

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB180

(Question Serial No. 0861)

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

Programme: (4) Performing Arts

Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Mrs. Betty FUNG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question (Member Question No. 29):

It is stated in this programme that the provision for 2014-15 is \$5.8 million (0.6%) higher than the revised estimate for 2013-14, which is mainly due to the increased provision for strengthening the cultural software and building capacity of the local arts sector. What are the specific details and how will this \$5.8 million be fairly allocated to the small, medium and large arts groups in Hong Kong?

Asked by: Hon. CHUNG Shu-kun, Christopher

Reply:

The increase in the provision for Programme (4): Performing Arts for 2014-15 will enable the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) to strengthen arts education for the youth and enhance the capacity of the small and medium arts groups in Hong Kong.

To enhance young people's interest and participation in arts, LCSD will collaborate with youth organisations in organising arts education and appreciation programmes tailored to their needs, such as youth nights at outdoor carnivals and "Multi-media x Dance Series".

Moreover, LCSD will strengthen the support for local small and medium arts groups. This includes providing them with more performing opportunities at both LCSD and non-LCSD venues (e.g. tertiary institutions, schools and historic buildings), and engaging them in the implementation of community art projects such as the Community Oral History Theatre Project.

In curating programmes involving local arts groups and non-government organisations, the LCSD will give due regard to the objectives of the programmes and consult professional experts in the arts and cultural sector in accordance with the departmental guidelines and procedures.