

## Government announces selected organisation to operate premises at No. 2 Lower Albert Road, South Block, Central, for arts and culture use

The Government announced today (December 28) that the proposal from Hong Kong Festival Fringe Limited (HKFFL) has been accepted to operate the premises at No. 2 Lower Albert Road, South Block, Central, for arts and culture use, for a period of three years from April 1, 2024.

According to the plan of the HKFFL, it will continue to operate the Fringe Club and introduce series of new programmes featuring arts tech, cross-genre showcases and Chinese culture at the premises. The HKFFL also plans to maintain the premises as an iconic arts and culture landmark in Central and Hong Kong, so as to showcase our role as an East-meets-West centre for international cultural exchange.

The Government announced in April 2023 that it would conduct an Invitation For Proposal (IFP) exercise to identify the most suitable non-profit-making operator for the premises. The IFP exercise was launched in August 2023 to invite non-profit-making operators, including the current operator, to submit proposals. A total of six proposals were received by the deadline of October 20, 2023. An assessment panel was formed to assess and consider the proposals received based on pre-determined assessment criteria.

The premises is currently occupied by the HKFFL and the lease will expire on March 31, 2024.