

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**HAB373****(Question Serial No. 4443)**Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Recreation and Sports, (2) Horticulture and AmenitiesControlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Vincent LIU)Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home AffairsQuestion:

The Department is responsible for developing and managing leisure facilities such as sports centres, parks and gardens, swimming pools, gazetted beaches and holiday camps. Please provide the following information:

- a. The loans of parks, gardens and outdoor pitches/playgrounds in various districts by the Department in the past 3 years. Please provide information in the table below by the 18 districts in the territory:

Name of venue	Name of applying organisation	Name of event	Start date of loan	End date of loan	Whether rentals were charged

- b. How does the Department monitor the loans of outdoor pitches/playgrounds in various districts? Are there any restrictions on loaning period/hours of outdoor pitches/playgrounds at various venues?
- c. How can organisations apply for loans of parks, gardens and outdoor pitches/playgrounds in various districts?
- d. Given that some outdoor pitches/playgrounds are relatively close to residential areas, does the Department have any plan to reduce the loans of these outdoor pitches/playgrounds? If so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon MO Claudia (LegCo internal reference no.: 115)

Reply:

a. to d. The leisure venues managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) are primarily for recreational purposes. For applications for the use of leisure venues for designated recreation activities by organisations, bookings will be processed according to the Department's "Booking Procedure for Use of Non-Fee Charging Facilities". Subvented non-governmental organisations registered with the Social Welfare Department, charitable organisations registered with the Inland Revenue Department, companies registered and issued with the Certificate of Incorporation under the Companies Ordinance, and societies registered and issued with the Certificate of Registration under the Societies Ordinance may make reservations 3 months before the activities are held.

As for the use of leisure venues such as parks, gardens, outdoor pitches/courts and playgrounds for holding non-designated activities, applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis. For the use of leisure venues for non-designated activities, only applications from registered organisations are accepted. Applicants are required to submit written applications to the respective district leisure services offices. Subject to the type of facilities hired and the nature of activities held, hire charges will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Applicants with the approval to use the venues should comply with the relevant conditions of use, including taking noise control measures during the activities to reduce the impact on nearby residents.

Since the LCSD manages a large number of leisure venues, organisations submit their applications directly to the respective district leisure services offices. The Department does not maintain statistics on the use of LCSD non-fee charging facilities by organisations for different activities in the past 3 years.

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