

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB212

(Question Serial No. 0844)

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Ms Michelle LI)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

It is stated in the Estimates that the Leisure and Cultural Services Department continued to implement a number of improvement measures on booking and allocating sports facilities. Measures introduced in 2014 included tightening the booking quota for individual hirers, revising the penalty system for organisations, introducing a new penalty system for individual hirers and re-registration of Leisure Link patrons. In this connection, please inform this Committee how the booking and allocation of facilities have been improved since the implementation of these measures. Are there any irregularities committed by individual hirers or organisations? If so, please provide the statistics on such irregularities.

Asked by: Hon CHUNG Shu-kun, Christopher (Member Question No. 21)

Reply:

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) completed the re-registration of Leisure Link patrons (LLP) at the end of 2014 and Hong Kong residents can only use their Hong Kong identity cards to register as LLP. The new measure can prevent hirers using multiple identity documents to circumvent the quota restriction imposed on bookings of recreation and sports facilities for individual hirers.

Upon the implementation of the revised penalty system for organisation hirers and the introduction of a new penalty system for individual hirers, 29 organisations had breached the Conditions of Use of LCSD Recreation and Sports Facilities and 10 and 19 organisations were issued with advisory letters and default notices respectively from 1 June 2014 to 5 March 2015. During the period from 15 August 2014 to 5 March 2015, 6 964 hirers failed to take up their booked sessions on two occasions within 30 consecutive days without advance cancellation of booking and 63 hirers abused the use of concessionary rates in booking facilities. They were barred from making advance booking of fee-charging recreational and sports facilities for 90 days and 180 days respectively. The new measures

have helped to minimise wastage of resources and combat touting, whilst ensuring that the usage of the facilities will not be adversely affected.

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