

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB165

(Question Serial No. 2173)

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 Financial Secretary will set aside \$20 billion for the improvement and development of cultural facilities, including the planned expansion of the Hong Kong City Hall. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

1. What are the details, timetable and estimated expenditure of the planned expansion of the Hong Kong City Hall?
2. Will a comprehensive public consultation be conducted on the expansion project? If so, when will it be launched? If not, what are the reasons?
3. Given that the Hong Kong City Hall is a Grade I historic building, is the proposed expansion in line with the development of Site 3 of the new Central Harbourfront? If so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 12)

Reply:

Opened in 1962, the Hong Kong City Hall (City Hall) is the first multi-purpose cultural complex in Hong Kong. The proposed expansion and renovation of the City Hall aims to provide additional performing and rehearsal facilities as well as to enhance the existing facilities to meet modern day needs. As the project is under preliminary planning, project details including the scope, construction schedule and estimated cost will be worked out during the design stage. The planning and design will take due account of the status of the City Hall as a Grade I historic building and all relevant planning parameters for the site.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department will consult relevant stakeholders including the District Council, the Harbourfront Commission, relevant committees and art groups upon completion of the preliminary design.