

13 January 2017

Mr David M. Webb  
Editor, Webb-site.com  
(via email)

Dear Mr. Webb,

### **Query on WKCDA Appointment of Rocco Design Architects Ltd**

Thank you for your emails dated 3 January 2017 and 6 January 2017.

My answers to your questions are as follows

1. On what date was the appointment of Rocco Yim of Rocco Design Architects Limited (RDA) as architect to carry out the design of the HKPM made?

Answer: In accordance with the delegated authority, the WKCDA Management first appointed Mr Rocco Yim's Company, Rocco Design Architects Limited (RDA), in June 2016 to provide consultancy services in respect of an ongoing study into the future use of the headland site (previously called the MPV site). Subsequently, the Board took a decision to appoint RDA as lead consultant for the HKPM design on 28 November 2016. WKCDA is now finalizing the detailed terms of the consultancy agreement. The WKCDA Board endorsed the budget for the provision of consultancy services for the design and construction of the project at its meeting held on 10 January 2017.

2. On what date did the WKCDA Board endorse the appointment?

Answer: Please see above.

3. Whether there was any tender or other competitive process for the appointment of the architect, if so the details of that, and if not, why not? We checked your 'Tender Notices' page but could not find anything related to this.

Answer:

In light of the confidential nature of the discussions between the Government, the Palace Museum and Ministries the WKCDA Management considers that the HKPM is a unique project, which will be able to showcase the precious collections, culture and history of the Palace Museum in Hong Kong.

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WKCDA adopted the following criteria to identify the architect for the project:

- (1) A local architectural firm which understands Chinese arts and culture;
- (2) Understands the vision and development of WKCD; and
- (3) Possesses necessary expertise gained through designing museums of a similar nature.

RDA is a Hong Kong based architectural firm with an international reputation which meets the criteria. RDA's team possesses wide experience in designing and executing museum projects. WKCDA directly appointed RDA as the design consultant in accordance with WKCDA's procurement guidelines.

The WKCDA Board has considered and concluded that open tendering would not be the best option for procuring the design for this project. The Board also understands that this appointment will arouse public and stakeholders' concerns. The Board has determined that this is an exceptional appointment. Such an appointment is allowed under WKCDA's capital works procurement procedures/guidelines.

4. Details of the contract awarded to Rocco Design Architects Limited, including the date awarded and the contract amount. We could not find any details on your "Awarded Contracts" page.

Answer: The value of the June 2016 contract was \$4.5m. The information pertaining to this award of contract will be included on our website shortly.

WKCDA is discussing with RDA the detailed terms of the lead consultancy agreement. The consultancy fee will be paid from the donation of \$3.5 billion from the HKJC Charities Trust.

Yours sincerely,



Duncan Pescod  
Chief Executive Officer  
West Kowloon Cultural District Authority