

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**HAB281**

**(Question Serial No. 4020)**

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:

It is stated under Programme (1) that the provision for 2020-21 is \$456.3 million (9.7%) higher than the revised estimate for 2019-20 mainly due to the net increase of 161 posts, filling of vacancies and the increase in operating expenses. In this connection, will the Department inform this Committee of the details of the increase of the revised estimate and the duties of the 161 additional posts involved?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 302)

Reply:

The increase in provision under Programme (1) in 2020-21 over the revised estimate for 2019-20 is mainly attributed to (i) the increase in personal emoluments and personnel-related expenses as a result of the net increase of 161 posts and filling of vacant posts; (ii) the increase in operating expenses due to inflation, the adjustment of Statutory Minimum Wage and additional provision for better protection of non-skilled workers; and (iii) additional provision to enhance the support to “national sports associations”.

As for the duties of the 161 additional posts under Programme (1), the posts are created for (i) the management of new facilities, i.e. the sports centre cum soccer pitches at Tai Po, the beach at Tai Po and the sports centre at Kwun Tong; and (ii) the enhancement of existing recreation, sports and support services. These 161 posts cover the Leisure Services Manager, Amenities Assistant; Senior Artisan, Artisan; Analyst/Programmer; and Clerical Assistant grades.