

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB377

(Question Serial No. 6384)

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

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

Programme: (4) Performing Arts

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

Regarding the music practice rooms in civic centres managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, please provide a breakdown by each centre the monthly average usage rates, operational expenditures, and hire charge and average number of users per booking in the past 5 years. If the rooms are under-utilised, will the Department step up promotional efforts and lower the charge to enhance utilisation?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 310)

Reply:

At present, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) manages music practice rooms as ancillary facilities of 7 civic centres. The basic hire charges and the usage rate in the past 5 years are set out at the Annex. There is no breakdown of expenditure on these music practice rooms which are managed as integral parts of the civic centres.

The basic rental of music practice rooms, which is lower than similar facilities at non-LCSD venues, is considered reasonable. Concessionary rate and 50% discount offered by the LCSD can also help increase the usage rate. To further promote the use of music practice rooms, the Department will enhance publicity efforts by placing advertisement at the website, monthly event calendar and digital displays at the respective venues.

**Basic Hire Charges and Usage Rates of Music Practice Rooms in Civic Centres
Managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department**

Facilities	No. of Practice Rooms	Charge per hour		Usage Rate				
		Basic Hire Charge (\$)	Concessionary rate ⁽¹⁾ (\$)	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (Estimate)
Hong Kong Cultural Centre Practice Room	7	77 - 175	40 - 90	44%	45%	50%	48%	49%
Ko Shan Theatre New Wing Singing Practice Room ⁽²⁾	3	185 - 290	93 - 145	6%	12%	12%	14%	15%
Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre Music Practice Room ⁽²⁾	1	93	50	20%	15%	18%	13%	11%
Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre Music Practice Room ⁽²⁾	2	93	50	55%	55%	49%	51%	53%
Sheung Wan Civic Centre Music Practice Room ⁽²⁾	2	93	50	33%	23%	24%	27%	27%
Sha Tin Town Hall Practice Room	3	28	Not Applicable	50%	45%	49%	49%	48%
Tuen Mun Town Hall Practice Room	3	24	Not Applicable	56%	60%	62%	58%	59%

Notes

- (1) Concessionary rate is offered to eligible non-profit-making organisations.
- (2) A 50% discount is offered for bookings of Music Practice Rooms for a minimum of 2 consecutive hours between 9 am and 6 pm from Monday to Friday.

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