

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

HAB163

(Question Serial No. 2333)

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 (Vincent LIU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

- (a) Please list in the table below the usage rate of each natural turf pitch in Hong Kong in 2020.

Venue	Usage Rate

- (b) What were the expenditure and manpower required for the maintenance of natural turf pitches in the past year?
- (c) Please list in the table below the usage rate of each artificial turf pitch in Hong Kong.

Venue	Second Generation Artificial Turf/ Third Generation Artificial Turf	Usage Rate

- (d) What were the expenditure and manpower required for the maintenance of artificial turf pitches in the past year?
- (e) It is stated in the Budget Speech that \$318 million will be earmarked to implement a five-year plan for upgrading football pitches, including substantially increasing the number of 5-a-side football pitches meeting international standards, exploring the possibility of expanding the existing football pitches into standard 11-a-side turf pitches and expediting the replacement of artificial turf on football pitches. Please provide the following information:
- i) Does the Government have any plans to build new natural turf pitches or artificial turf pitches in 2021-22? If so, what are the details and the expenditures involved? If not, what are the reasons?

- ii) Will any conversion or renovation works be carried out at the Government's existing natural turf pitches or artificial turf pitches in 2021-22? If so, what are the details and the expenditures involved?
- iii) Will the Government consider using the fourth generation artificial turf or piloting the use of new turf systems that meet the standard of Fédération Internationale de Football Association when building new artificial turf pitches or converting existing pitches into artificial turf pitches in future? If so, what are the details and the estimated expenditures? If not, what are the reasons?
- iv) Among the 5-a-side or 11-a-side natural turf and artificial turf pitches managed by the Government, how many of them meet the standard for staging international matches? Please provide the names of the pitches.
- v) After the implementation of the five-year plan for upgrading football pitches, how many 5-a-side or 11-a-side natural turf and artificial turf pitches are expected to meet the standard for staging international matches?
- vi) In increasing the number of 5-a-side football pitches meeting international standards, will the Government consider building indoor 5-a-side football pitches? If so, how many indoor 5-a-side football pitches are expected to be built? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 34)

Reply:

- (a) & (c) The usage rates of natural and artificial turf pitches managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) in 2020 are set out at **Annex I**.
- (b) & (d) As most of the natural and artificial turf pitches form part of the facilities provided in the public leisure venues such as parks and sports grounds, the LCSD does not have separate figures on the expenditure for the maintenance of individual pitches.
- (e)(i) In 2021-22, the Government plans to seek funding approval from the Legislative Council for the project "Open Space at Hoi Fan Road, Tai Kok Tsui", which includes construction of a new 7-a-side artificial turf football pitch. It is expected that the project will be completed by 2023 if it is approved by the Finance Committee (FC) in the first half of 2021. As the artificial turf pitch forms part of the project estimate, the LCSD does not have separate figures on the expenditure for the construction of the pitch.
- (ii) A list of natural and artificial turf pitches with refurbishment works in 2021-22 is set out at **Annex II**. As the refurbishment works are undertaken by a works department, the LCSD does not have the details on expenditures involved. Besides, we obtained funding approval from the FC for the pre-construction activities of redevelopment of Yuen Long Stadium in 2018. The pre-construction activities commenced in 2019 for completion in 2022. As the natural turf pitch forms part of the project estimate, the LCSD does not have separate figures on the expenditure for the pitch.

- (iii) When building new artificial turf pitches or converting existing pitches into artificial turf pitches, the LCSD makes reference to the prevailing approved list of the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) for football training or competitions. At present, the products and designs generally referred to as “fourth generation” artificial turf are not on the prevailing approved list of FIFA. The Department will therefore consider putting on trial other new turf systems that meet with FIFA standard in selected venues.
- (iv) There are no 5-a-side natural turf or artificial turf pitches under the LCSD. Among the football pitches managed by the Government, there are 22 natural turf pitches and 14 artificial turf pitches meeting the standard dimensions for staging international matches. The list of pitches is set out at **Annex III**.
- (v)&(vi) The five-year plan for upgrading football pitches includes a substantial increase in the number of 5-a-side football pitches that meet international standards; conversion of the existing 5-a-side hard-surface football pitches not meeting the standards and the smaller 7-a-side hard-surface football pitches into standard 5-a-side football pitches; and addition of line markings for 1 to 2 5-a-side football pitches to some of the 7-a-side hard-surface football pitches, so that these pitches can also be used for 5-a-side football matches. Besides, the LCSD will also explore the possibility of expanding some of the existing football pitches into standard 11-a-side turf pitches. The LCSD is actively exploring, with the relevant works departments, the technical feasibility of carrying out improvement works, having regard to various factors including the actual conditions of football pitches, usage rates of existing football pitches, views from national sports associations and local community, etc. in drawing up the details of the improvement works, including the priority, estimated expenditure involved, etc. More than 70 venues under the management of the LCSD are expected to be involved.

Usage rates of natural and artificial turf pitches in 2020

District	Venue⁽¹⁾	NTP/2G/ 3G⁽²⁾	Overall Usage
Hong Kong Island			
Central and Western	Sun Yat Sen Memorial Park	3G	76%
Eastern	Quarry Bay Park	3G	79%
	Siu Sai Wan Sports Ground	NTP	100%
Southern	Aberdeen Sports Ground	NTP/3G	74%
	Wong Chuk Hang Recreation Ground	3G	_(³)
Wan Chai	Causeway Bay Sports Ground	NTP	100%
	Happy Valley Recreation Ground	NTP/2G/3G	67%
	So Kon Po Recreation Ground	NTP	100%
Kowloon			
Kowloon City	Ho Man Tin East Service Reservoir Playground	NTP	67%
	Kowloon Tsai Park	NTP/3G	78%
	Kowloon Tsai Sports Ground	NTP	89%
	Tin Kwong Road Recreation Ground	NTP	96%
Kwun Tong	Kowloon Bay Park	3G	84%
	Kowloon Bay Sports Ground	NTP	95%
	Kwun Tong Recreation Ground	3G	90%
	Sai Tso Wan Recreation Ground	NTP	97%
	Shun Lee Tsuen Park	3G	73%
	Wai Lok Street Temporary Soccer Pitch	NTP	88%
Sham Shui Po	Hing Wah Street West Playground	3G	86%
	Sham Shui Po Sports Ground	NTP	100%
	Shek Kip Mei Park	3G	50%
	Tai Hang Tung Recreation Ground	NTP	100%
Wong Tai Sin	Hammer Hill Road Sports Ground	NTP	91%
	Lok Fu Recreation Ground	2G	70%
	Morse Park	3G	78%
	Po Kong Village Road Park	3G	68%
Yau Tsim Mong	Boundary Street Recreation Ground	2G	64%
	Cherry Street Park	3G	88%

District	Venue ⁽¹⁾	NTP/2G/ 3G ⁽²⁾	Overall Usage
New Territories			
Islands	Man Tung Road Park	3G	82%
Kwai Tsing	Kwai Chung Sports Ground	NTP	100%
	Tsing Yi Northeast Park	3G	-(⁴)
	Tsing Yi Sports Ground	NTP	98%
	Wo Yi Hop Road Sports Ground	NTP	93%
North	Fanling Recreation Ground (Stage I)	NTP	76%
	Kwu Tung Grass Soccer Pitch	NTP	58%
	North District Sports Ground	NTP	69%
	Pak Fuk Tin Sum Playground	3G	74%
Sai Kung	Po Tsui Park	3G	67%
	Sai Kung Tang Shiu Kin Sports Ground	NTP	51%
	Tseung Kwan O Sports Ground	NTP	100%
Sha Tin	Hin Tin Playground	NTP	70%
	Ma On Shan Recreation Ground	3G	64%
	Ma On Shan Sports Ground	NTP	97%
	Sha Tin Sports Ground	NTP	90%
	Tsang Tai Uk Recreation Ground	3G	69%
Tai Po	Kwong Fuk Football Ground	3G	71%
	Kwong Fuk Park	3G	58%
	Tai Po Sports Ground	NTP	91%
Tsuen Wan	Shing Mun Valley Sports Ground	NTP	83%
	Tsuen Wan Riviera Park	NTP	53%
Tuen Mun	Siu Lun Sports Ground	NTP	54%
	Tuen Mun Tang Shiu Kin Sports Ground	NTP	82%
	Wu Shan Recreation Playground	3G	63%
Yuen Long	Tin Shui Wai Sports Ground	NTP	86%
	Tin Yip Road Park	3G	71%
	Yuen Long Stadium	NTP	80%
		Total	75%

Notes

- (1) Usage rates of Hong Kong Stadium and Mong Kok Stadium are excluded.
- (2) NTP : Natural turf pitch
2G : Second generation artificial turf pitch
3G : Third generation artificial turf pitch
- (3) Wong Chuk Hang Recreation Ground was temporarily closed in 2020 for maintenance.
- (4) Tsing Yi Northeast Park was temporarily closed in 2020 due to maintenance work and the pandemic.

Refurbishment works of natural and artificial turf pitches in 2021 and 2022

Venue		Year of Commencement
Natural Turf Pitches		
1.	Tin Kwong Road Recreation Ground (NTP No. 1)	2021
2.	Ma On Shan Sports Ground	2021
3.	Kwai Chung Sports Ground	2021
4.	Hin Tin Playground ⁽¹⁾	2022
5.	Tsuen Wan Riviera Park	2022
6.	Yuen Long Stadium	2022
Artificial Turf Pitches		
1.	Boundary Street Recreation Ground	2021
2.	Happy Valley Recreation Ground (ATP No. 6)	2022
3.	Sun Yat Sen Memorial Park	2022
4.	Po Kong Village Road Park (ATP No. 1)	2022
5.	Po Kong Village Road Park (ATP No. 2)	2022
6.	Morse Park (ATP No. 3)	2022
7.	Wu Shan Recreation Playground	2022
8.	Tin Yip Road Park	2022

Note

- (1) The natural turf soccer pitch at Hin Tin Playground will be converted into a third generation artificial turf pitch.

Pitches that Meet the Standard Dimension for Staging International Matches

(I) Natural Turf Pitches

1. Aberdeen Sports Ground
2. Fanling Recreation Ground
3. Ho Man Tin East Service Reservoir Playground (Pitch No. 1)
4. Ho Man Tin East Service Reservoir Playground (Pitch No. 2)
5. Hong Kong Stadium
6. Kowloon Tsai Sports Ground
7. Kwai Chung Sports Ground
8. Ma On Shan Sports Ground
9. Mong Kok Stadium
10. Sai Kung Tang Shiu Kin Sports Ground
11. Sai Tso Wan Recreation Ground
12. Sha Tin Sports Ground
13. Sham Shui Po Sports Ground
14. Shing Mun Valley Sports Ground
15. Siu Sai Wan Sports Ground
16. Tai Hang Tung Recreation Ground (Pitch No. 2)
17. Tin Shui Wai Sports Ground
18. Tseung Kwan O Sports Ground (Main Field)
19. Tsing Yi Sports Ground
20. Tsuen Wan Riviera Park
21. Tuen Mun Tang Shiu Kin Sports Ground
22. Yuen Long Stadium

(II) Artificial Turf Pitches

1. Boundary Street Recreation Ground
2. Kowloon Bay Park
3. Kowloon Tsai Park (Pitch No. 1)
4. Kwong Fuk Park
5. Lok Fu Recreation Ground
6. Ma On Shan Recreation Ground
7. Po Kong Village Road Park (Pitch No. 1)
8. Po Kong Village Road Park (Pitch No. 2)
9. Po Tsui Park
10. Shek Kip Mei Park
11. Tin Yip Road Park
12. Tsang Tai Uk Recreation Ground
13. Tsing Yi Northeast Park
14. Wu Shan Recreation Playground