

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CSTB334

(Question Serial No. 0798)

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (3) Heritage and Museums

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism

Question:

The work of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department involves managing 14 public museums on art, science and history; 2 visual art centres and the Hong Kong Film Archive. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

1. In response to the Night Vibes Hong Kong campaign to promote night activities, the Hong Kong Museum of Art, the Hong Kong Science Museum and the Hong Kong Space Museum had extended their opening hours to 10 pm on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays from 29 September 2023 to 1 January 2024. What were the attendance, staffing arrangements and breakdown of the expenditure involved during the extended opening hours of the 3 museums?
2. Does the Government have plans to further extend the opening hours of the above 3 museums, other museums or visual art centres? If so, what is the estimated expenditure involved? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 32)

Reply:

1. So far as the Hong Kong Museum of Art, the Hong Kong Science Museum and the Hong Kong Space Museum under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) are concerned, the attendance, total numbers of extended opening hours and breakdown of the additional expenditure involved during such extension from 29 September 2023 to 1 January 2024 are tabulated below. No additional manpower is involved.

	Hong Kong Museum of Art	Hong Kong Science Museum	Hong Kong Space Museum
Attendance	22 005	2 729	1 565
Service Contracts ⁽¹⁾ and Overtime or Shift Duty Allowances	\$640,000	\$420,000	\$20,000
Special Programmes	\$90,000	\$20,000	\$50,000
Electricity	\$180,000	\$110,000	\$10,000
Total Number of Extended Opening Hours ⁽²⁾	144	74	43

Notes:

- (1) Inclusive of cleaning, security and front counter services contracts.
(2) Given the different opening hours of the 3 museums, their total numbers of extended opening hours vary accordingly.

2. Upon comprehensive consideration, the LCSD decided to align the opening hours of the Hong Kong Museum of Art, the Hong Kong Science Museum and the Hong Kong Space Museum on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays to 9:00 pm with effect from 2 January 2024. The estimated annual expenditure involved in such extension is about \$1.3 million.

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