

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB238

(Question Serial No. 2114)

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

Programme: (1) Recreation and Sports

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

Provision of recreation and sports facilities is co-ordinated by the Home Affairs Bureau under Programme (4). According to the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines, 1 sports centre is provided across the territory for every 50 000 to 65 000 persons at present. For main employment areas such as Central & Western, Wan Chai and Yau Tsim Mong, 1 extra sports centre should be provided for each district and 1 sports ground should be provided for every 200 000 to 250 000 persons. In this connection, will the Government provide the following information:

1. At present, do sports facilities in all the districts (by District Council district) across the territory meet the planning standards set out in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines? If not, which districts fall short of the standards? Please provide details of the shortfall in recreation and sports facilities in various districts. According to the Government's forecast, when will these districts be brought up to standards?
2. Please list out proposals for additional provision of recreation and sports facilities put forth by District Councils for this year and provide details of their proposals (e.g. type and location of the facilities). Are these proposals accepted? If so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
3. What are the manpower and expenditure involved in co-ordinating the provision of recreation and sports facilities for this year? Will additional manpower and expenditure be provided accordingly for next year? If so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (Member Question No. 41)

Reply:

- 1 & 2 In planning new and improved sports facilities, the Government makes reference to not only the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines (HKPSG) but also other relevant considerations including the current provision of sports facilities at the territory-wide and district levels, the policy objective of sports promotion, utilisation rates of existing facilities, demographic changes, the advice of District Councils, site availability and technical feasibility.

In the 2017 Policy Address, the Chief Executive announced a five-year plan to significantly increase the provision of sports facilities. We plan to earmark \$20 billion for launching 26 projects to develop new or improve existing sports and recreation facilities in different districts. Technical feasibility studies will also be conducted for another 15 sports and recreation facility projects to prepare for their implementation. The list of 26 projects and the major facilities to be provided and the list of the 15 sports and recreational facilities for conducting technical feasibility study are set out in paragraph 219 of the 2017 Policy Address.

In addition to the five-year plan, the pre-construction works for the Kai Tak Sports Park, which is the largest sports project to be built in Hong Kong and a facility that serves the whole territory, are close to completion. All the above projects are planned taking into account the views of relevant stakeholders including the sports sector and respective District Councils. Together with the existing provision, the above planned facilities will bring the overall provision much closer to the recommended level in the HKPSG, as demonstrated in Annex, leaving a minor shortfall in sports grounds only. The Government will continue to follow up on other projects proposed by the District Council under the established mechanism having regard to factors such as technical feasibility and priority.

3. *Programme 1 - Recreation and Sports* covers the development and management of recreation and sports facilities as well as the organisation of a wide range of leisure activities in order to promote recreation and sports at all levels throughout the community. In respect of this Programme, the revised estimate for 2016-17 is \$3,933.7 million and 4 354 staff are involved. In 2017-18, the estimated expenditure is \$4,079.5 million, representing a 3.7% increase over the revised estimate for 2016-17, with a net increase of 31 posts. In general, development and management of recreation and sports facilities as well as the organisation of leisure activities are managed by the same team of staff in districts. LCSD does not have a separate breakdown of the manpower and expenditures involved for developing and managing recreation and sports facilities.

**Provision of Major Facilities by Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD)
and Target Provision of
Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines (HKPSG)**

Facilities	Population Standard according to HKPSG	Target Provision of HKPSG¹	Existing Provision by LCSD	Planned Provision²	Surplus/ (Shortfall)
Sports Centre	1: 50 000 - 65 000 ³	113.1	97	17	0.9
Sports Ground	1: 200 000 - 250 000 ⁴	29.4	25	2	(2.4)
Swimming Pool Complex	1: 287 000	25.6	41	3	18.4

¹ The projected population in 2016 is 7.35 million.

² Planned provision includes facilities under construction and those to be provided under the Five-Year Plan.

³ Calculation of target provision based on 1:65 000.

⁴ Calculation of target provision based on 1:250 000.

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