

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**HAB160**

**(Question Serial No. 2653)**

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

Programme: (4) Performing Arts

Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Ms Michelle LI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

The Budget (paragraph 159) proposed the allocation of \$140 million to support local arts groups and artists for cultural exchanges in the Bay Area. Please provide details of the above cultural exchange programmes, including eligibility for application, destinations, exchange targets and the amount of grant.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Tanya (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 46)

Reply:

The Government has announced in the 2018-19 Budget that it will provide a total of \$140 million in the coming 5 years to support local arts groups and artists for cultural exchanges in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area (Bay Area). Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) will use these additional resources to support performances by artists and arts groups from Hong Kong or other suitable cultural exchange activities in the Bay Area with a view to showcasing Hong Kong's arts and culture while providing new opportunities to Hong Kong artists and arts groups, as well as nurturing future administrative staff and impresarios.

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