

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**HAB117**

**(Question Serial No. 1843)**

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

Programme: (4) Performing Arts

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

The Government will provide hirers of civic centres under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department with a 50% reduction of basic hire charges for another 6 months. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee of:

1. What is the hiring rate of facilities of each civic centre during the past 3 financial years?
2. There being previous cases of unauthorised touting activities for profit, how will the Government further combat touting activities while offering rent reduction to hirers?
3. In view of the ongoing epidemic, will the Government deploy additional manpower to clean up and disinfect the venues? How much additional expenditure and manpower are expected?

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 63)

Reply:

1. The usage rates of major facilities of the 14 civic centres under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) in the past 3 financial years are set out at Annex.
2. Applications for hire of facilities in civic centres under the LCSD are assessed according to a set of pre-determined criteria. It is stipulated in the Terms and Conditions of Hire that except with prior permission, hirers shall not and shall not attempt to assign, sublet or part with possession of a venue or any part of it in any manner whatsoever. Before using the venues, hirers are required to produce their identification documents and Confirmed Booking Forms for verification by venue staff. The Department also monitors the using of venues by the hirers to check if they comply with the activities stated in the applications. No case of unauthorised assignment, subletting, or parting with possession has been found so far.

3. To ensure public health, the LCSD has instructed the outsourced cleansing service contractors to step up the cleansing measures at the venues.

Usage Rates of Civic Centres  
Managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department  
(from 2017-18 to 2019-20)

Venue	Major Facility <sup>(1)</sup>	Usage <sup>(2)</sup>		
		2017-18 (Actual)	2018-19 (Actual)	2019-20 (Estimate)
Hong Kong City Hall	Concert Hall	100%	99%	100%
	Theatre	100%	100%	99%
Hong Kong Cultural Centre	Concert Hall	100%	100%	100%
	Grand Theatre	100%	100%	100%
Ko Shan Theatre	Theatre	100%	100%	100%
	New Wing Auditorium	100%	100%	100%
Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre	Theatre	98%	98%	98%
Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre	Theatre	100%	100%	100%
Sheung Wan Civic Centre	Theatre	100%	100%	100%
Yau Ma Tei Theatre	Theatre	100%	99%	98%
Sha Tin Town Hall	Auditorium	99%	99%	100%
Tai Po Civic Centre	Auditorium	91%	79%	86%
North District Town Hall	Auditorium	96%	96%	93%
Kwai Tsing Theatre	Auditorium	100%	99%	100%
Tsuen Wan Town Hall	Auditorium	100%	100%	100%
Tuen Mun Town Hall	Auditorium	99%	97%	98%
Yuen Long Theatre	Auditorium	99%	98%	96%

Notes

- (1) Including concert hall/theatre/auditorium of the 14 civic centres.
- (2) Usage rates are based on the number of days used over the total number of days available, excluding maintenance and the closure of venues due to social events and the epidemic.