

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB106

(Question Serial No. 0970)

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

Programme: (1) Recreation and Sports, (5) Public Libraries

Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Vincent LIU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

It is mentioned in the Programmes that the Leisure and Cultural Services Department will develop the new intelligent sports and recreation services booking and information system, and continue to enrich library e-resources including e-books. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

- a) details and timetable of the new intelligent sports and recreation services booking and information system;
- b) effectiveness of “enriching library e-resources” in the past year, and what specific measures will be taken to continue to enrich library e-resources?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Kin-por (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

- a) The new intelligent sports and recreation services booking and information system (new system) will provide efficient, convenient and user-friendly booking service which can encourage members of the public to participate in sports regularly. The new system will provide a unified and one-stop electronic service platform to enable the public to enquire about and book sports and recreation facilities/services provided by the LCSD through the Internet and mobile apps anytime and anywhere. In addition, the public can use the new self-service stations in about 270 leisure venues (including the 18 District Leisure Services Offices) for convenient services such as instant registration of personal accounts, self-service check-in of facility sessions and programmes. The project comprises 2 phases which are planned to be launched by the end of 2022 and in the first half of 2024 respectively. It is expected that the contract will be awarded in March 2020.
- b) As at December 2019, the e-resources acquired or subscribed by the Hong Kong Public Libraries (HKPL) included 11 e-book collections and 77 e-databases. Compared to 2018, the e-book collections had increased from 294 000 to 338 000 copies, representing an increase of 15%, including the OverDrive e-Books, a

newly-added English e-book collection. Different e-book service providers adopt 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. For e-book collections adopting similar statistical elements, their usage remained on an upward trend, with the use count increasing by 58% from 609 000 to 964 000. As for e-databases, different service providers also adopt different statistical elements, such as the number of searches, tracks played, logins, consultations, clicks, browses of information and retrievals, etc. to present the usage of their databases. In 2019, the average usage of e-databases increased by about 15% compared with 2018.

To meet public demands for e-books, the HKPL plans to continue its acquisition or subscription of 11 e-book collections in 2020-21, adding about 30 000 copies of various Chinese and English e-books, including more locally published e-books, as well as audio e-books published in the United Kingdom or the United States of America. Moreover, the HKPL plans to increase the number of its e-databases to 80, with new contents covering abstracts of books, practice exercises for internationally recognised examinations for overseas study, culinary skills, arts, architecture, encyclopaedia, etc.

- End -