

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**HAB173**

**(Question Serial No. 1736)**

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 (Mrs. Betty FUNG)  
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question (Member Question No. 41):

In the past three years (i.e. 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14), how many tortoises were kept in the pools of the parks under the management of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department? How many of them were abandoned or released by the public? What were the numbers of tortoises found dead in the pools of the parks? What were the expenditures incurred for keeping tortoises in the pools? Apart from tortoises, were there other animal species found abandoned or released in the pools? If so, what were their respective numbers?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

The water features in the gardens and parks managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) are not designed for keeping animals. The tortoises and fishes found therein are dumped by members of the public and then multiply naturally over the years. As the animals are not kept by the venue management, there are no records of their number. The management of water features forms part of the overall duties of staff in LCSD venues. LCSD does not have a breakdown of the cost devoted specifically to managing water features.