

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB210

(Question Serial No. 1307)

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Ms Michelle LI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

The Department has indicated that it will enhance the utilisation of existing sports facilities in 2016-17. Please inform this Committee of:

- (1) the estimated expenditures and manpower arrangements for the planning of the work in this respect. What are the differences in expenditures and manpower compared with those for 2015-16?
- (2) The average usage rate of tennis courts managed by the Department is 60% in 2014 and 2015, and the rate planned for 2016 is also 60%. What criteria or indicators are used in setting the target? What measures will be taken by the Department to enhance the utilisation of tennis courts which have relatively low usage rates to avoid underutilisation of the venues?

Asked by: Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen (Member Question No. 26)

Reply:

- (1) The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) encourages greater use of its sports facilities as part of its ongoing work through deployment of existing resources. The Department does not have a breakdown of the specific expenditure involved in implementing the work in this respect.
- (2) The LCSD has set the target usage rate of tennis courts with reference to the trend of actual usage rate in recent years. In view of the upward trend in usage, the LCSD has revised the target usage rate from 50% in 2015 to 55% in 2016. To encourage greater use of tennis courts, the LCSD will continue to allow concessionary use of the courts by schools and subvented non-government organisations during non-peak hours and by organisations for people with disabilities at all times. Moreover, people with disabilities can enjoy concessionary rates in the use of courts at all times while citizens aged 60 or above and students can enjoy concessionary rate for the use of tennis courts during non-peak hours. In addition, the LCSD will continue to organise large-scale

promotional activities such as the Sport For All Day, as well as fun days, training courses and competitions to promote the use of tennis courts. Promotional materials will be distributed to schools and local organisations to encourage them to use the facilities.

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