

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CSTB298**

**(Question Serial No. 1984)**

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:

Development of urban sports is one of the sports business targets of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Urban sports events will also be introduced in the 9th Hong Kong Games this year. Please inform this Committee of the following:

1. What are the resources that the Bureau has earmarked to further support urban sports? Has it considered increasing relevant subvention to further popularise urban sports?
2. Is there enough assistance rendered to urban sports organisations to support their participation in international competitions? There are views that local skateparks do not meet international standards, rendering regular training conducted there futile for enhancing performance in competitions. Has the Government formulated any comprehensive refurbishment plans to increase the supply of standardised facilities for urban sports?

Asked by: Hon FOK Kai-kong, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 14)

Reply:

1. Under the Sports Subvention Scheme, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) will continue to provide subvention to the national sports associations promoting urban sports in 2024-25, including Basketball Association of Hong Kong, China; Football Association of Hong Kong, China; Hong Kong, China Mountaineering and Climbing Union; DanceSport Association of Hong Kong, China; and Hong Kong China Federation of Roller Sports and Skateboarding to organise events of 3-on-3 basketball, futsal, sport climbing, breaking and skateboarding. They will co-ordinate participation in overseas competitions and organise locally-hosted international events, sports training programmes, local competitions, as well as staff and referee training with respect to urban sports. Meanwhile, the LCSD plans to organise some 340 programmes covering urban sports, including such events in the 9th Hong Kong Games as futsal and 3-on-3 basketball competitions, as well as women's futsal, sport climbing, breaking and skateboarding which are featured in the Games as demonstration sports events. The estimated expenditure on the aforesaid programmes

in 2024-25 is about \$15.8 million, representing an increase of about 24% compared to that in 2023-24.

2. The LCSD has always been committed to providing quality and safe recreation and sports facilities for the public. At present, the facilities available for conducting urban sports under the LCSD include 13 indoor and outdoor sport climbing facilities, some 500 basketball courts, 8 skateboard grounds, 5 skateparks, over 190 dance rooms/multipurpose activity rooms and over 140 5-a-side soccer pitches.

In general, the LCSD will take into consideration the serviceable lifespan, actual and safety conditions of facilities and views from stakeholders when making facility repair arrangements and prioritising their replacement or renovation in conjunction with relevant works departments with a view to meeting the actual needs. For example, the LCSD converted the skatepark in Lai Chi Kok Park under its management into a “street style” skatepark meeting international standards in 2019. In addition, the re-provisioning works of On Lok Mun Street Playground are in progress. The skatepark there will be upgraded to an internationally accredited level upon re-provisioning.

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