

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**HAB205**

**(Question Serial No. 3048)**

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

Programme: (5) Public Libraries

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

In 2017-18, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department will provide on a trial basis 3 self-service library units, each on Hong Kong Island, in Kowloon and in the New Territories. Will the Government please provide details of the plan, including:

- (i) the exact locations of the self-service library units;
- (ii) the expenditures and manpower arrangement involved;
- (iii) the stock and types of books and multimedia materials to be provided by each self-service library unit; and
- (iv) the estimated average number of items on loan per registered borrower for each self-service library unit?

Asked by: Hon LAU Kwok-fan (Member Question No. 30)

Reply:

- (i) The 3 identified locations of the self-service library units are Island East Sports Centre sitting-out area in the Eastern District, an outdoor area near Tai Wai MTR Station in Sha Tin District and a suitable location near the Hong Kong Cultural Centre in Yau Tsim Mong District.
- (ii) The estimated expenditure for the procurement of equipment and related IT services is about \$7.8 million, excluding the costs of site preparation. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) has earmarked \$2.4 million for the daily operation and maintenance of the self-service library units in 2017-18. The full-year operating costs for the 3 library units is about \$4.8 million.
- (iii) Each self-service library unit will provide about 300 lending books, with a suitable mix between Chinese and English on various subject areas to cater for the interests of

different age groups. Reference will be made to the district profile, usage pattern, readers' opinions and neighbouring facilities in the provision of stock.

- (iv) Each registered user can borrow up to 8 items at any one time. It is anticipated that the usage of the 3 self-service library units will vary depending on the location, the district profile and other relevant factors. The LCSD will monitor the utilisation of this new service under the pilot scheme.

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