

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB409

(Question Serial No. 5052)

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

Programme: (2) Horticulture and Amenities

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

Regarding the management of parks, please provide the following information about the installation of separators on park benches in the past 5 years:

- (1) What is the number of benches installed with separators? If applicable, please provide a list of the parks and the number of separators installed.
- (2) What are the staff establishment involved and the expenditure in this regard?
- (3) What is the total cost of the works? What is the average cost of installation of separators for each bench? Is the cost covered by the Capital Works Reserve Fund or absorbed by the general recurrent expenditure in the Budget?
- (4) Are the works meant to deter the street sleepers from resting on the benches?

Asked by: Hon CHU Hoi-dick (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 203)

Reply:

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) manages over 1 500 parks, gardens, playgrounds and sitting-out areas. Garden benches with different designs are provided at these venues. Some benches are provided with arm rest in between so as to meet the needs of different users, particularly the elderly. Details on the number of garden benches by types of designs are unavailable. Furthermore, as the provision of garden benches is only part of the installations in the venues, LCSD does not have separate figures on the cost of garden benches in particular.

As the management of parks and playgrounds including the installations therein forms part of the work of the staff in districts, LCSD does not have separate breakdown figures on the staff establishment and expenditures involved.