

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**HAB176**

**(Question Serial No. 3008)**

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:

It is stated in paragraph 51 of the Budget Speech that additional resources will be allocated to enhance recreational facilities. These enhancements will improve people's quality of life when the epidemic is over and may also appeal to our visitors. Is there a timetable for the completion of related work and what is the estimated expenditure for each facility project?

Asked by: Hon NG Wing-ka, Jimmy (LegCo internal reference no.: 159)

Reply:

The Government will allocate additional resources to upgrade recreational facilities, including public play spaces, football pitches and outdoor fitness equipment.

It was announced in the 2019 Policy Address that the Government would launch a five-year plan to transform more than 170 public play spaces (PPS) under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) across the territory. The total estimated expenditure for the entire programme is \$686 million. The LCSD has been launching transformation projects for the first 2 years as planned and planning for projects for the subsequent 3 years. It is hoped that transformation works for more than 170 PPS will have been successfully launched by 2026.

Regarding the implementation of a five-year plan for upgrading football 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.

Besides, the LCSD will also introduce more novel outdoor fitness equipment suitable for youths on a trial basis in response to the keen public demand for fitness equipment. Depending on the effectiveness and public response, the LCSD will consider providing

additional fitness equipment in more outdoor venues. As the LCSD will implement the programme on a trial basis with existing resources and the funding for construction of new parks, there is no need to seek additional funding.

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