

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB507

(Question Serial No. 4733)

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:

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) estimates that there will be 640 children's playgrounds across the territory in the coming year, which is more than the number of 634 in 2016. In this connection, please inform the Committee of the following:

What are the usage rates of each of the children's playgrounds across the territory over the past 3 years?

What are the criteria in providing children's playground facilities?

Will the Government conduct studies on how to enhance the appeal of children's playgrounds? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (Member Question No. 253)

Reply:

Most of the leisure venues with outdoor children's playgrounds managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) are open to the public throughout the day. LCSD does not maintain records on usage rates.

In planning children's playgrounds, a host of factors including topographic feature, site area and physical setting of individual venues, the concerned international safety standards, needs of different users and views of the District Councils (DCs) concerned will be taken into consideration by LCSD and its works departments. Together they will formulate the overall park design concept, work out the proposed preliminary design and provide diversified children's play equipment and movable parts.

LCSD has been liaising with concern groups on children's play equipment and consulting them and the concerned DCs on the design of play equipment in children's playgrounds for constant improvement. In 2016, LCSD, in collaboration with the works department, adopted the winning design of the Inclusive Play Space Design Ideas Competition as a

prototype to build an innovative inclusive playground in Tuen Mun Park as a pilot scheme. The playground will be opened to the public in 2017. LCSD will examine and draw reference from findings of the pilot scheme, keep in contact with the concern groups, consult the concerned organisations and DCs with a view to further improving the facilities of its playgrounds.

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