

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

HAB089

Head: 53 – GS : Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

2692

Programme: (2) Social Harmony and Civic Education

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

It is noted that the provision for 2009-10 is higher than the revised estimate for 2008-09 by more than \$100 million (83.8%), mainly due to the increased provision for promotion of civic/national education, youth development, Family Council related programmes and development of social enterprise. In view of the sharp increase, would the Administration please provide a breakdown of the expenditure, the details and the amount of provision involved. As regards the Administration's effort to promote civic/national education in schools, how many primary and secondary schools and students will be covered?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply :

Youth Development and Promoting Civic/National Education outside Schools

The relevant provisions in 2009-10 are as follows –

Item	Estimated Expenditure
International Youth Exchange Programme	\$1,850,000
Hong Kong Centre for Youth Development	\$44,282,000
Promotion of Civic Education outside Schools	\$20,315,000
Youth Development Activities	\$23,000,000
Subventions to Uniformed Groups and other Youth Organisations	\$51,200,000
Total	\$140,647,000

The Education Bureau promotes moral and civic education (including national education) in all Hong Kong primary and secondary schools (including special schools) as well as their students.

Family Council related programmes

A total of \$5 million was earmarked in 2008-09 for the Family Council for implementation of publicity programmes to promote the family core values. To sustain the promotional efforts, \$5 million has been earmarked in 2009-10 for similar purposes. We will consult the Family Council on the detailed publicity plan for 2009-10 and keep under constant review the resources requirements.

Social Enterprise

In 2009-10, Home Affairs Bureau has earmarked \$2.6 million to organise activities to promote the development of social enterprises (SEs) and to nurture social entrepreneurs. We will review the resources requirements for supporting SE development as appropriate.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs CARRIE YAU
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs
Date	18 March 2009

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

HAB090

Head: 53 – GS : Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

2695

Programme: (4) Recreation, Sport and Entertainment Licensing

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

- (a) The Bureau mentioned that it would continue to support the selected “up-and-coming” sports so as to enhance Hong Kong’s medal hope in the international sports arena. What are the “up-and-coming” sports being recognised in the meantime? Please list out the “up-and-coming” sports that had received subvention in the past 3 years, i.e. from 2006 to 2008.
- (b) On the other hand, would the Administration consider cooperating with the private sector to offer more and better rewards under the related reward scheme?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply:

(a) As agreed by the Sports Commission, Judo, Karatedo and Snooker are the current “up-and-coming” sports. From 2006 to 2008, these 3 sports received an annual subvention from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department. In 2009-10 and 2010-11, the Hong Kong Sports Institute Limited (HKSIL) will provide about \$7 million from its current resources to support these sports.

(b) Incentive awards are available to Hong Kong medallists at major games through the Athlete Incentive Awards Scheme (AIAS) currently administered by the HKSIL. The HKSIL has also secured matching sponsorship from the commercial sector to raise the level of awards for medallists at the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, National Games and East Asian Games. The HKSIL will continue to seek support from the commercial sector for its incentive awards scheme.

Signature _____ Signed _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs CARRIE YAU _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs _____

Date _____ 17 March 2009 _____

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

HAB091

Head: 53 – GS : Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

2696

Programme: (4) Recreation, Sport and Entertainment Licensing

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

The Bureau mentioned that it would continue to plan the development of a Multi-purpose Stadium Complex in Kai Tak. Concerning this project, the Administration has advised the Panel on Development of the Legislative Council that it was expected to be completed around 2018 when the 3rd phase of the Kai Tak Development is being carried out. What are the reasons for the slow progress of the works? Please explain in details by setting out the timetable, facilities of the Stadium Complex and the funding involved.

Asked by: Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply:

As part of the Kai Tak Development (KTD), the development programme of the Multi-purpose Stadium Complex (MPSC) is related to the programme of other development projects within the KTD. As such, there are constraints on the development programme of the MPSC. Taking into account the estimated time for critical tasks such as the technical feasibility study, environmental impact assessment, funding approval and detailed designs, we anticipate that works on construction of the MPSC can commence around late 2013 and for completion in 2018.

Subject to the technical feasibility and funding approval of the Finance Committee, the MPSC would include the following key facilities: -

- a 50 000-seat main stadium with a retractable roof and removable pitch;
- a 5 000-seat secondary stadium for training and medium-sized sports events;
- an indoor multi-sports arena with 4 000 seats, with a 1 500-seat swimming facility; and
- ancillary support and other recreation facilities (such as catering and retail facilities, a hostel and, offices for sports-related and other organisations).

Currently, we are working on technical issues related to the MPSC project, such as the technical feasibility study.

In 2009-10, the Home Affairs Bureau will set aside \$4 million to support the planning work.

Signature	<u>Signed</u>
Name in block letters	<u>Mrs CARRIE YAU</u>
Post Title	<u>Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs</u>
Date	<u>18 March 2009</u>

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

HAB092

Head: 53 – GS : Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

2701

Programme: (4) Recreation, Sport and Entertainment Licensing

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

Concerning this Programme, please advise this Committee of the following:

- (a) The revised estimate of \$90 million for 2008-09 is 26.3% lower than the original estimate. What are the reasons for that?
- (b) Provision for 2009-10 is \$108 million representing an increase of 20%, which is mainly due to the increase in funding allocation for promoting the development of sport. Please inform this Committee of the details of the work to promote the development of sport and the amount of funds to be allocated for this purpose.

Asked by: Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply:

(a) The revised estimate for 2008-09 is around \$90 million compared with the original estimate of around \$122 million. The main reasons for the reduction of \$32 million are as follows –

- (i) In 2008-09, we set aside funding under Programme (4) of Head 53 for elite sports development, however, the actual requirements of the parties to be allocated funding could only be confirmed in the latter part of 2008-09. After consultation with stakeholders, the Administration transferred \$11 million from this programme to Programme 6 of Head 53 to enhance direct financial, training and coaching support to elite athletes by the Hong Kong Sports Institute; and
- (ii) As a result of reduction in duty visits against plan, time gaps in filling vacant posts and savings from the organisation of Olympics-related activities, there was around \$21 million reduction against planned departmental expenditure under this programme in 2008-09.

(b) The estimate for 2009-10 is around \$108 million, representing an increase of 20% against the revised estimate for 2008-09. The additional \$18 million in 2009-10 covers funding earmarked to enhance support to elite athletes and other sports development

initiatives, such as support for the athlete feeder system. The Administration consults the sports sector on the details of the new initiatives to be implemented and will make the required funding allocation.

Signature	_____	Signed	_____
Name in block letters	_____	Mrs CARRIE YAU	_____
Post Title	_____	Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs	_____
Date	_____	17 March 2009	_____

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

Reply Serial No.

HAB281

Question Serial No.

1177

Head: 703 – Buildings

Subhead: 3266RS
Redevelopment
of Victoria Park
Swimming Pool
Complex

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

The Administration estimates that the cost of the redevelopment of Victoria Park Swimming Pool Complex is about \$1,290 million. In this regard,

- (a) What are the main reasons for the huge cost of the project and what special facilities will the new complex offer?
- (b) Please provide the timetable for drawing down the remaining \$1,265 million apart from the estimated expenditure of \$25 million in 2009-2010.

Asked by: Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply:

- (a) The new Victoria Park Swimming Pool Complex comprises one indoor 50m x 25m main pool with adjustable pool floors, one indoor 33m x 25m multipurpose pool with adjustable pool floor and diving facilities and spectator stands for 2500 seats. The unit cost for this new swimming pool complex is higher than projects of similar scale and scope mainly due to the need to accommodate an average 2500 spectator capacity to meet international competition standards. Additional cost is also required to overcome the structural constraints imposed by the future North Island Line underneath the proposed complex. We have also adopted a building form with curved glass walls and aluminium cladding to respond to the Town Planning Board's comments that we should minimize the visual impact of the swimming pool.

The project scope also includes demolition of the existing swimming pool complex, refurbishment of existing tennis practice courts and reprovisioning of facilities affected by the construction of the new swimming pool complex (affected facilities) such as roller skating rinks, handball court, changing facilities for park-users and park management office. The project cost of \$1,290 million in money-of-the-day prices (MOD) was estimated in mid 2008. Before submission

to the Public Works Subcommittee, the project cost estimate will be reviewed according to the finalized tender document for works under this project.

- (b) The project will be implemented in two phases. The phase 1 works mainly comprise the construction of the new swimming pool complex while the phase 2 works comprise the demolition of the existing swimming pool complex and reprovisioning of affected facilities. Subject to the approval of the Finance Committee, the project is expected to commence in August 2009. The estimated expenditure of \$25 million in MOD prices will be required for 2009-2010. We would closely monitor the financial position. The remaining amount will be spent mainly from 2010-2011 to 2014-2015.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C H YUE

Post Title _____ Director of Architectural Services

Date _____ 19 March 2009

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

HAB282

Head: 703 – Buildings

Subhead: 3053RG Sports center
and community hall in
Area 101,
Tin Shui Wai

Question Serial No.

2691

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

The project estimate for the sports centre and community hall in Area 101, Tin Shui Wai is \$847 million while the estimated expenditure in 2009-2010 is only \$3 million. Would the Administration advise on the timetable for using the remaining \$844 million? How can the project be expedited so as to provide service to the local residents as soon as possible?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply:

The latest cost estimate for the Sports Centre and Community Hall in Area 101, Tin Shui Wai is about \$590 million in September 2008 prices. This has taken into account the latest design and current markets trend in construction prices. The project cost will be further reviewed according to the finalized tender document before submission to the Public Works Subcommittee (PWSC). We consulted the District Facilities Management Committee of the Yuen Long District Council on the design of the project on 9 January 2009 and members supported the project. We intend to submit the project to the PWSC and Finance Committee for consideration in the second quarter of 2009. Subject to funding approval by the Finance Committee, construction is expected to commence in late 2009 and an estimated expenditure of \$3 million will be required in 2009-2010 for the construction of hoardings and other site preparatory works. We expect that the remaining amount will mainly be spent from 2010-2011 to 2012-2013. The project is expected to be completed in mid 2012. We will closely monitor the project progress and review the financial position from time to time.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C H YUE

Post Title _____ Director of Architectural Services

Date _____ 20 March 2009