

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

HAB170

Question Serial No.

0414

Head: 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services
Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Performing Arts

Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

Regarding the Venue Partnership Scheme, will the Government:

- (a) provide a breakdown of the various forms of support provided by the venues to each of their Venue Partners and the expenditure involved in each form of support in 2011-12 and 2012-13; and
- (b) provide a breakdown of the number of activities co-organised by each venue and its Venue Partner(s), the number of audience outreached and the average cost for each member of the audience of each activity in 2011-12 and 2012-13?

Asked by: Hon. CHUNG Shu-kun, Christopher

Reply:

- (a) Under the first round (2009-10 to 2011-12) of the 3-year Venue Partnership Scheme (VPS), 20 Venue Partners (VPs) had been engaged in organising performing arts activities of various art forms at 11 performance venues managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD). In 2012-13, the second round (2012-13 to 2014-15) of the VPS commenced with 21 VPs at 12 performance venues. The LCSD provides support to all the VPs in the form of (i) priority use of the venue facilities; (ii) provision of work space; and (iii) enhanced publicity support such as publicising the VPs' programmes in monthly event calendars, and exclusive use of display areas and wall banner sites at venues for programme promotion.

Insofar as funding support is concerned, the VPs that are major performing companies receive annual subvention from the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) in the form of consolidated grants covering rentals in using LCSD venues, the production and promotion of VPS programmes and activities as well as administrative and staff costs. For VPs that are small and medium-sized performing companies, LCSD provides each of them with an annual programme fee (up to \$1 million per group in 2011-12 and 2012-13) to cover production, staff and administrative costs, in addition to the free use of the venue facilities, ticketing services, as well as administrative and publicity support (e.g. newspapers and MTR advertisements).

The total funding support provided by the LCSD (including notional charges) for the small and medium-sized performing groups in 2011-12 (actual) and 2012-13 (estimated) are \$22.8 million and \$31.4 million respectively. Breakdown is set out in Annex A.

- (b) The number of activities organised [by all the VPs] at the hosting performance venues and the attendance in 2011-12 (actual) and 2012-13 (estimated) are as follows:

Activities	2011-12 (by 20 VPs) (Actual)	2012-13 (by 21 VPs) (Estimated)
No. of stage performances	628	798
No. of educational, promotional and audience building activities	720	931
Total attendance	700 871	717 328

Breakdown is set out in Annex B.

Name in block letters: Mrs. BETTY FUNG

Post Title: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Date: 22.3.2013

1. Venue Partnership Scheme (VPS) - Level of Support to Venue Partners in 2011-12**A) Major Performing Companies with Funding Support from Home Affairs Bureau (HAB)**

Venue		Venue Partner	Government Subvention in 2011-12 [Note 1]
1.	Hong Kong Cultural Centre	(i) Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra	These are major performing companies which receive annual subvention from HAB. HAB provided additional funding to them in 2011-12 to cover hire charges in using LCSD venues, programme fees for VPS-related activities and staff cost.
		(ii) Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra	
		(iii) The Hong Kong Ballet	
		(iv) Zuni Icosahedron	
2.	Hong Kong City Hall	(i) Hong Kong Sinfonietta	
		(ii) Hong Kong Repertory Theatre	
3.	Kwai Tsing Theatre	Chung Ying Theatre Company	
4.	Tsuen Wan Town Hall	Hong Kong Dance Company	
5.	Yuen Long Theatre	Chung Ying Theatre Company	

B) Small and Medium-sized Companies with Funding Support from Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD)

Venue		Venue Partner	Funding Support from LCSD: 2011-12 (Actual) [Note 2]				
			Notional Hire Charges (\$) [Note 3]	Notional URB TIX Charges (\$) [Note 3]	Publicity Support (\$) [Note 4]	Annual Programme Fee (\$)	Total Funding (\$)
			(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(a)+(b)+(c)+(d)
1.	Sheung Wan Civic Centre	Perry Chiu Experimental Theatre	1,040,717	166,113	66,196	1,000,000	2,273,026
2.	Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre	The Absolutely Fabulous Theatre Connection	360,049	21,862	120,196	1,000,000	1,502,107
3.	Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre	(i) E-Side Dance Company	498,862	12,469	66,170	880,000	1,457,501
		(ii)Whole Theatre	915,620	58,906	66,170	1,000,000	2,040,696
4.	Kwai Tsing Theatre	W Theatre Company and Wind Mill Grass Theatre	981,209	120,419	66,170	645,000	1,812,798
5.	Tsuen Wan Town Hall	Ming Ri Institute for Arts Education	770,319	42,713	66,170	920,000	1,799,202
6.	Sha Tin Town Hall	(i) The Cantonese Opera Advancement Association	2,455,565	380,996	66,196	1,000,000	3,902,757
		(ii)Hong Kong Children's Arts Alliance	1,248,244	97,297	66,196	1,000,000	2,411,737
7.	North District Town Hall	Harmonic Theatre	369,870	14,385	66,196	930,000	1,380,451
8.	Tuen Mun Town Hall	Spring-Time Chinese Opera & Hon Fung Creative Chinese Opera	1,294,387	113,612	66,170	1,000,000	2,474,169
9.	Yuen Long Theatre	Y-Space	676,744	4,811	66,170	998,470	1,746,195
(B) Sub-Total :			10,611,586	1,033,583	782,000	10,373,470	22,800,639

2. Venue Partnership Scheme (VPS) - Level of Support to Venue Partners in 2012-13**A) Major Performing Companies with Funding Support from HAB**

Venue		Venue Partner	Government Subvention in 2012-13 [Note 1]
1.	Hong Kong Cultural Centre	(i) Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra	Considering that different aspects of the major performing arts groups' work are inter-related, HAB has adopted a holistic approach from 2012-13 onwards to provide an all-inclusive grant including support to the VPS for each group.
		(ii) Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra	
		(iii) The Hong Kong Ballet	
		(iv) Zuni Icosahedron	
2.	Hong Kong City Hall	(i) Hong Kong Sinfonietta	
		(ii) Hong Kong Repertory Theatre	
3.	Kwai Tsing Theatre	Chung Ying Theatre Company	
4.	Tsuen Wan Town Hall	Hong Kong Dance Company	

B) Small and Medium-sized Companies with Funding Support from LCSD

Venue		Venue Partner	Funding Support from LCSD: 2012-13 (Estimated) [Note 2]				
			Notional Hire Charges (\$) [Note 3]	Notional URBTIX Charges (\$) [Note 3]	Publicity Support (\$) [Note 4]	Annual Programme Fee (\$)	Total Funding (\$)
			(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(a)+(b)+(c) + (d)
1.	Sheung Wan Civic Centre	Perry Chiu Experimental Theatre	1,000,000	160,000	192,260	1,000,000	2,352,260
2.	Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre	The Absolutely Fabulous Theatre Connection	608,000	26,000	192,260	1,000,000	1,826,260
3.	Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre	(i) E-Side Dance Company	422,636	21,105	192,260	1,000,000	1,636,001
		(ii)Whole Theatre	966,266	66,129	192,260	1,000,000	2,224,655
4.	Yau Ma Tei Theatre	The Chinese Artists Association of Hong Kong	1,750,000	285,000	192,260	1,000,000	3,227,260
5.	Kwai Tsing Theatre	W Theatre Company and Wind Mill Grass Theatre	998,950	122,536	192,260	870,000	2,183,746
6.	Tsuen Wan Town Hall	Ming Ri Institute for Arts Education	609,380	23,892	192,260	990,000	1,815,532
7.	Sha Tin Town Hall	(i) The Cantonese Opera Advancement Association	2,800,000	380,000	192,260	1,000,000	4,372,260
		(ii) Trinity Theatre and The Radiant Theatre	1,000,000	70,000	192,260	1,000,000	2,262,260
8.	North District Town Hall	Hong Kong Theatre Works	800,000	45,400	192,260	1,000,000	2,037,660
9.	Tuen Mun Town Hall	Spring-Time Experimental Theatre and Hong Kong Young Talent Cantonese Opera Troupe	1,472,000	123,900	192,260	1,000,000	2,788,160
10.	Yuen Long Theatre	(i) Hong Kong Performing Stage of Cantonese Opera	938,000	67,000	192,260	1,000,000	2,197,260
		(ii) Theatre Noir	1,313,000	16,000	192,260	971,160	2,492,420
(B) Sub-Total :			14,678,232	1,406,962	2,499,380	12,831,160	31,415,734

- Note 1: To avoid hidden subsidy, Venue Partners receiving funding support from HAB have to pay rental in using LCSD venues. Their subsidy includes the amount of hire charges in using LCSD venues as well as the programme fees of VPS-related activities and staff cost. These Venue Partners also receive subventions from HAB for their core productions, outreach activities and publicity efforts, etc. which may be held in the partnering venues.
- Note 2: The funding support does not include the costs of providing work space to the Venue Partners.
- Note 3: Notional hire/URBTIX charge denotes charges incurred by the Venue Partners for free use of hiring units at the partnering venue as well as ticketing services.
- Note 4: Publicity support to the Venue Partners by LCSD includes newspaper composite advertisements, MTR publicity and other extra publicity efforts to help build the image of the Venue Partners.

1. Venue Partnership Scheme (VPS) - Level of Activities, Attendance and Average Cost Per Audience in 2011-12**A) Major Performing Companies with Funding Support from Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) [Note 1]**

Venue		Venue Partner	Level of Activities and Attendance : 2011-12 (Actual)			
			No. of Ticketed Stage Performances (a)	No. of Educational / Promotional / Audience Building Activities (Charged or Free) (b)	Total No. of Performances / Activities (a)+(b)	Total Attendance
1.	Hong Kong Cultural Centre	(i) Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra	68	85	153	143 021
		(ii) Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra	19	20	39	47 088
		(iii) The Hong Kong Ballet	40	46	86	104 336
		(iv) Zuni Icosahedron	28	20	48	51 506
2.	Hong Kong City Hall	(i) Hong Kong Sinfonietta	43	12	55	54 908
		(ii) Hong Kong Repertory Theatre	48	44	92	30 657
3.	Kwai Tsing Theatre	Chung Ying Theatre Company	42	65	107	20 380
4.	Tsuen Wan Town Hall	Hong Kong Dance Company	4	35	39	9 591
5.	Yuen Long Theatre	Chung Ying Theatre Company	6	47	53	7 442
Sub-Total (A) :			298	374	672	468 929

B) Small and Medium-sized Companies with Funding Support from Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) [Note 2]

		Venue Partner	Level of Activities, Attendance and Average Cost Per Audience : 2011-12 (Actual)					
			No. of Ticketed Stage Performances (a)	No. of Educational / Promotional / Audience Building Activities (Charged or Free) (b)	Total No. of Performances / Activities (a)+(b)	Total Cost (Programme Fee, Publicity Support & Notional Hire/ Ticketing Charges) (\$)	Total Attendance	Average Cost Per Audience (\$) [Note 3]
1.	Sheung Wan Civic Centre	Perry Chiu Experimental Theatre	68	6	74	2,273,026	25 926	88
2.	Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre	The Absolutely Fabulous Theatre Connection	7	60	67	1,502,107	24 250	62
3.	Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre	(i) E-Side Dance Company	17	26	43	1,457,501	7 105	205
		(ii) Whole Theatre	53	10	63	2,040,696	8 920	229
4.	Kwai Tsing Theatre	W Theatre Company and Wind Mill Grass Theatre	22	12	34	1,812,798	18 949	96
5.	Tsuen Wan Town Hall	Ming Ri Institute for Arts Education	27	152	179	1,799,202	22 697	79
6.	Sha Tin Town Hall	(i) The Cantonese Opera Advancement Association	77	15	92	3,902,757	70 674	55
		(ii) Hong Kong Children's Arts Alliance	25	22	47	2,411,737	19 798	122
7.	North District Town Hall	Harmonic Theatre	12	14	26	1,380,451	5 082	272
8.	Tuen Mun Town Hall	Spring-Time Chinese Opera and Hon Fung Creative Chinese Opera	21	11	32	2,474,169	19 630	126
9.	Yuen Long Theatre	Y-Space	1	18	19	1,746,195	8 911	196

Venue	Venue Partner	Level of Activities, Attendance and Average Cost Per Audience : 2011-12 (Actual)					
		No. of Ticketed Stage Performances (a)	No. of Educational / Promotional / Audience Building Activities (Charged or Free) (b)	Total No. of Performances / Activities (a)+(b)	Total Cost (Programme Fee, Publicity Support & Notional Hire/ Ticketing Charges) (\$)	Total Attendance	Average Cost Per Audience (\$) [Note 3]
Sub-Total (B) :		330	346	676	22,800,639	231 942	98
Total for (A) + (B) :		628	720	1 348	[Note 1]	700 871	[Note 1]

2. Venue Partnership Scheme (VPS) - Level of Activities, Attendance and Average Cost Per Audience in 2012-13**A) Major Performing Companies with Funding Support from HAB [Note 1]**

Venue		Venue Partner	Level of Activities and Attendance : 2012-13 (Estimated)			
			No. of Ticketed Stage Performances (a)	No. of Educational / Promotional / Audience Building Activities (Charged or Free) (b)	Total No. of Performances / Activities (a)+(b)	Total Attendance
1.	Hong Kong Cultural Centre	(i) Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra	65	75	140	129 000
		(ii) Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra	20	20	40	43 000
		(iii) The Hong Kong Ballet	37	34	71	101 152
		(iv) Zuni Icosahedron	27	21	48	51 710
2.	Hong Kong City Hall	(i) Hong Kong Sinfonietta	36	9	45	43 734
		(ii) Hong Kong Repertory Theatre	43	33	76	25 690
3.	Kwai Tsing Theatre	Chung Ying Theatre Company	39	57	96	18 123
4.	Tsuen Wan Town Hall	Hong Kong Dance Company	8	31	39	11 622
Sub-Total (A) :			275	280	555	424 031

B) Small and Medium-sized Companies with Funding Support from LCSD [Note 2]

			Level of Activities, Attendance and Average Cost Per Audience : 2012-13 (Estimated)					
			No. of Ticketed Stage Performances (a)	No. of Educational / Promotional / Audience Building Activities (Charged or Free) (b)	Total No. of Performances / Activities (a)+(b)	Total Cost (Programme Fee, Publicity Support & Notional Hire/ Ticketing Charges) (\$)	Total Attendance	Average Cost Per Audience (\$) [Note 3]
1.	Sheung Wan Civic Centre	Perry Chiu Experimental Theatre	59	13	72	2,352,260	22 300	105
2.	Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre	The Absolutely Fabulous Theatre Connection	7	150	157	1,826,260	38 420	48
3.	Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre	(i) E-Side Dance Company	24	23	47	1,636,001	15 496	106
		(ii) Whole Theatre	44	6	50	2,224,655	7 900	282
4.	Yau Ma Tei Theatre	The Chinese Artists Association of Hong Kong	130	72	202	3,227,260	31 875	101
5.	Kwai Tsing Theatre	W Theatre Company and Wind Mill Grass Theatre	22	33	55	2,183,746	19 764	110
6.	Tsuen Wan Town Hall	Ming Ri Institute for Arts Education	17	154	171	1,815,532	16 799	108
7.	Sha Tin Town Hall	(i) The Cantonese Opera Advancement Association	79	17	96	4,372,260	71 000	62
		(ii) Trinity Theatre and The Radiant Theatre	42	52	94	2,262,260	13 210	171
8.	North District Town Hall	Hong Kong Theatre Works	16	28	44	2,037,660	4 680	435
9.	Tuen Mun Town Hall	Spring-Time Experimental Theatre and Hong Kong Young Talent Cantonese Opera Troupe	39	9	48	2,788,160	19 378	144
10.	Yuen Long Theatre	(i) Hong Kong Performing Stage of Cantonese Opera	36	4	40	2,197,260	11 475	191

Venue	Venue Partner	Level of Activities, Attendance and Average Cost Per Audience : 2012-13 (Estimated)					
		No. of Ticketed Stage Performances (a)	No. of Educational / Promotional / Audience Building Activities (Charged or Free) (b)	Total No. of Performances / Activities (a)+(b)	Total Cost (Programme Fee, Publicity Support & Notional Hire/ Ticketing Charges) (\$)	Total Attendance	Average Cost Per Audience (\$) [Note 3]
	(ii) Theatre Noir	8	90	98	2,492,420	21 000	119
Sub-Total (B) :		523	651	1 174	31,415,734	293 297	107
Total for (A) + (B) :		798	931	1 729	[Note 1]	717 328	[Note 1]

Annex B to Reply Serial No. HAB170

Note 1: It is not feasible to derive the average cost per audience for activities of the Venue Partners subvented by HAB, since the activities held at the partnering venues include not only VPS-related activities, but also their core productions.

Note 2: These Venue Partners receive support from the LCSD direct on free use of venue and ticketing services, plus annual funding support (up to \$1 million per group/consortium) on programme production.

Note 3: The average cost per audience is computed basing on the funding dispensed by LCSD in support of the Venue Partners' programmes which does not include other funding secured by the Venue Partners themselves, if any.

