, namely, Anglers' Beach, Gemini Beaches and Ting Kau Beach, will be undertaken with a view to reopening them in the 2013 swimming season.
- Overseeing the implementation of the Management Agreement and pilot scheme on Public-Private-Partnership promulgated under the New Nature Conservation Policy, with the objective of enhancing conservation of ecologically important habitats on private land.
- Stepping up publicity and education efforts on the Hong Kong Global Geopark of China, in order to better promote and preserve Hong Kong's unique and valuable geological resources.
- Taking forward the proposal to ban commercial fishing in marine parks for improving ecosystems in marine parks and offering better protection for marine organisms.
- Continuing the public engagement process for the Sustainable Development Strategy for Hong Kong, with the aim of encouraging greater public awareness of and participation in this process.

- Continuing to support, through the ECF, the following projects to further promote public awareness on environmental protection and strengthen international and regional collaboration to address environmental challenges –
 - (a) greening/waste recovery and food waste recycling/energy efficiency projects for schools, community buildings and charitable organisations;
 - (b) energy audits and energy efficient installation projects for buildings to promote energy conservation under the Building Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes, as well as energy audits and energy conservation projects in NGO premises under the Energy Conservation Projects for NGOs funding scheme;
 - (c) the operation of two processing centres by NGOs for waste plastics and waste electrical and electronic equipment respectively at EcoPark;
 - (d) international conferences to promote exchanges amongst policy-makers, professionals as well as other stakeholders on latest developments and best practices on environment and conservation matters;
 - (e) projects from District Councils and community groups to implement district-based projects on low carbon lifestyle promotion, energy efficient installations and waste reduction; and
 - (f) projects in conserving and enhancing the biodiversity of ecologically important sites.

- Continuing to actively apply green specifications in government procurement as well as cleansing and vehicle hiring service contracts. We will also seek to widen the scope of green procurement in public works projects.
- Continuing to encourage all schools to sign a green lunch charter to avoid the use of disposable containers and cutlery, and to reduce food waste; and with funding support from the ECF, encouraging schools to install new facilities for serving green lunch. Up to end August 2011, 75 funding applications, amounting to \$97 million have been approved. Since 2010, all new schools under planning have incorporated on-site meal portioning facilities as standard facilities of school.
- Drawing up Hong Kong's climate change strategy and related greenhouse gas emissions reduction measures for combating climate change.
- Implementing the Convention on Biological Biodiversity and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, and demonstrating to the international community our commitment to enhance the protection of biodiversity.
- Further enhancing food safety by bringing the Food Safety Ordinance into full operation. The Ordinance will include a mandatory registration scheme for food importers and distributors, enhanced food traceability measures and power to make regulations for tightening control on imported food.

- Preparing legislation to provide for a set of comprehensive and clear food safety standards for pesticide residues and veterinary drug residues in food that meet Hong Kong's needs.
- Continuing the programme to convert all aqua privies into flushing toilets in phases by 2013.
- Tightening up the regulatory framework for poultry and animals for the purpose of enhancing public health and food safety.
- Promoting sustainable development of the fisheries industry and conserving fisheries resources in Hong Kong waters including offering free training on sustainable fishing practices, and launching a pilot fish hatchery and nursery scheme.
- Reviewing proposals on the regulation of restricted dining places to safeguard public health.
- Exploring how to co-operate with the Mainland authorities on using latest information technology application to ensure effective tracing of food along the production chain and achieve better food safety management through control at source.
- Reviewing the provision of cemeteries, columbaria and crematoria facilities and striving to provide more facilities to meet future demand.
- Following up on the recommendations of the review on hawker licensing, including the issuing of fixed-pitch hawker licences after consultation with the relevant District Councils.

- Continuing to conduct technical feasibility studies of shortlisted sites for columbarium development across the territory to increase supply of columbarium facilities.
- Taking follow-up actions on the implementation of the legislation to ban trawling activities in Hong Kong waters and continuing to implement the recommendations of the Committee on Sustainable Fisheries.
- Continuing to plan and build new cultural and sports facilities taking into account community needs.
- Continuing to plan the development of a Multi-purpose Stadium Complex at Kai Tak.
- Continuing to promote “sport for all” by –
 - (a) working with District Councils and “National Sports Associations” to introduce more sports programmes to suit the needs of people of different age groups;
 - (b) liaising with the business sector with a view to sponsoring more people from less privileged backgrounds to attend major sports events;
 - (c) strengthening the promotion of major sports events with a view to encouraging greater spectator participation and promoting Hong Kong as an international events centre;
 - (d) helping more “National Sports Associations” implement effective feeder systems for the early identification of potential elite athletes; and

- (e) organising events such as the Sport for All Day and the Hong Kong Games to promote regular and continued participation in sport.
- Continuing to facilitate the re-development of the Hong Kong Sports Institute in order to provide world-class sports training facilities.
 - Continuing to support our elite athletes as they prepare to participate in the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games and other major international sports events.
 - Continuing to strengthen support for the long-term development of football, including the provision of more new and upgraded football pitches.
 - Continuing to strengthen the monitoring of “National Sports Associations” that are receiving government subvention to improve their corporate governance for more effective promotion and development of sport in Hong Kong.
 - Continuing to identify suitable sites for the provision of more pet gardens in existing parks and future projects in consultation with the District Councils and local residents.
 - Working closely with the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) Authority to develop the arts and cultural facilities in the WKCD, at the same time providing a variety of good quality arts and cultural activities, and broadening Hong Kong’s exchanges with other places in contemporary art and performing arts, so as to enrich people’s cultural life.

- Enhancing the operation and management of cultural services and venues, optimising the use of existing performance venues through the venue partnership scheme and identifying alternative arts venues to address the venue shortage problem.
- Continuing to support the small and medium-sized performing arts groups in using venues not managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department to enrich the cultural life across the districts and to usher in a more vibrant and lively arts scene prior to the coming on-stream of the WKCD facilities.
- At the district level, lining up quality cultural programmes to support the district arts festivals; launching specially curated entertainment programmes, community cultural events, student performances, etc. through the Leisure and Cultural Services Department for audience development and arts education.
- Facilitating the promotion of major arts and cultural events and festivals in Hong Kong, so as to highlight our status as an international city.
- Implementing a package of new initiatives with a view to establishing clear branding for our public museums and expanding their audience.
- Continuing to work closely with the Hong Kong Maritime Museum to establish a representative maritime museum for Hong Kong at the Central Pier 8.
- Supporting the research, preservation and promotion of Hong Kong's intangible cultural heritage, in particular Cantonese opera as an important form of local indigenous art form.

- Leveraging on the use of advanced technology as one of the ongoing strategies for enhancing library facilities and services with a view to achieving the broader cultural mission of the Hong Kong Public Libraries.
- Building on the experience of the Asia Cultural Co-operation Forum, continuing to foster partnership among governments in the Asian region and enhance Hong Kong's position as the cultural hub of Asia.
- Continuing our efforts to promote the cultural co-operation and exchange between Hong Kong and Taiwan through the Hong Kong-Taiwan Cultural Co-operation Committee.
- Continuing our efforts to strengthen the regional cultural network in the PRD through the Greater PRD Cultural Co-operation Meeting.
- Engaging property management companies to provide one-stop professional building management advisory services to clusters of dilapidated old buildings.
- Continuing to promote a building care culture by supporting the work of the Panel of Advisors on Building Management Disputes, organising more structured training for office-bearers of owners' corporations and putting in place a platform for graduates of these training programmes to share experience and outreach to other owners' corporations and property owners, thus promoting mutual help.

- Formulating the detailed provisions and operational set-up of the regulatory regime for the property management industry. We are also reviewing the Building Management Ordinance to examine whether common problems in building management could be resolved by amending the Ordinance.
- Continuing the study on long-term options for better meeting demands for emergency ambulance services.
- Continuing with the exercise to amend the Road Traffic Ordinance and implement the measures upon enactment to vigorously combat drug driving.
- Promoting the use of environment-friendly buses by implementing the provision in the bus franchises on the adoption of the latest commercially available and proven environment-friendly technologies for acquiring new buses, encouraging bus companies to deploy cleaner vehicles along busy corridors, including as appropriate the adoption of environment-friendly measures as a criterion in selecting operators for new bus route packages and enhancing bus service rationalisation to reduce roadside air pollution, noise nuisance, traffic congestion and energy consumption.
- Continuing to consider measures to regulate traffic, including fiscal and traffic management means, with a view to reducing congestion along major transport corridors.

- Continuing to take forward feasibility studies for the proposed pedestrian subway system in Causeway Bay and footbridge system in Mong Kok so as to create space for pedestrian movements, minimise vehicle-pedestrian conflicts and improve roadside air quality, and proceeding with the detailed feasibility study for major improvement schemes and implementing the other improvement schemes under the pedestrian environment improvement scheme for Yuen Long Town.
- Continuing with the assessment of possible measures to improve traffic distribution among the three road harbour crossings.
- Promoting sustainable public housing developments by designing for green and healthy living, and ensuring effective and rational use of housing resources.
- Increasing the greening ratio of all new public rental housing estates to at least 20%. For large public housing projects over 2 hectares, we will increase the greening ratio to 30%. We will also provide green roofs in low-rise buildings and provide vertical greening in some pilot projects wherever feasible.
- Continuing to work with the Hong Kong Housing Society to implement the “My Home Purchase Plan”.
- Following up the recommendations of the Steering Committee on the Regulation of the Sale of First-hand Residential Properties by Legislation, including launching a public consultation exercise in the form of a White Bill and introducing a bill into the Legislative Council.