

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB337

(Question Serial No. 5057)

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

Programme: (5) Public Libraries

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

The Hong Kong Public Libraries welcomes donations of books and other information materials from individuals and organisations. In this connection, please inform this Committee of: 1. the number of donated books accepted by libraries; 2. the number of donations not accepted (please provide a breakdown by reason); 3. how will the declined donations be handled under the current policy?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 995)

Reply:

In 2019, the Hong Kong Public Libraries (HKPL) accepted about 24 200 items of donated books and declined the donation of about 2 300 items. School textbooks, titles already in stock, books that are outdated or in poor physical condition, etc. are normally not accepted unless they are of high reference and research value. A breakdown of declined donations by reasons is not available. Subject to the indicated wish of donors, items that are not accepted will be returned to donors or at the disposal of the HKPL.

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