

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB216

(Question Serial No. 3177)

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

Programme: (2) Horticulture and Amenities

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

The provision for 2016-17 is \$184.4 million higher than the revised estimate for 2015-16 partly due to the increase of 37 posts. What are the reasons for creating these posts, the duties of these posts and the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon WONG Ting-kwong (Member Question No. 54)

Reply:

Of the additional provision of \$184.4 million for Programme 2 - Horticulture and Amenities in 2016-17, about \$15.8 million is for the staff costs of 37 new civil service posts including 7 time-limited posts to be created in 2016-17. Reasons for the creation and the major duties of these posts are summarised at the Annex.

Annex to Reply Serial No. HAB216

	Reasons for creation of posts	Posts to be created	Main Duties
1	To support the Department to undertake maintenance responsibility of some additional 150 000 roadside trees	(a) 24 permanent posts including- (i) 3 Assistant Leisure Services Manager I (ALSM I); (ii) 2 Senior Amenities Assistant; (iii) 13 Amenities Assistant (AA) I; and (iv) 6 Assistant Clerical Officer (ACO); (b) 7 time-limited posts including - (i) 1 Senior Leisure Services Manager; (ii) 2 Leisure Services Manager; (iii) 2 ALSM I; (iv) 1 ACO; and (v) 1 Clerical Assistant	To provide maintenance for additional roadside trees within 5 metres of kerbs, as well as conduct surveys and implement essential maintenance for trees on unleased/ unallocated government land between 5 metres and 10 metres of kerbs of non-expressway public roads by engaging services providers.
2	To provide more fitness equipment for the elderly in selected leisure venues	1 Clerk of Works	(a) To assist in undertaking feasibility studies, planning, design, preparation of tender requirements and documents, supervision of works, maintenance support, etc., for installation of new/additional elderly fitness equipment in selected leisure/recreational venues in 18 Districts; and (b) To provide technical support in respect of maintenance, repair and replacement of fitness and sports equipment in leisure and recreational venues.

	Reasons for creation of posts	Posts to be created	Main Duties
3	To operate and manage the cycle tracks connecting North West New Territories with North East New Territories (Tuen Mun and Yuen Long districts)	2 AAs II	To manage and operate new facilities including cycle entry/exit hubs, resting stations, landscape plantings and other roadside amenities, along the cycle tracks system in Yuen Long and Tuen Mun districts.
4	To operate and manage the Public Open Space at Site B of the ex-North Point Estate	1 AA III	To manage and operate new facilities including pet garden, fitness stations, promenade, lawn and landscape planting in the public open space.
5	To support the New Territories West Tree Team by operating a hydraulic platform vehicle to assist tree works at height	1 Special Driver	To drive the departmental hydraulic platform vehicle and operate specialized ancillary equipment to support tree works at height.
6	To enhance professional training on horticulture, arboriculture and turf management provided by the Training Section	1 ALSM I	To organize and conduct training on horticulture, arboriculture and turf management for Leisure Services Manager and Amenities Assistant grades staff, including administrative and operational support for scheduled training programmes.

- End -