

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB536

(Question Serial No. 6294)

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:

Given the increase in the expenditure incurred by the Department on “recreation and sports” in recent years, please provide the following information:

- a. As the average usage rates of natural turf pitches have reached the ceiling in recent years, does the Department have any plans to provide more natural turf pitches? If so, what will be their locations and the estimated expenditure? If not, what are the reasons?
- b. What is the average expenditure on the maintenance of natural turf pitches every year?
- c. Are local football teams or the Hong Kong football representative teams given priority use of the natural turf pitches? If so, how many hours in total are allocated for priority use per week? If not, does the Department have any plans to allow local football teams or the Hong Kong football representative teams to make priority booking of the natural turf pitches in the future? What will be the estimated expenditure involved?
- d. How many inspections were carried out by the Department on the identity of natural turf pitch users last year? What was the number of staff involved for such inspections?

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (Member Question No. 65)

Reply:

- a. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) currently provides 42 natural turf soccer pitches and 39 artificial turf soccer pitches. LCSD is planning one new sports ground with natural turf pitch in Tuen Mun District and preparation is being made to consult the Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs and seek funding

approval of the Finance Committee in 2017-18 on its pre-construction works. The cost estimate is being worked out.

- b. As most of the natural turf pitches form part of the facilities provided in public leisure venues such as parks and sports grounds, LCSD does not have separate figures on the expenditure on the maintenance of natural turf pitches.
- c. To help develop local professional teams, LCSD has provided the Hong Kong Football Association (HKFA) with home venues for its 10 Hong Kong Premier League (HKPL) football teams to organise home-and-away football leagues, and dedicated training venues for their regular training. Priority will be given to bookings from HKFA for the use of home and training venues. A list of home and training venues provided for the HKPL football teams in the 2016-17 football season is set out at **Annex**.

To facilitate the training of local football teams, LCSD provides priority advance booking for teams from 3 to 12 months. No additional expenditure is involved for such booking arrangement.

- d. Venue staff are required to enforce strictly the checking of all hirers' identity to ensure that the hirer is one of the users of the facilities. The verification procedure is carried out by the venue staff as part of their overall venue management duties.

Annex to Reply Serial No. HAB536

**Home and Training Venues Provided for
Hong Kong Premier League Football Teams in 2016-17 Football Season**

	Football Teams	Home Venue	Training Venue
1.	BC Glory Sky	Hammer Hill Sports Ground	Po Kong Village Road Park Pitch No. 1 (Artificial turf pitch)
2.	Eastern Sports Football Team	Mong Kok Stadium	King's Park Sports Ground [#] (Artificial turf pitch)
3.	Hong Kong Football Club	Hong Kong Football Club [#]	Hong Kong Football Club [#] (Artificial turf pitch)
4.	Hong Kong Pegasus Football Club	Hong Kong Stadium	Kowloon Tsai Park No.1 (Artificial turf pitch)
5.	Hong Kong Rangers Football Club	Sham Shui Po Sports Ground	Shek Kip Mei Park (Artificial turf pitch)
6.	Kitchee Sports Club	Mong Kok Stadium	Jockey Club Kitchee Centre [#] (Artificial turf pitch)
7.	South China Athletic Association	Hong Kong Stadium	South China Athletic Association Stadium [#] (Natural turf pitch)
8.	Southern District Recreation & Sports Association Ltd	Aberdeen Sports Ground	Wong Chuk Hang Recreation Ground (Artificial turf pitch)
9.	R&F	Siu Sai Wan Sports Ground	N.A.
10.	Tai Po Football Club	Tai Po Sports Ground	Kwong Fuk Park (Artificial turf pitch)
11.	Yuen Long Football Club	Yuen Long Stadium	Tin Yip Road Park (Artificial turf pitch)

Notes:

[#] Venues not managed by LCSD

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