

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB460

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Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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Programme: (5) Public Libraries

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department stated that it will organise “4.23 World Book Day Creative Competition” and “Summer Reading Month” during 2016-17. What are the details and the estimated expenditures of these two activities?

Asked by: Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok (Member Question No. 447)

Reply:

Since 2004, the Hong Kong Public Libraries (HKPL) has organised a wide array of reading activities in support of the “4.23 World Book Day”. In 2016-17, the HKPL will launch the “4.23 World Book Day Creative Competition” under the theme “Healthy Body • Healthy Mind”, which aims to cultivate young readers’ ability to think from different perspectives about the relationship between sport and health, thereby encouraging positive and healthy living. The competition started in October 2015 and will last till April 2016. The prize presentation ceremony will be held on 23 April 2016 while the winning entries will then be presented in a roving exhibition to be held from 23 April to 11 May 2016 at the Hong Kong Central Library (HKCL), in July at the Hong Kong Book Fair and in other public libraries in the 18 districts till the end of November 2016. The expenditure borne by the HKPL in organising the competition in 2016-17 is estimated at \$0.30 million.

The Summer Reading Month (SRM) is a major territory-wide reading event held annually by the HKPL, which aims to encourage students and families to develop sustainable reading habits and engage in purposeful and quality reading during summer holidays. The theme for SRM 2016 is “All About Sports Events”, which echoes the 2016 Olympic Games. Through a wide variety of reading activities including a thematic exhibition, a contest on dramatisation, cultural performances and storytelling sessions, etc., children and parents are encouraged to learn more about the selected world sports events, their origins and sportsmanship. The SRM 2016 will be held at the Exhibition Gallery of the HKCL from 16 July to 15 August 2016. The expenditure in organising the SRM in 2016-17 is estimated at \$1.21 million.

