

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**HAB450****(Question Serial No. 4342)**

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. 92):

Regarding the Venue Partnership Scheme, please provide the following information:

1. The total number of activities organised under the Scheme and the total attendance in the past three years (i.e. from 2011-12 to 2013-14).
2. What kind of support is provided under the Scheme to local young artists? What is the annual expenditure involved? Please provide a breakdown by subvented/supported project.
3. In the past three years (i.e. from 2011-12 to 2013-14), how many small to medium-scale performing arts groups applied for subvention under the Scheme and how many applications were successful? What was the average amount of subvention granted for successful applications?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply:

1. Under the Venue Partnership Scheme (VPS) of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD), which is implemented on a three-year term basis with the first term and second term running from 2009-10 to 2011-12 and 2012-13 to 2014-15 respectively, the number of activities organised by the Venue Partners (VPs) and the attendance from 2011-12 to 2013-14 (estimated) are as follows:

	2011-12 (by 20 VPs*) (Actual)	2012-13 (by 21 VPs#) (Actual)	2013-14 (by 21 VPs#) (Estimated)
<u>No. of Activities</u>			
(i) Stage performances	628	801	809
(ii) No. of educational, promotional and audience building activities	720	991	992
Total:	1 348	1 792	1 801
<u>Attendance</u>	700 871	762 031	776 668

* There were 20 VPs in the first term of VPS (2009-10 to 2011-12)

There are 21 VPs in the second term of VPS (2012-13 to 2014-15)

2. The support provided by the LCSD to all VPs include (i) priority use of the host venue's facilities; (ii) provision of work space; and (iii) enhanced publicity support such as publicity of the VP's events in the monthly event calendars and use of foyer display areas and wall banner sites at the host venues. In addition, the LCSD also provides those small and medium-sized VPs that are not subvented by the Home Affairs Bureau with an annual programme fee (up to \$1 million per group in 2011-12 and 2012-13, and up to \$1.1 million per group in 2013-14) to cover their production, staff and administrative costs, free use of the host venue and ticketing services. The total funding support provided by the LCSD (including notional venue charges and ticketing service) for the small and medium-sized VPs in 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 are \$22.8 million, \$31.3 million and \$32.4 million respectively. The breakdown is as follows:

Types of Funding Support to VPs that are Small and Medium-sized Performing Groups	2011-12 (for 11 VPs*) (Actual) (\$)	2012-13 (for 13 VPs#) (Actual) (\$)	2013-14 (for 13 VPs#) (Estimated) (\$)
Annual programme fee	10,373,470	12,831,160	14,140,000
Publicity support	782,000	2,486,978	1,298,820
Notional hire charges (free use of venue)	10,611,586	14,493,187	15,600,184
Notional URB TIX charges (free ticketing service)	1,033,583	1,446,918	1,401,513
Total Funding (\$)	22,800,639	31,258,243	32,440,517

* There were 11 small and medium-sized VPs in the first term of VPS (2009-10 to 2011-12)

There are 13 small and medium-sized VPs in the second term of VPS (2012-13 to 2014-15)

3. In the first term of the VPS (2009-10 to 2011-12), 53 small and medium-sized performing arts groups applied singly or jointly for participation in the Scheme. 11 VPs comprising 26 small and medium-sized performing arts groups were selected. In the second term (2012-13 to 2014-15), 70 small and medium-sized performing arts groups submitted applications, and 13 VPs comprising 35 small and medium-sized performing arts groups are now taking part in the Scheme. The programme fees granted to each of the small and medium-sized VPs in 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 averaged at \$0.94 million, \$0.99 million and \$1.1 million respectively.