

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB217

(Question Serial No. 1197)

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:

It is stated in the 2017-18 Controlling Officer's Report that the work of the Government includes organising community greening activities to promote greening awareness among the community. Recent years have seen more members of the public frequenting lawns in parks/open spaces under the management of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) during holidays or their free time for leisurely walks, sitting or lying around, or other recreational activities. It is a shame that many people are still bound to the idea that one has to keep off the lawns in parks of Hong Kong, as they used to. Now that the Department welcomes the use of lawns in parks/open spaces, please inform the Committee of the following:

1. Have any resources been devoted to promoting the use of lawns in the past 3 years? If so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
2. In the coming 3 years, will consideration be given to setting up an online database about the lawns in parks/open spaces under the management of the LCSD, and organising promotional activities to encourage public use of these lawns? If so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla (Member Question No. 37)

Reply:

1. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) promotes the use of all facilities in parks including lawns as part of its ongoing work through deployment of existing resources. The LCSD does not have separate figures on resources devoted to promoting the use of lawns in the past 3 years.
2. To facilitate public understanding and enjoyment of the parks and leisure facilities under LCSD's management, a dedicated webpage "Let's hit the Park" (www.lcsd.gov.hk/en/lhpt/index.html) has been set up in the LCSD web page in 2016-17, showcasing the horticultural, zoological and special features of parks

including the lawns together with the recreational activities to be held in the parks. LCSD has also launched a new initiative, known as “Storm the Park”, under which a wide variety of activities are organised in conjunction with community organisations to enable members of the public to experience the vibrancy and joyful atmosphere of parks.

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