

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**(Question Serial No. 1693)**

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Vincent LIU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism

Question:

It was mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention that the Department would increase the provision of "Inclusive Park for Pets" in 18 districts. In this connection, please advise this Committee of:

- a) the average expenditure on providing an inclusive park for pets, the number of such additional parks confirmed to be provided and their locations;
- b) the average time required for constructing an inclusive park for pets, the number of such additional parks to be provided in the coming 3 years and their details.

Asked by: Hon LUK Hon-man, Benson (LegCo internal reference no.: 26)

Reply:

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) launched the trial scheme of "Inclusive Park for Pets" by opening up 6 LCSD parks in January 2019 for the public to visit with their pets. As the trial scheme was well-received, the LCSD has regularised the arrangement at the 6 parks under the scheme, and continues to identify suitable venues for opening up as "Inclusive Parks for Pets". At present, there are more than 170 "Inclusive Parks for Pets" in total across Hong Kong to meet public demand.

The concept of "Inclusive Parks for Pets" is to open up existing parks for the public and their pets to enjoy the facilities together. The LCSD has implemented the "Inclusive Parks for Pets" scheme with existing resources and manpower, and the cost and daily operation of the relevant facilities are part of the overall operation of the venues. Therefore, it does not compile a breakdown of the expenditure for the scheme.

The LCSD has been taking an open and proactive approach towards the enhancement of the "Inclusive Parks for Pets" scheme. However, given the mixed public views on the scheme, the LCSD will continue to review the usage of "Inclusive Parks for Pets", give due consideration to various practical needs of the public and issues such as facilities

management, and will designate suitable sites as additional “Inclusive Parks for Pets” after consulting the District Councils concerned.

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