

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB319

(Question Serial No. 5672)

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:

Will the Government provide information on the expenditures incurred by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) on overall sports activities and development in the past 5 years? Of those, what is the expenditure on people with disabilities (PWDs)?

Regarding the expenditure on PWDs by the LCSD, will the Government provide information on the amount directly incurred by the Department in organising sports activities and the amount incurred in organising activities with other bodies or organisations in the past 5 years?

Regarding the recreation and sports activities organised for PWDs by the LCSD in the past 5 years, please provide information on the number of places, the types of activities, the number of places offered to non-government organisations (NGOs) and individuals respectively, and the number of individuals rejected due to insufficient places.

Please provide by sports type the number of coaches and instructors with training on PWDs teaching courses of the LCSD in the past 5 years.

Regarding the ratio set on places offered to NGOs and individuals in recreation and sports activities organised for PWDs, what are the Government's reasons for setting such a ratio and will it review the ratio as appropriate? With subsidies from the Social Welfare Department or other government departments, NGOs should be able to organise some of the activities with their own manpower and resources. If a large ratio of the places in LCSD activities goes to NGOs, will it lead to a duplication of resources and inhibit the participation of individual PWDs?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 925)

Reply:

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) organises a wide range of recreation and sports programmes for people of all ages and different abilities. As these recreation and sports activities are open to the public, persons with disabilities (PWDs) may participate according to their respective interest, level of ability and the programme requirements. Apart from these programmes, the LCSD also organises programmes specifically for PWDs. They include floor hockey, bocce, swimming, aerobic dance, fitness exercise, hydro-fitness, social dance, tai chi, badminton, table tennis, gateball, golf, camping, excursions and outreaching activities. Regarding the programmes for PWDs in the past 5 years, the LCSD offered around 74 000 places on average every year. The LCSD does not have a breakdown on the number of places offered to non-government organisations and individual PWDs. The LCSD does not have record on the number of individuals rejected due to insufficient places.

Apart from the above, the LCSD also supports sports organisations and programmes specifically for PWDs. These include programmes organised by the LCSD and assisted by the partner organisations, and other programmes organised by the national sports associations (NSAs) that promote sports development for PWDs.

The overall expenditure of the LCSD on sports development and the expenditure on sports development specifically for PWDs in the past 5 years are set out below:

Year	Overall expenditure on sports development and activities ^{Note 1} (\$ million)	Expenditure on sports development and activities specifically for PWDs (\$ million)		
		Directly incurred by the LCSD ^{Note 2}	Organised by outside organisations ^{Note 3}	Total
2015-16	427.4	4.4	16.4	20.8
2016-17	440.2	4.5	17.2	21.7
2017-18	548.5 ^{Note 4}	4.5	18.4	22.9
2018-19	506.6	7.7	19.6	27.3
2019-20	583.0	12.2 ^{Note 5}	23.0	35.2

Notes

- (1) The overall expenditure includes the direct expenditure on community sports programmes as well as the subvention for NSAs and sports organisations.
- (2) The expenditure directly incurred by the LCSD on PWDs includes the amount incurred in organising community sports programmes for PWDs with the support of partner organisations.
- (3) The expenditure includes subvention for NSAs that support sports development for PWDs, namely Hong Kong Sports Association of the Deaf Company Limited, Hong Kong Sports Association for Persons with Intellectual Disability, Hong Kong Paralympic Committee & Sports Association for the Physically Disabled and the Hong Kong Equestrian Federation.

- (4) There was an increase of programmes and expenditure for the celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the Establishment of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.
- (5) The substantial increase in the expenditure was mainly due to the increased number of new recreation and sports programmes organised for PWDs in the community.

The LCSD currently maintains a pool of around 2 600 instructors who are qualified for ready deployment for the recreation and sports programmes for PWDs, including a wide variety of sports such as swimming, hydro-fitness, aerobic dance, social dance, fitness exercise, tai chi, badminton, table tennis, golf, gateball, camping and excursions.

To enhance the relevance of programmes for PWDs, the LCSD currently partners with disability organisations to organise community recreation and sports programmes. Members of these partner organisations are allowed up to 80% of the programme quota, while individual PWDs may subscribe to the remainder (i.e. at least 20%) on a first-come-first-served basis. The LCSD monitors the enrolment response regularly and makes adjustment for individual programmes when necessary. The arrangement has been working smoothly.

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