

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**(Question Serial No. 3582)**

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

Programme: (5) Public Libraries

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

Regarding the planning and operation of public libraries, please inform this Committee of the following:

- 1) Will any new self-service library station be introduced in 2018-19 and 2019-20? If yes, where are the locations and what are the expected dates of commencement of service?
- 2) Will any evaluation be made on the gradual replacement of mobile libraries with self-service library stations in serving districts without a library?
- 3) Is there any plan to develop new libraries or to reprovision existing libraries in 2018-19 and 2019-20? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 130)

Reply:

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (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. The first library station in the Eastern District was launched on 5 December 2017 while the remaining 2 in the Yau Tsim Mong District and the Sha Tin District respectively are planned to be launched by phases in the second half of 2018 tentatively. 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, including mobile library services. Subject to the outcome of the review, the LCSD will explore the feasibility of extending the service to other locations and seek additional funding as required.

Library projects under construction from 2018 to 2020 are set out below –

<b>Project</b>		<b>Progress</b>
1	Reconstruction of North Lamma Public Library under “Yung Shue Wan Library cum Heritage and Cultural Showroom, Lamma Island”	The works are expected to be completed by the end of 2018.
2	Reprovisioning of Sau Mau Ping Public Library to Public Rental Housing Development at Sau Ming Road, Kwun Tong	The works are expected to be completed in 2019.
3	Provision of a new library under “Sports Centre, 5-a-side soccer pitch and public library facilities at Northwest Kowloon Reclamation Site 6, Sham Shui Po”	The works are expected to be completed in 2020.

- End -