

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB164

(Question Serial No. 2814)

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (3) Heritage and Museums, (5) Public Libraries
Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Ms Michelle LI)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

According to General Revenue Account, regarding matters requiring special attention in 2018-19, the Home Affairs Bureau will “provide steer on the enhancement of public museum and library services”. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

1. What were the attendance figures of each of the public museums and libraries in each district in the past 3 financial years?
2. Please tabulate the number of books being acquired and disposed by libraries by District Council district in the past 3 financial years.
3. As the Leisure and Cultural Services Department only provides 12 book drops at major Mass Transit Railway (MTR) interchange stations at present, will the Department provide book drops at other MTR stations for the convenience of the public? If so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon HO Kwan-yiu, Junius (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 12)

Reply:

1. Annual attendance figures of each of the public libraries in each district and museums under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) in the past 3 financial years (from 2015-16 to 2017-18) are set out at **Annex**.
2. The Hong Kong Public Libraries (HKPL) maintains an integrated and inter-connected network of static libraries and mobile libraries with access to its entire library collections. Acquisition and withdrawal of library collections are processed centrally, and books can be transferred between libraries from time to time. The numbers of books acquired and withdrawn by the HKPL in the past 3 financial years (from 2015-16 to 2017-18) are tabulated below.

Financial Year	Number of newly acquired books (million items)	Number of books withdrawn (million items)
2015-16	0.77	0.36
2016-17	0.79	0.53
2017-18 As at 28 February 2018	0.71	0.14

3. The LCSD has provided book drop service under a trial scheme at 3 major Mass Transit Railway (MTR) interchange stations, namely Central, Kowloon Tong and Nam Cheong since late September 2011. The LCSD completed a review on the scheme in 2013 taking into account the findings of an opinion survey, the utilisation of the services and other relevant factors. The findings revealed that the service was under-utilised as most readers still preferred visiting the libraries in person to return and borrow books on the same occasion. The monthly average usage of the book drop service in 2017 was about 45% of the planned capacity. In consideration of the habits and preference of the library users and the cost-effectiveness of the service, the LCSD has no plan to extend the service to more MTR stations at this stage.

On the other hand, the LCSD has launched a pilot scheme to provide 3 self-service library stations, 1 each on Hong Kong Island, in Kowloon and in the New Territories at convenient locations with heavier pedestrian flow and far from existing libraries, offering round-the-clock services such as borrowing, return, payment and pickup of reserved library materials. The LCSD will conduct a review in 2018-19 to evaluate the effectiveness of the pilot scheme taking into account the utilisation, cost effectiveness, feedback of the users, sustainability and complementarity with other library services. Subject to the outcome of the review, the LCSD will explore the feasibility of extending the service to other locations.

**Annual Attendance Figures of Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Public Libraries and Museums from 2015-16 to 2017-18**

(A) Public Libraries

District	Public Libraries	Total attendance of the Library		
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 ⁽⁵⁾
Central & Western	City Hall	832 976	802 976	723 225
	Shek Tong Tsui	567 928	553 551	482 727
	Smithfield	299 415	283 010	249 807
Eastern	Chai Wan	616 322	593 245	518 717
	Electric Road	250 566	266 675	233 023
	North Point	318 203	319 543	286 720
	Quarry Bay	522 120	508 992	463 773
	Siu Sai Wan	423 253	406 271	380 376
	Yiu Tung	199 633	188 808	161 154
Southern	Aberdeen	613 666	594 543	505 919
	Ap Lei Chau	233 283	236 103	207 315
	Pok Fu Lam	242 107	228 534	195 640
	Stanley	159 054	155 711	132 890
Wanchai	Hong Kong Central Library	3 961 038	3 949 554	3 621 580
	Lockhart Road	600 837	578 459	509 906
	Wong Nai Chung	184 336	176 950	154 270
Kowloon City	Hung Hom	340 428	338 915	296 906
	Kowloon	642 150	636 111	548 553
	Kowloon City	249 195	237 810	206 309
	To Kwa Wan	563 960	529 438	491 857
Kwun Tong	Lam Tin	947 921	925 746	808 233
	Lei Yue Mun	170 968	166 342	139 928
	Ngau Tau Kok	612 893	573 575	496 156
	Sau Mau Ping	170 320	162 337	141 336
	Shui Wo Street	604 819	584 686	518 160
	Shun Lee Estate	180 738	171 083	151 016
Sham Shui Po	Lai Chi Kok	756 983	754 908	671 186
	Po On Road	1 027 688	986 535	872 754

District	Public Libraries	Total attendance of the Library		
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 ⁽⁵⁾
Sham Shui Po (Cont'd)	Shek Kip Mei	308 340	293 170	259 646
	Un Chau Street	301 432	294 089	259 512
Wong Tai Sin	Fu Shan	210 243	214 921	186 511
	Lok Fu	266 750	272 296	249 994
	Lung Hing	322 377	312 223	292 183
	Ngau Chi Wan	464 632	452 935	394 886
	San Po Kong	822 355	819 362	722 007
	Tsz Wan Shan	396 761	374 229	350 471
Yau Tsim Mong	Fa Yuen Street	605 273	589 342	516 878
	Tai Kok Tsui	433 797	439 577	392 011
	Tsim Sha Tsui	172 174	163 753	149 932
	Yau Ma Tei	631 974	592 025	466 600
Islands	Cheung Chau	241 290	225 159	200 466
	Mui Wo	46 625	46 842	41 962
	North Lamma	6 720	6 835	5 240
	Peng Chau	38 782	32 454	29 434
	South Lamma	2 009	1 775	1 529
	Tai O	31 740	32 229	29 063
	Tung Chung	431 221	447 270	458 847
Kwai Tsing	North Kwai Chung	451 413	476 602	414 243
	South Kwai Chung	686 588	688 149	616 590
	Tsing Yi	776 837	765 980	665 729
North	Fanling	693 987	653 647	577 024
	Fanling South ⁽¹⁾	-	199 196	282 674
	Sha Tau Kok	33 528	30 873	26 666
	Sheung Shui	908 765	836 730	715 563
Sai Kung	Sai Kung	345 212	303 658	281 992
	Tiu Keng Leng ⁽²⁾	743 742	993 237	855 869
	Tseung Kwan O	780 112	725 144	663 138
Sha Tin	Lek Yuen	249 005	238 074	201 313
	Ma On Shan	987 359	962 192	827 521
	Sha Tin	1 360 094	1 261 215	1 061 853
	Yuen Chau Kok ⁽³⁾	-	8 103	712 522
Tai Po	Tai Po	1 192 472	1 141 498	1 027 085

District	Public Libraries	Total attendance of the Library		
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 ⁽⁵⁾
Tsuen Wan	Shek Wai Kok	129 492	121 599	112 425
	Tsuen Wan	1 350 760	1 302 938	1 126 066
Tuen Mun	Butterfly Estate	222 650	211 405	176 544
	Tai Hing	406 805	386 484	314 588
	Tuen Mun	1 387 846	1 370 227	1 213 319
Yuen Long	Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai	1 234 511	1 305 551	1 124 864
	Tin Shui Wai North	392 176	408 927	377 099
	Yuen Long ⁽⁴⁾	997 406	987 346	985 715
Mobile Library	Mobile Library 1	37 896	41 228	41 231
	Mobile Library 2	27 070	26 509	23 058
	Mobile Library 3	20 639	18 489	18 646
	Mobile Library 4	32 188	34 244	30 995
	Mobile Library 5	25 312	22 157	16 110
	Mobile Library 6	29 597	26 370	20 487
	Mobile Library 7	50 072	45 027	44 706
	Mobile Library 8	65 706	61 823	43 482
	Mobile Library 9	60 687	60 358	49 401
	Mobile Library 10	26 859	26 926	23 396
	Mobile Library 11	32 743	30 356	26 701
	Mobile Library 12	36 736	34 942	27 719
TOTAL		37 803 560	37 328 101	33 902 942

Notes

- (1) Fanling South Public Library (Small Library) was opened in August 2016.
- (2) Tiu Keng Leng Public Library (District Library) was opened in July 2015.
- (3) Yuen Chau Kok Public Library (District Library) was opened in March 2017.
- (4) Yuen Long Public Library (District Library) was reprovisioned to the new premises with enhanced facilities and services in June 2017.
- (5) Attendance as at 28 February 2018.

(B) Museums

Venue		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 ⁽²⁾
1	Hong Kong Museum of Art ⁽¹⁾	117 583	-	-
2	Hong Kong Museum of History	764 049	1 037 610	1 410 929
3	Hong Kong Heritage Museum	430 155	787 039	1 078 400
4	Hong Kong Science Museum	1 124 887	1 236 872	1 920 516
5	Hong Kong Space Museum ⁽¹⁾	533 486	283 915	410 107
6	Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence	126 812	170 635	141 130
7	Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum	64 485	93 320	84 143
8	Fireboat Alexander Grantham Exhibition Gallery	88 211	80 621	68 664
9	Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware	214 798	201 526	185 835
10	Hong Kong Railway Museum	223 835	275 809	266 791
11	Law Uk Folk Museum	13 486	17 919	15 585
12	Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum	37 209	38 691	36 060
13	Sam Tung Uk Museum	91 348	107 493	91 720
14	Sheung Yiu Folk Museum	40 040	40 722	33 855
15	Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre	189 954	203 302	162 384
16	Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery cum Heritage Trail Visitors Centre	71 364	71 119	63 019
17	Hong Kong Visual Arts Centre	44 132	74 280	71 557
18	Oil Street Art Space (Oi!)	207 464	194 033	172 133
19	Hong Kong Film Archive	173 686	172 570	163 116
TOTAL		4 556 984	5 087 476	6 375 944

Notes

- (1) The Hong Kong Museum of Art and the Hong Kong Space Museum have been temporarily closed since August 2015 and November 2015 respectively for renovation. As regards the Hong Kong Space Museum, the Stanley Ho Space Theatre was re-opened on 2 March 2016, while the exhibition halls are scheduled to be re-opened to the public on 25 April 2018.
- (2) Attendance as at 28 February 2018.

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