

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB202

(Question Serial No. 1735)

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational Expenses

Programme: (-) Not Specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

The Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau issued a circular to government departments in August 2014, requesting them to deliver a saving of 1% in each of the 2 financial years starting from 2016-17. What measures the Leisure and Cultural Services Department plans to take to achieve the required savings?

Asked by: Hon POON Siu-ping (Member Question No. 24)

Reply:

The “0-1-1” envelope savings programme (the programme) launched by the Government seeks to ensure that all policy bureaux will achieve more efficient use of resources through re-engineering and re-prioritising of work, and reducing operating expenditure by a total of 2% over the 2 financial years starting from 2016-17.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) manages over 1 900 leisure and cultural venues and facilities and provides a wide range of recreational, sports and cultural programmes and activities for members of the public. In order to achieve 1% savings in 2016-17 and another 1% in 2017-18 under the programme, the LCSD keeps its operations and expenditure under regular reviews and enhance its overall operational efficiency and cost-effectiveness of service delivery through various measures, including more flexible deployment of manpower resources, streamlining of work processes and procedures, and adjustments of scope and frequency of outsourced services having regard to seasonal fluctuations in service and operational needs.

Indeed, the estimate for the LCSD for 2016-17 is higher than that for 2015-16 by 8.7%, reflecting that efficiency savings achieved through the “0-1-1” programme and new resources have been allocated to the LCSD for delivering new / improved services.

The LCSD is mindful of maintaining safe, cost-effective and quality public services while meeting the target to achieve the required savings.

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