

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

HAB367

Question Serial No.

3342

Head: 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services
Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

How many full-time lifeguards in total are currently employed to work at the swimming pools managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department? Given the existing establishment of the Department, how many lifeguards will be required for the provision of adequate services? On how many occasions were the swimming pools managed by the Department closed to the public due to a shortage of lifeguards in the past three years (i.e. 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13)? Regarding the employment of lifeguards, what is the estimated expenditure for 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

As at 15 March 2013, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) employed 812 full-year lifeguards for its swimming pools. In addition, about 700 seasonal lifeguards will be employed during the swimming season (April to October) in 2013-14 to support the higher swimming pool attendance during these months.

In the past three years (i.e., 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13), there were altogether five occasions on which swimming pools managed by the LCSD were closed to the public due to the unexpected absence of lifeguards who had fallen sick.

The estimated expenditure for the employment of lifeguards (both full-year and seasonal) in 2013-14 is about \$218 million.

Name in block letters: Mrs. BETTY FUNG

Post Title: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Date: 2.4.2013