

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB355

(Question Serial No. 5090)

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

Programme: (-) Not Specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department manages a wide range of recreation and sports facilities, and the Government has repeatedly indicated that it keeps an open mind towards hawker bazaars organised by the community. In this connection, please inform this Committee of:

1. the Department's procedures and criteria for processing applications for organising hawker bazaars;
2. the number of applications for organising hawker bazaars processed by the Department in the past 3 years, and the number of hawker bazaars successfully held;
3. the manpower and expenditure involved in processing applications for organising hawker bazaars.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 1129)

Reply:

1. The leisure venues managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) are primarily for sports and recreational purposes. The LCSD also makes available its public pleasure grounds for non-designated uses such as cultural events, charitable activities and festive celebrations. All applications for bazaar-like activities are handled as applications for non-designated uses and considered on a case-by-case basis. The LCSD takes into account a number of factors, including the area to be booked, the duration, purpose and nature of the activity, the benefits it may bring to the public, and the inconvenience that it may cause to other users. Residents nearby and District Council members concerned are consulted through the Home Affairs Department, and views from relevant government departments will also be sought. In view of the keen public demand for use of recreational grounds and leisure facilities, the LCSD strives to balance the needs of different park users so as to reserve sufficient venues and sessions for recreational and sports uses.

2. The number of applications for organising bazaar-like activities processed by the LCSD in the past 3 years, and the number of bazaars held are set out below:

Year	Number of applications received	Number of applications approved
2017-18	22	15
2018-19	18	15
2019-20	20	20

3. Processing of applications is part of the work carried out by the venue staff. The LCSD does not have separate breakdown figures on the manpower and expenditure involved in processing applications for organising bazaar-like activities.

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