

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB360

(Question Serial No. 3709)

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:

Will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) What was the amount of refuse collected from beach cleaning operations each year in the past 3 years?
- (2) What was the expenditure for removing refuse from beaches each year in the past 3 years?
- (3) Regarding the incident in August 2017 wherein multiple beaches were polluted by a large quantity of palm stearin, what was the amount of palm stearin cleaned up? What were the manpower and expenditure involved in the cleanup?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 206)

Reply:

- (1) The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) manages 41 gazetted beaches. The amount of refuse collected within the gazetted beaches in the past 3 years is set out below –

Year	Amount of Refuse Collected (Tonnes)		
	Land Refuse	Marine Refuse	Total
2015-16	7 415	3 338	10 753
2016-17	7 190	3 556	10 746
2017-18 (The first 10 months)	5 907	2 366	8 273

- (2) As removal of refuse from beaches is part of the cleansing works carried out by cleansing workers at beaches, LCSD does not have separate breakdown on the expenditure for removing refuse from beaches in the past 3 years.
- (3) 13 gazetted beaches under LCSD's management were affected by the palm stearin spillage incident in August 2017. LCSD collected around 77 tonnes of palm stearin in the affected beaches. As the Marine Department is currently consulting with the Department of Justice on recovery of the cost incurred in the cleanup of the palm stearin involved by the Government, specific information could not be provided at this stage.

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