

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**HAB489**

**(Question Serial No. 5647)**

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

Programme: (1) Recreation and Sports, (4) Performing Arts

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

1. Will the Department spell out the conditions for selling wheelchair space tickets for events held at venues such as the Hong Kong Coliseum and Queen Elizabeth Stadium? Is it a requirement for the organisers to put a certain number of wheelchair space tickets on sale? How would these unsold tickets be handled?
2. The number of seats convertible to wheelchair spaces is limited at some of the Department's performance venues. Will the Department consider installing more removable seats to provide additional spaces for wheelchair users? If so, what are the plans? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (Member Question No. 3048)

Reply:

1. Hirers of the performance venues of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) are required to comply with the provision of wheelchair spaces for sale as specified in the seating plans of respective venues. For venues with flexible seating layout such as the Hong Kong Coliseum and the Queen Elizabeth Stadium, hirers are required to provide an equivalent number of wheelchair spaces for sale according to the design manual on barrier free access published by the Buildings Department. Wheelchair spaces are available for sale to a wheelchair user and an accompanying minder. For events on sale through URB TIX, unsold wheelchair space tickets will be released for sale to the general public from 10:00 a.m. on the day of event on a first-come-first-served basis.
2. The number of wheelchair spaces available in the performance venues of LCSD complies with barrier free access requirements. Due to physical constraints of the venues, installation of additional removable seats for wheelchair users is not feasible. The usage rate of wheelchair spaces is around 18% in 2015-16 and LCSD has no plan to increase the provision at this stage.