**CONTROLLING   OFFICER'S   REPLY**

**(Question Serial No. 4093)**

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:

1.   What was the attendance figure of each of the static public libraries of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department over the past 5 years?

2.   What were the numbers of e-book collections, loans of e-books, as well as the expenditures incurred in the acquisition of e-books in each of the past 5 years?

3.   How many books were written off in each of the past 5 years and how were they disposed of?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 323)

Reply:

1.   The annual attendance figures of each of the static public libraries of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department in the past 5 years (2013-2017) are tabulated at **Annex I**.

2.   As at 31 December 2017, the Hong Kong Public Libraries (HKPL) acquired or subscribed to 9 e-book collections with about 273 000 items.   The total number of titles of e-book collections in the past 5 years is at **Annex II**.   Unlike physical library materials, e-book collections are hosted by service providers and licensed for library use at service providers' platforms through an annual subscription or a perpetual licence.   Different service providers use different statistical elements such as the number of e-books consulted, searches, tracks played, browses by category, etc. to present the usage of their databases.   The usage statistics of e-book collections in the past 5 years are at **Annex III**.   The expenditures on the acquisition and subscription of e-book collections in the past 5 years are set out in table below.

| Year | Expenditure ($million) |
|---|---|
| 2013-14 | 1.3 |
| 2014-15 | 1.0 |

| Year | Expenditure ($million) |
|---|---|
| 2015-16 | 3.5 |
| 2016-17 | 4.2 |
| 2017-18 (Estimated) | 4.0 |

3.  The HKPL writes off unserviceable library books in accordance with the Government's procedures. The numbers of library books withdrawn in the past 5 years are set out in table below.

| Year | Numbers of library books withdrawn (million items) |
|---|---|
| 2013-14 | 0.60 |
| 2014-15 | 0.40 |
| 2015-16 | 0.36 |
| 2016-17 | 0.53 |
| 2017-18 (as at 28 February 2018) | 0.14 |

Note

The HKPL disposed of unserviceable library books for recycling through the Government's term contractor. The HKPL also donated books that were considered as surplus to community libraries and schools.

**Annual Attendance Figures of Static Public Libraries from 2013 to 2017**

| District | Static Public Libraries | Total Attendance of the Library | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | **2013** | **2014** | **2015** | **2016** | **2017** |
| **Hong Kong Islands** | | | | | | |
| Central & Western | City Hall | 909 226 | 856 819 | 843 720 | 800 385 | 797 105 |
| | Shek Tong Tsui | 602 064 | 583 728 | 572 677 | 553 690 | 535 206 |
| | Smithfield | 298 111 | 297 583 | 306 265 | 284 928 | 271 108 |
| Eastern | Chai Wan | 635 719 | 624 882 | 623 790 | 595 165 | 569 806 |
| | Electric Road | 308 419 | 295 790 | 257 423 | 261 733 | 254 598 |
| | North Point | 380 305 | 345 483 | 317 363 | 318 334 | 315 482 |
| | Quarry Bay | 552 759 | 551 537 | 524 212 | 512 455 | 505 960 |
| | Siu Sai Wan | 508 910 | 480 160 | 423 072 | 412 135 | 412 190 |
| | Yiu Tung | 213 972 | 214 149 | 204 922 | 188 321 | 179 340 |
| Southern | Aberdeen | 642 594 | 638 192 | 611 754 | 597 137 | 568 382 |
| | Ap Lei Chau | 229 657 | 234 026 | 234 963 | 236 570 | 226 623 |
| | Pok Fu Lam | 257 685 | 256 643 | 245 966 | 229 601 | 217 085 |
| | Stanley | 171 435 | 170 321 | 159 265 | 155 274 | 146 963 |
| Wanchai | Hong Kong Central Library | 3 994 008 | 3 888 163 | 3 884 305 | 3 983 294 | 3 937 700 |
| | Lockhart Road | 692 830 | 679 877 | 621 554 | 585 399 | 562 394 |
| | Wong Nai Chung | 192 979 | 196 080 | 187 684 | 178 567 | 169 275 |
| **Kowloon** | | | | | | |
| Kowloon City | Hung Hom | 367 531 | 361 385 | 346 164 | 338 494 | 323 870 |
| | Kowloon | 707 682 | 684 264 | 654 628 | 638 919 | 606 782 |
| | Kowloon City | 267 427 | 260 711 | 253 309 | 240 302 | 226 338 |
| | To Kwa Wan | 624 923 | 609 569 | 568 644 | 524 535 | 542 196 |
| Kwun Tong | Lam Tin [1] | 790 247 | 942 012 | 937 622 | 932 359 | 879 721 |
| | Lei Yue Mun | 179 663 | 165 142 | 173 267 | 167 342 | 153 592 |
| | Ngau Tau Kok | 630 425 | 608 764 | 602 788 | 585 630 | 545 317 |
| | Sau Mau Ping | 191 095 | 184 195 | 174 565 | 163 493 | 154 908 |
| | Shui Wo Street | 686 993 | 664 863 | 616 386 | 584 079 | 570 602 |
| | Shun Lee Estate | 203 815 | 199 699 | 185 419 | 172 159 | 165 309 |

| District | Static Public Libraries | Total Attendance of the Library | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
| Sham Shui Po | Lai Chi Kok | 740 331 | 774 997 | 752 912 | 753 574 | 741 406 |
| | Po On Road | 1 083 404 | 1 073 701 | 1 037 578 | 995 809 | 954 798 |
| | Shek Kip Mei [2] | 187 244 | 298 175 | 312 894 | 297 257 | 281 414 |
| | Un Chau Street | 362 828 | 326 888 | 305 729 | 296 386 | 283 109 |
| Wong Tai Sin | Fu Shan | 229 217 | 224 843 | 206 471 | 216 993 | 204 898 |
| | Lok Fu | 283 935 | 280 216 | 266 987 | 267 706 | 271 933 |
| | Lung Hing | 357 218 | 348 415 | 330 158 | 309 740 | 317 353 |
| | Ngau Chi Wan | 473 279 | 479 390 | 470 168 | 454 500 | 434 586 |
| | San Po Kong | 842 717 | 852 841 | 820 150 | 821 905 | 788 210 |
| | Tsz Wan Shan | 449 677 | 421 552 | 383 288 | 378 918 | 377 249 |
| Yau Tsim Mong | Fa Yuen Street | 678 038 | 647 234 | 613 009 | 593 651 | 567 884 |
| | Tai Kok Tsui | 371 843 | 403 347 | 432 352 | 441 861 | 424 735 |
| | Tsim Sha Tsui | 195 960 | 181 613 | 177 598 | 164 060 | 164 193 |
| | Yau Ma Tei | 782 843 | 727 524 | 643 443 | 620 774 | 512 561 |
| **New Territories** | | | | | | |
| Islands | Cheung Chau | 245 810 | 250 168 | 243 328 | 226 948 | 219 849 |
| | Mui Wo | 49 168 | 47 606 | 47 046 | 46 823 | 46 084 |
| | North Lamma | 7 757 | 7 117 | 6 707 | 6 906 | 5 918 |
| | Peng Chau | 39 830 | 39 086 | 39 450 | 33 834 | 31 907 |
| | South Lamma | 2 185 | 2 614 | 2 176 | 1 767 | 1 685 |
| | Tai O | 31 556 | 31 586 | 31 626 | 32 026 | 31 843 |
| | Tung Chung | 456 674 | 449 204 | 435 607 | 428 686 | 499 371 |
| Kwai Tsing | North Kwai Chung | 456 845 | 435 979 | 444 132 | 478 932 | 450 702 |
| | South Kwai Chung | 792 728 | 738 051 | 695 794 | 679 332 | 682 604 |
| | Tsing Yi | 827 580 | 783 659 | 776 137 | 768 977 | 735 896 |
| North | Fanling | 735 965 | 713 458 | 696 702 | 667 623 | 629 502 |
| | Fanling South [3] | - | - | - | 128 178 | 311 774 |
| | Sha Tau Kok | 39 799 | 39 852 | 34 997 | 30 372 | 30 363 |
| | Sheung Shui | 1 546 472 | 936 063 | 913 134 | 855 719 | 788 055 |
| Sai Kung | Sai Kung | 415 686 | 412 565 | 358 132 | 316 994 | 303 886 |
| | Tiu Keng Leng [4] | - | - | 527 078 | 986 771 | 949 419 |
| | Tseung Kwan O | 1 295 888 | 1 169 901 | 828 102 | 719 751 | 731 173 |

| District | Static Public Libraries | Total Attendance of the Library | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
| Sha Tin | Lek Yuen | 258 609 | 259 626 | 253 087 | 238 224 | 224 131 |
| | Ma On Shan | 1 023 957 | 1 004 773 | 978 411 | 967 464 | 915 357 |
| | Sha Tin | 1 240 868 | 1 380 667 | 1 376 101 | 1 276 188 | 1 176 802 |
| | Yuen Chau Kok [5] | - | - | - | - | 621 644 |
| Tai Po | Tai Po | 1 287 558 | 1 264 352 | 1 195 042 | 1 155 336 | 1 129 387 |
| Tsuen Wan | Shek Wai Kok | 135 030 | 144 754 | 131 844 | 122 348 | 119 759 |
| | Tsuen Wan | 1 443 689 | 1 404 659 | 1 357 256 | 1 312 808 | 1 253 651 |
| Tuen Mun | Butterfly Estate | 244 250 | 227 117 | 225 961 | 215 396 | 194 941 |
| | Tai Hing | 461 615 | 461 999 | 413 835 | 400 848 | 343 678 |
| | Tuen Mun | 1 342 208 | 1 366 882 | 1 380 554 | 1 381 145 | 1 333 236 |
| Yuen Long | Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai [6] | 1 375 045 | 1 289 377 | 1 210 390 | 1 315 416 | 1 246 221 |
| | Tin Shui Wai North | 393 777 | 409 282 | 393 587 | 398 973 | 408 417 |
| | Yuen Long [7] | 1 003 253 | 999 979 | 993 757 | 991 564 | 1 073 523 |
| **TOTAL** | | **39 432 810** | **38 305 149** | **37 274 437** | **37 038 783** | **36 652 959** |

Notes
(1) Lam Tin Public Library (District Library) replaced Lam Tin Public Library (Small Library) in March 2013.
(2) Shek Kip Mei Public Library (Small Library) replaced Pak Tin Public Library (Small Library) in March 2014.
(3) Fanling South Public Library (Small Library) was opened in August 2016.
(4) Tiu Keng Leng Public Library (District Library) was opened in July 2015.
(5) Yuen Chau Kok Public Library (District Library) was opened in March 2017.
(6) Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai Public Library (Major Library) replaced Tin Shui Wai Public Library (District Library) in February 2013.
(7) Yuen Long Pubic Library (District Library) was reprovisioned to the new premises with enhanced facilities and services in June 2017.

## Hong Kong Public Libraries
## Total Number of Titles of e-Book Collections (2013 to 2017)

| Item | Title of e-Book Collections | Total Number of Titles (1) | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | **2013** | **2014** | **2015** | **2016** | **2017** |
| 1 | Apabi Chinese eBooks | 72 500 | 80 400 | 86 300 | 91 900 | 95 200 |
| 2 | eBooks on EBSCO*host* | 4 018 | 4 018 | 4 018 | 7 600 | 12 993 |
| 3 | HyRead ebook (launched in June 2016) | - | - | - | 3 010 | 6 699 |
| 4 | Naxos Spoken Word Library (Audio book) | 1 350 | 1 350 | 1 492 | 1 492 | 6 134 |
| 5 | ProQuest Ebook Central (2) | 107 700 | 119 600 | 129 000 | 138 800 | 149 270 |
| 6-7 | Safari Books Online (3) | 518 | 523 | 523 | 523 | 524 |
| 8 | SUEP e-Book (launched in April 2017) | - | - | - | - | 2 016 |
| 9 | Vista E-Book in Traditional Chinese | 411 | 430 | 430 | 430 | 467 |

Notes
(1)    The e-book collections are hosted by service providers and licensed for library use at service providers' platforms through an annual subscription or a perpetual licence.
(2)    Formerly known as ebrary Academic Complete.
(3)    Including Safari Business Books Online and Safari Tech Books Online.

## Hong Kong Public Libraries (HKPL)
## Usage of e-Book Collections (2013-2017)

Different service providers have used different statistical elements such as the number of e-books consulted, searches, tracks played and browses by category to present the usage of their databases.   The usage statistics of e-book collections of the HKPL provided by individual service providers from 2013 to 2017 are tabulated below.

| Item | Title of e-Book Collections | Statistical Elements Adopted | Use Count | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | | | **2013** | **2014** | **2015** | **2016** | **2017** |
| *Collections adopting similar statistical elements based on the number of e-Books consulted* | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Apabi Chinese eBooks | online reading and borrowing | 63 753 | 68 096 | 74 610 | 59 578 | 64 071 |
| 2 | eBooks on EBSCO*host* | online reading and download | 11 025 | 8 679 | 8 851 | 17 185 | 26 277 |
| 3 | HyRead ebook (launched in June 2016) | online reading, borrowing and trial | - | - | - | 116 649 | 244 885 |
| 4 | ProQuest Ebook Central [1] | online reading and download | 24 868 | 26 315 | 25 019 | 21 178 | 28 081 |
| 5 | SUEP e-Book (launched in April 2017) | online reading, borrowing and trial | - | - | - | - | 47 803 |
| *Collections adopting other statistical elements* | | | | | | | |
| 6 | Naxos Spoken Word Library (Audio book) | tracks played | 43 966 | 32 131 | 33 635 | 41 793 | 26 134 |
| 7-8 | Safari Books Online [2] | searches | 17 032 | 10 586 | 10 060 | 10 084 | 9 871 |
| 9 | Vista E-Book in Traditional Chinese | browses by category | 34 110 | 13 173 | 25 567 | 22 403 | 17 771 |

Notes
(1)   Formerly known as ebrary Academic Complete.
(2)   Including Safari Business Books Online and Safari Tech Books Online.

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