

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB141

(Question Serial No. 1351)

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 (Vincent LIU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department plans to make the public play spaces more innovative and fun by transforming more than 170 public play spaces across the territory over the next 5 years from year 2020-21 onwards. Please provide details of the work involved including:

1. The names, locations and sizes of these 170 public play spaces, timetable and estimated annual expenditures of the transformation works.
2. Regarding the tendering strategy of the transformation works, what will be done to ensure that more small and medium companies (including professional services consultants) will also have the opportunity to engage in such projects?
3. In making these public play spaces “more innovative and fun”, will reference be made to the success of the inclusive playground in Tuen Mun Park and earmark fundings for launching workshops or open design competitions for the transformation of some of the public play spaces?

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chuen, Tony (LegCo internal reference no.: 2)

Reply:

1. In order to make the public play spaces (PPS) more innovative and fun and to meet the needs of residents at the same time, the Government plans to transform more than 170 PPS managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) across the territory over the next 5 years. In the first year of the programme, 17 transformation projects will be launched. Details of the projects have yet to be worked out. The total estimated expenditure for the entire programme is \$686 million.
2. The LCSD and the works department will arrange tender exercises for the works fairly, openly and impartially. In vetting the tenders, special emphasis will be given to the innovativeness of the proposal and the potential of the proposed facilities in bringing benefits to local residents. Given that small and medium-sized enterprises

and start-up companies can be rather innovative, eligible small and medium-sized enterprises, start-up companies and individuals or companies with less experience are welcome to participate in the transformation works for PPS.

3. In the process of transforming PPS, the LCSD will encourage and promote community participation and engagement by adopting different means, such as workshops and opinion surveys to engage different stakeholders, including pupils and parents of nearby schools, members of District Councils and relevant organisations, and invite them to offer opinions. Meanwhile, the LCSD will keep an open mind in organising open design competitions for the transformation works of some suitable PPS in order to collect the professionals' views and bring about innovation. The Department will look into the feasibility of the views with the works department. We will also take note of and consolidate the opinions collected, and incorporate feasible and suitable designs and facilities into the play spaces in an effort to provide more innovative, challenging and interesting play spaces.

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