

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**HAB185**

**(Question Serial No. 3299)**

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

Programme: (-) Not Specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

Regarding the provision of sign language interpretation services in the past 5 years, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

1. Were sign language interpretation services provided? If so, what were the frequency, occasions and causes for providing sign language interpretation services in each year?
2. Further to the above, what were the number of sign language interpreters involved in each year, their pay and the organisations to which they belong, and the total expenditure involved in each year?
3. Will the Government consider allocating more resources to improve the services for communicating with the deaf and/or persons with hearing impairment in future? If so, what are the details (including measures, manpower and expenditure involved and timetable, etc.)? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 73)

Reply:

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) provides sign language interpretation services for some of its cultural activities. Individual museums also provide docent services with sign language interpretation by prior arrangement. Details on the provision of sign language interpretation services in the past 5 financial years (from 2013-14 to 2017-18) are set out at Annex. LCSD will continue to provide support services for the hearing impaired people as appropriate.

**Leisure and Cultural Services Department events with provision of sign language interpretation services in the past 5 financial years (from 2013-14 to 2017-18)**

<b>Financial year</b>	<b>No. of occasions<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>No. of interpreters</b>	<b>Organisations that provide the sign language interpreters</b>	<b>Cost (\$)<sup>(2)</sup></b>
2013-14	5	9	Arts with the Disabled Association Hong Kong (ADAHK); Hong Kong Association of the Deaf (HKAD)	17,715
2014-15	5	10	Ditto	10,580
2015-16	2	2	Ditto	1,970
2016-17	6	14	Ditto	42,360
2017-18 <sup>(3)</sup>	5	20	ADAHK	123,952

**Notes**

Note 1: These events are museum tours, cultural programmes and activities.

Note 2: Figures do not include cost of activities of which breakdown for costs of sign language interpretation services are not available.

Note 3: Figures as at 28 Feb 2018.

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