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Replies to supplementary questions raised by Legislative Council Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2024-25

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism

Session No. : 17

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

S-CSTB001

(Question Serial No. S028)

Head: (132) Government Secretariat : Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (6) Travel and Tourism

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism
(Mr Joe WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism

Question:

I would like to raise further questions on the reply to an initial question raised by a Legislative Council Member in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2024-25 (Reply Serial No. CSTB124). According to the reply from the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau, the Government has announced that the Cultural and Heritage Sites Local Tour Incentive Scheme (CHIS) would be transformed into the Characteristic Local Tourism Incentive Scheme (CTIS) to provide more in-depth itinerary design, training, etc., with a view to encouraging the trade to develop more thematic tours, including national history tours, green ecology tours, marine tours, traditional culture tours, pop culture tours, intangible cultural heritage experiences, night time adventure, etc., to showcase the diversified cultural landscape of Hong Kong. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

1. The Government announced that the target is to receive at least 100 000 tourists under CTIS within 2024. Who are the main target participants of CTIS tours, overseas or local tourists? For local tourists, what is the percentage of characteristic tours themed on patriotic education out of the total number of CTIS tours?
2. Does CTIS cover the Cenotaph for Martyrs in the Wu Kau Tang Martyrs Memorial Garden? During the War of Resistance and Japanese occupation of Hong Kong, many villagers sacrificed their lives heroically to protect the Hong Kong and Kowloon Independent Brigade of the East River Column. To commemorate those martyrs against Japanese militarism, some villagers built the said cenotaph in 1951. In 2015, the cenotaph was incorporated into the List of State Facilities and Sites Marking the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression. Besides, does CTIS cover the Hong Kong Sha Tau Kok Anti-War Memorial Hall, which is the first thematic memorial hall on the history of the War of Resistance in Hong Kong, and the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence?
3. Will the Government incentivise the travel trade to develop tourism resources relating to patriotism through CTIS? If so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon Maggie CHAN Man-ki

Reply:

Under the Characteristic Local Tourism Incentive Scheme (CTIS), eligible travel agents may receive cash incentives for each participant of local and/or inbound tours with local characteristic they serve. The target of receiving at least 100 000 tourists under CTIS within 2024 refers to inbound visitors.

Recognised sites of in-depth travel under CTIS include tourist spots with national history elements, such as the Wu Kau Tang Martyrs Memorial Garden, the Hong Kong Sha Tau Kok Anti-War Memorial Hall, and the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence. As at end-March 2024, 800 and 361 applications have been received for in-depth travel and thematic travel under CTIS respectively. Of which, there were 28 applications with tourist spots involving national history elements, accounting for about 2% of the total applications and involved a total of 1 790 local and inbound visitors.

The Travel Industry Council of Hong Kong organised the Deeper into Hong Kong: Creative Itinerary Design Competition from August 2023 to March 2024 to encourage the trade to develop signature itineraries for in-depth travel. An itinerary that explores the history of the Hong Kong and Kowloon Independent Brigade of the East River Column is selected as one of the signature itineraries under the theme of journey through national history. Cash incentives under CTIS can also be provided for the thematic travel that meet the requirements of national history thematic travel itinerary, thereby encouraging the travel agents and relevant organisations to develop more quality tourism products featuring national history.

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

S-CSTB002

(Question Serial No. SV029)

Head: (132) Government Secretariat : Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (3) Sports and Recreation, (4) Culture, (6) Travel and Tourism

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism
(Mr Joe WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism

Question:

Regarding the “Chubby Hearts Hong Kong” project, what are the attendance figure, as well as economic benefits and contributions brought to Hong Kong?

Asked by: Hon HO King-hong, Adrian Pedro

Reply:

The “Chubby Hearts Hong Kong” project was organised by the Hong Kong Design Centre, with the funding ceiling at about \$7.8 million from the Mega Arts and Cultural Events (ACE) Fund, covering expenses on curation, production and display of art installations, creation of works by local designers and artists, staff and security, market research, as well as local and overseas promotions, etc.

The organiser arranged dedicated staff to compile statistics on the attendance figure at all exhibition venues of “Chubby Hearts” during the period of 14 to 24 February 2024. The 11-day-long event attracted an attendance of over 730 000, of which around 30 percent were tourists, receiving a much greater response than expected. Apart from the funding from the Mega ACE Fund, the project also received other support from different sectors of the community, including free publicity on several large outdoor digital billboards and the bodies of vehicles (trams, buses and taxis). The project not only drew media attention, but also attracted support from many artists and key opinion leaders (KOLs). Besides, the project also gained wide social media coverage, with its relevant posts reaching over 90 million users and the engagements of foreign and local users exceeding 450 000 times, which helped further promote Hong Kong’s image as an East-meets-West centre for international cultural exchange as well as a centre for mega events.

The Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau will continue to spare no effort in attracting more international and large-scale arts and cultural events to be staged in Hong Kong and will strengthen the promotional efforts to further promote the development of mega event tourism.

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

S-CSTB003

(Question Serial No. SV031)

Head: (132) Government Secretariat : Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (4) Culture

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism
(Mr Joe WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism

Question:

For the projects funded by the Mega Arts and Cultural Events Fund, what are the categories/themes of the mega events staged in 2023 and the actual expenditure involved in each mega event?

Asked by: Hon SO Cheung-wing

Reply:

The 2022 Policy Address announced the setting up of the Mega Arts and Cultural Events (ACE) Fund to provide incentives for organisers of large-scale arts and cultural events so as to attract and support international and mega arts and cultural events to be staged in Hong Kong, with a view to further developing Hong Kong into an arts and cultural hub. To expedite the work, the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau first launched the Pilot Scheme for the Mega ACE Fund in end-2022 to accept applications of mega arts and cultural events planned for 2023 while the Mega ACE Committee was being set up.

The Mega ACE Fund was formally open for application in April 2023. Details of the events funded by the Mega ACE Fund in 2023 are as follows:

Item	Event Title	Event Date	Event Category	Approved Funding Ceiling (HK\$)**
1.	Art Basel Hong Kong 2023#	21-25 March 2023	Art expo	15,000,000
2.	Art Central 2023#	21-25 March 2023	Art expo	3,540,000
3.	Madame Song: Pioneering Art and Fashion in China#	29 July 2023 - 14 April 2024	Exhibition	8,000,000

Item	Event Title	Event Date	Event Category	Approved Funding Ceiling (HK\$)**
4.	Freespace Jazz Fest 2023	3-8 and 26 October 2023	Music / pop culture festival	8,000,000
5.	INK ASIA 2023	4-8 October 2023	Art expo	15,000,000
6.	Botticelli to Van Gogh: Masterpieces from the National Gallery, London#	22 November 2023 - 11 April 2024	Exhibition	15,000,000

Approved under the Pilot Scheme

** Actual grant amount to be finalised upon the submission of audited report by the grantee after the event

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

S-CSTB004

(Question Serial No. SV032)

Head: (132) Government Secretariat : Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): (3) Sports and Recreation

Programme: ()

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism
(Mr Joe WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism

Question:

Will the Government set up an Elite Training Science and Technology Support Centre during the Paris Olympic Games to provide Hong Kong athletes with appropriate support in areas such as strength and conditioning?

Asked by: Hon SO Cheung-wing

Reply:

The Government fully supports Hong Kong athletes participating in the 2024 Paris Olympic Games (OG) and the Paralympic Games (PG). Based on the experience from the 19th Asian Games Hangzhou 2022, the Hong Kong Sports Institute (HKSI) will send designated supporting staff to Paris during the OG to provide a full range of on-field support services to Hong Kong athletes at the Athletes' Village and competition venues, with a view to helping them achieve excellent results. The on-field support includes video performance analysis, rehabilitation services (nutrition advice and massage), sports psychology support as well as strength and conditioning programmes.

Similarly, HKSI will, in collaboration with the China Hong Kong Paralympic Committee, provide specific and personalised on-field sports science and sports medicine support to athletes participating in the PG, so as to render more comprehensive support to the Hong Kong Delegation to the PG.

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

S-CSTB005

(Question Serial No. SV030)

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Vincent LIU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism

Question:

What are the estimated completion dates of the 116 public play space transformation projects launched by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Yuk-wai, Kenneth

Reply:

As at April 2024, 8 public play spaces (PPS) transformation projects had been completed and the PPSs concerned were open for public use, including Shung Ling Street Playground in Wong Tai Sin District, King's Road Playground in Eastern District, Fung Cheung Road Garden in Yuen Long District, Hung Leng Children's Playground in North District, Sham Shui Po Park in Sham Shui Po District, Tsing Yi Promenade (Stage I) in Kwai Tsing District, Aberdeen Promenade (Stage I) in Southern District and Che Kung Miu Road Playground in Sha Tin District. The projects planned for construction works in 2024-25 and the estimated completion time of each project are set out at Annex. The remaining transformation projects are at preliminary planning stages, and the estimated commencement time and completion time of the construction works are yet to be confirmed.

Projects Planned for On-site Construction Works in 2024-25

Venue	Project Commencement Time	Anticipated Completion Time
Tin Shui Wai Park	Fourth quarter of 2022 (Commenced)	Third quarter of 2024
Quarry Bay Park	Second quarter of 2023 (Commenced)	Fourth quarter of 2024
Jordan Valley Playground	Third quarter of 2023 (Commenced)	Fourth quarter of 2024
Tong Mei Road Children's Playground	First quarter of 2024 (Commenced)	Third quarter of 2024
Po Tsui Park	Second quarter of 2024	Fourth quarter of 2024
Tsing Yi Promenade (Stage II)	Second quarter of 2024	Fourth quarter of 2024
Aberdeen Promenade (Stage II)	Second quarter of 2024	First quarter of 2025
Morse Park (Park No. 4)	Second quarter of 2024	Third quarter of 2025
Saigon Street Playground, Yau Ma Tei	Second quarter of 2024	Third quarter of 2025
Shek Yam Lei Muk Road Park	Second quarter of 2024	Fourth quarter of 2025
Sha Tin Park (South Garden Children's Playground)	Second quarter of 2024	Fourth quarter of 2025
Tsuen Wan Park (Phase II)	Second quarter of 2024	Second quarter of 2026
Kwai Fong Street Playground	Third quarter of 2024	Fourth quarter of 2024
Cheung Chau Park	Third quarter of 2024	Second quarter of 2025
Tai Wan Shan Park	Fourth quarter of 2024	Second quarter of 2025
To Kwa Wan Recreation Ground	Fourth quarter of 2024	Second quarter of 2026
Tung Lo Wan Garden	First quarter of 2025	Third quarter of 2025
Sun Yat Sen Memorial Park	First quarter of 2025	Third quarter of 2025
Yuen Shin Park	First quarter of 2025	Fourth quarter of 2025
Pak Lam Road Garden	First quarter of 2025	Fourth quarter of 2025
Ap Lei Chau Park	First quarter of 2025	First quarter of 2027
Po Wing Road Playground	First quarter of 2025	First quarter of 2027

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