

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CSTB313

(Question Serial No. 0578)

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

Programme: (5) Public Libraries

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism

Question:

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department provides, manages and develops library services to meet community needs for knowledge, life-long learning, information, research and recreation. Would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

1. As far as the Government's provision for public library services is concerned, what were the specific expenditure levels for such areas as collection acquisition, renewal of facilities and promotion of activities in the past 3 years?
2. Please list the annual and average daily attendance and the number of loans of library collections of each of the public libraries across Hong Kong in the past 3 years, as well as the number of participants in library promotion and education activities;
3. Please list by districts the total library collections and the per capita library collections of the public libraries;
4. Please list the titles of the top 10 printed books and e-books in terms of circulation and their number of loans in the past year;
5. How much resources will be set aside by the Department for acquisition of electronic collections? What publicity will be undertaken by the Department for the popularisation of digital reading?

Asked by: Hon LAM Lam, Nixie (LegCo internal reference no.: 36)

Reply:

1. The expenditure on the acquisition of library materials, renewal of facilities and extension activities regarding the Hong Kong Public Libraries (HKPL) under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) in the past 3 years are tabulated below:

Financial year	Expenditure on the acquisition of library materials ⁽¹⁾ (\$ million)	Expenditure on the renewal of facilities ⁽²⁾ (\$ million)	Expenditure on extension activities ⁽³⁾ (\$ million)
2021-22	111.45	39.83	26.21
2022-23	100.74	48.56	33.44
2023-24 (As at 29 February 2024)	99.16	125.25	16.54

Note(1): The expenditure on the acquisition of library materials includes acquiring/subscribing to printed books, non-print materials, e-resources, newspapers, periodicals, etc. The expenditure excludes the cost of book binding.

Note(2): The expenditure on the renewal of facilities includes replacing furniture, equipment and air-conditioner components, improving lighting systems, updating computer systems and facilities of the HKPL, etc. Starting from 2022-23, equipment with application of radio frequency identification (RFID) technology has been gradually deployed to the HKPL to tie in with the development of the “Smart Library System”, resulting in a larger increase in expenditure since that year.

Note(3): Extension activities include book displays, exhibitions, storytelling for children, subject talks, literary/creative competitions, reading programmes, reading clubs, outreach activities to promote reading, etc.

2. The annual and average daily attendance and the number of loans of library materials of each library in the past 3 years are tabulated in **Annex I** and **Annex II** respectively; while the number of participants in library extension activities are tabulated below:

Financial year	The number of participants in extension activities
2021-22	8 125 281
2022-23	9 630 638
2023-24 (As at 29 February 2024)	11 740 920

3. The collection of the HKPL is inter-connected by an integrated computer system, so that users may easily reserve, borrow or return library materials across libraries through the Library Catalogue and computer system without restrictions on districts. As at 31 December 2023, the library (printed) collection has about 15.39 million items, with the per capita library collection being about 2.05 items.
4. Of the top 10 Chinese and English printed books in terms of circulation and e-books in terms of usage in the HKPL in 2023, their titles and number of loans/usage are set out in **Annex III** and **Annex IV** respectively.
5. In 2024-25, the HKPL will acquire or subscribe to 19 e-book collections, replenishing about 20 000 e-books to bring the total to 540 000, with a view to providing more diverse categories of Chinese and English e-books for borrowing by members of the public. The estimated expenditure is about \$12.9 million. In promoting digital reading, the

HKPL will enhance the promotion of e-books, e-magazines and e-databases during reading activities, and will continue to disseminate the latest information on its e-resources and promote its e-books and e-databases on various topics to the public through social media platforms and the HKPL website. Furthermore, the HKPL will enhance its outreach programmes through initiatives such as visits of Library-on-Wheels to communities, participation in the Hong Kong Book Fair, provision of reading corners to tie in with large-scale exhibitions at the LCSD's museums as well as visits to schools and community groups to promote the e-book collections and e-reading to various sectors of the community.

Annex I to Reply Serial No. CSTB313**The annual and average daily attendance of the HKPL from 2021-22 to 2023-24**

District	Library	Attendance of library					
		2021-22 ⁽¹⁾		2022-23 ⁽¹⁾		2023-24 ⁽²⁾	
		Annual	Average daily	Annual	Average daily	Annual	Average daily
Central & Western	City Hall	342 414	1 274	522 852	1 541	517 655	1 737
	Shek Tong Tsui	157 691	572	192 520	565	240 160	804
	Smithfield	101 888	438	123 333	430	151 421	607
Eastern	Chai Wan	186 998	686	263 388	776	264 340	885
	Electric Road	78 881	342	86 719	300	113 043	453
	North Point	91 321	336	125 108	364	169 770	569
	Quarry Bay	140 426	515	175 575	517	209 430	706
	Siu Sai Wan	169 850	731	197 377	686	194 206	777
	Yiu Tung	52 514	226	58 756	204	61 935	248
Southern	Aberdeen	178 326	644	194 624	570	257 383	865
	Ap Lei Chau	53 651	234	68 093	240	77 126	309
	Pok Fu Lam	58 815	253	57 441	201	65 685	263
	Stanley	43 914	188	49 210	173	65 925	264
Wanchai	Hong Kong Central Library	1 412 349	5 136	1 437 666	4 185	1 796 194	6 042
	Lockhart Road	157 270	576	211 174	619	271 939	911
	Wong Nai Chung	48 700	210	61 628	214	79 598	319
Kowloon City	Hung Hom	105 103	456	132 342	460	157 352	630
	Kowloon	210 743	766	277 499	814	345 693	1 158
	Kowloon City	73 428	316	85 322	297	105 642	423
	To Kwa Wan	155 017	560	238 372	696	368 763	1 238

District	Library	Attendance of library					
		2021-22 ⁽¹⁾		2022-23 ⁽¹⁾		2023-24 ⁽²⁾	
		Annual	Average daily	Annual	Average daily	Annual	Average daily
Kwun Tong	Lam Tin	227 310	831	321 540	941	421 807	1 413
	Lei Yue Mun	51 306	221	63 476	222	73 962	296
	Ngau Tau Kok	143 101	526	190 791	560	247 079	829
	Sau Mau Ping	86 452	377	106 729	372	100 711	403
	Shui Wo Street	172 073	629	208 844	612	249 925	836
	Shun Lee Estate	59 829	259	73 507	255	85 855	344
Sham Shui Po	Lai Chi Kok	244 500	884	288 349	846	357 609	1 199
	Po On Road	271 668	990	365 424	1 064	485 398	1 625
	Sham Shui Po ⁽³⁾	-	-	6 985	3 493	618 707	2 071
	Shek Kip Mei	98 754	429	123 634	427	142 846	573
	Un Chau Street	76 411	336	100 457	348	138 702	556
Wong Tai Sin	Fu Shan	53 537	233	58 054	202	68 016	273
	Lok Fu	80 171	349	91 753	320	104 755	420
	Lung Hing	65 721	283	81 289	282	101 093	405
	Ngau Chi Wan	136 535	495	154 735	452	193 567	648
	San Po Kong	282 285	1 024	328 443	961	430 159	1 442
	Tsz Wan Shan	108 352	467	122 916	426	155 260	622
Yau Tsim Mong	Fa Yuen Street	211 265	765	242 157	711	253 987	856
	Tai Kok Tsui	94 269	405	112 271	389	144 002	578
	Tsim Sha Tsui	61 782	270	83 162	288	85 172	342
	Yau Ma Tei	226 568	839	361 753	1 063	373 582	1 254

District	Library	Attendance of library					
		2021-22 ⁽¹⁾		2022-23 ⁽¹⁾		2023-24 ⁽²⁾	
		Annual	Average daily	Annual	Average daily	Annual	Average daily
Islands	Cheung Chau	53 793	194	65 125	197	60 630	204
	Mui Wo	11 909	56	16 920	64	17 645	78
	North Lamma	18 380	85	17 974	69	13 741	60
	Peng Chau	13 382	63	15 088	57	18 800	81
	South Lamma	336	5	516	5	441	5
	Tai O	3 490	16	4 697	17	6 244	27
	Tung Chung	207 077	737	224 300	657	244 973	821
Kwai Tsing	North Kwai Chung	263 280	954	327 382	961	285 463	958
	South Kwai Chung	285 380	1 045	354 703	1 014	329 737	1 106
	Tsing Yi	358 190	1 283	413 982	1 218	419 932	1 407
North	Fanling	265 755	955	317 185	926	339 456	1 136
	Fanling South	145 894	624	165 856	574	170 624	665
	Sha Tau Kok	17 956	88	22 149	84	20 602	90
	Sheung Shui	246 513	887	288 358	838	374 531	1 253
Sai Kung	Sai Kung	143 124	513	166 391	488	162 106	543
	Tiu Keng Leng	418 978	1 513	483 409	1 442	515 446	1 729
	Tseung Kwan O	327 635	1 179	357 643	1 061	319 944	1 072
Sha Tin	Lek Yuen	34 583	166	37 284	140	31 764	137
	Ma On Shan	451 547	1 626	519 917	1 530	483 052	1 620
	Sha Tin	463 799	1 667	539 516	1 588	579 438	1 942
	Yuen Chau Kok	317 980	1 151	358 469	1 067	339 641	1 138
Tai Po	Tai Po	433 205	1 570	528 346	1 543	523 938	1 757
Tsuen Wan	Shek Wai Kok	26 622	128	27 057	102	27 678	122
	Tsuen Wan	492 965	1 786	517 099	1 526	521 589	1 749
Tuen Mun	Butterfly Estate	51 237	243	61 176	232	77 430	341
	Tai Hing	95 916	349	121 934	355	142 200	477
	Tuen Mun	652 215	2 321	770 986	2 248	754 876	2 531

District	Library	Attendance of library					
		2021-22 ⁽¹⁾		2022-23 ⁽¹⁾		2023-24 ⁽²⁾	
		Annual	Average daily	Annual	Average daily	Annual	Average daily
Yuen Long	Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai	354 093	1 295	482 907	1 411	611 618	2 050
	Tin Shui Wai North	98 119	454	102 057	380	94 410	407
	Yuen Long	476 856	1 726	551 838	1 623	704 318	2 362
Mobile Library 1		23 962	121	23 961	102	23 317	115
Mobile Library 2		7 359	42	10 861	44	8 495	43
Mobile Library 3		11 193	58	13 797	55	13 474	67
Mobile Library 4		8 784	46	10 602	44	14 070	61
Mobile Library 5		6 695	54	9 518	43	9 950	51
Mobile Library 6		7 141	41	8 957	37	9 886	49
Mobile Library 7		14 821	78	19 336	74	16 893	74
Mobile Library 8		17 403	89	22 758	90	25 030	111
Mobile Library 9		19 063	97	27 807	106	27 120	121
Mobile Library 10		9 811	51	14 770	59	13 606	63
Mobile Library 11		8 887	52	7 452	40	7 817	44
Mobile Library 12		9 416	50	8 161	45	6 756	46

Notes

- (1) Due to the impact of the COVID-19 epidemic, all public libraries under the LCSD were closed temporarily and intermittently starting from 29 January 2020 in light of the epidemic development.
- (2) Attendance as at 31 January 2024.
- (3) Sham Shui Po Public Library (District Library) came into operation on 30 March 2023.

Annex II to Reply Serial No. CSTB313**The number of loans of library materials of the HKPL from 2021-22 to 2023-24**

District	Library	Number of loans of library materials		
		2021-22 ⁽¹⁾	2022-23 ⁽¹⁾	2023-24 ⁽²⁾
Central & Western	City Hall	491 030	514 566	446 393
	Shek Tong Tsui	231 781	244 066	203 940
	Smithfield	104 805	111 926	92 504
Eastern	Chai Wan	303 399	315 372	255 363
	Electric Road	91 567	105 071	101 891
	North Point	110 317	129 862	119 792
	Quarry Bay	307 375	303 303	254 266
	Siu Sai Wan	106 599	98 370	83 249
	Yiu Tung	80 961	78 823	76 616
Southern	Aberdeen	282 619	279 231	253 584
	Ap Lei Chau	101 433	111 917	95 212
	Pok Fu Lam	135 873	120 775	98 569
	Stanley	86 834	85 253	68 273
Wanchai	Hong Kong Central Library	758 505	860 061	751 522
	Lockhart Road	194 076	212 717	189 882
	Wong Nai Chung	64 856	68 508	59 020
Kowloon City	Hung Hom	141 399	154 873	132 250
	Kowloon	442 140	469 504	403 236
	Kowloon City	139 623	149 213	130 754
	To Kwa Wan	182 188	213 415	190 220
Kwun Tong	Lam Tin	285 677	326 722	263 367
	Lei Yue Mun	89 864	109 891	91 375
	Ngau Tau Kok	205 253	223 406	192 347
	Sau Mau Ping	129 312	155 972	122 938
	Shui Wo Street	213 642	228 247	189 836
	Shun Lee Estate	186 698	190 165	146 325

District	Library	Number of loans of library materials		
		2021-22 ⁽¹⁾	2022-23 ⁽¹⁾	2023-24 ⁽²⁾
Sham Shui Po	Lai Chi Kok	368 796	400 760	259 007
	Po On Road	259 289	295 094	228 501
	Sham Shui Po ⁽³⁾	-	10 454	481 603
	Shek Kip Mei	228 387	222 721	141 029
	Un Chau Street	77 575	90 799	72 727
Wong Tai Sin	Fu Shan	50 417	51 619	46 101
	Lok Fu	99 904	111 502	92 993
	Lung Hing	73 531	81 402	77 667
	Ngau Chi Wan	243 825	252 341	226 687
	San Po Kong	266 881	284 189	246 710
	Tsz Wan Shan	197 871	176 005	138 157
Yau Tsim Mong	Fa Yuen Street	184 154	214 073	183 065
	Tai Kok Tsui	210 993	206 676	153 351
	Tsim Sha Tsui	129 012	128 882	100 005
	Yau Ma Tei	403 271	395 444	309 356
Islands	Cheung Chau	28 704	29 709	21 806
	Mui Wo	14 292	14 978	13 535
	North Lamma	16 049	14 487	9 855
	Peng Chau	28 596	28 828	25 182
	South Lamma	195	242	163
	Tai O	12 639	11 160	4 847
	Tung Chung	356 338	356 421	303 669
Kwai Tsing	North Kwai Chung	146 093	182 434	170 904
	South Kwai Chung	324 098	351 322	271 710
	Tsing Yi	310 821	331 812	269 503
North	Fanling	279 959	285 326	252 853
	Fanling South	117 797	115 478	94 639
	Sha Tau Kok	4 944	4 307	5 061
	Sheung Shui	219 268	239 084	214 928
Sai Kung	Sai Kung	168 357	151 651	110 389
	Tiu Keng Leng	545 783	569 686	467 733
	Tseung Kwan O	672 411	626 232	510 668

District	Library	Number of loans of library materials		
		2021-22 ⁽¹⁾	2022-23 ⁽¹⁾	2023-24 ⁽²⁾
Sha Tin	Lek Yuen	41 456	42 547	37 591
	Ma On Shan	459 705	493 128	406 599
	Sha Tin	748 236	707 656	561 946
	Yuen Chau Kok	334 061	340 762	257 076
Tai Po	Tai Po	373 049	396 290	337 261
Tsuen Wan	Shek Wai Kok	32 629	39 093	27 083
	Tsuen Wan	605 489	605 774	494 643
Tuen Mun	Butterfly Estate	59 834	62 510	53 951
	Tai Hing	74 173	82 204	73 532
	Tuen Mun	826 442	886 387	673 714
Yuen Long	Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai	590 255	620 438	500 606
	Tin Shui Wai North	65 450	70 010	59 969
	Yuen Long	425 608	458 326	377 800
	Mobile Library 1	48 010	48 177	41 301
	Mobile Library 2	11 050	15 042	9 728
	Mobile Library 3	16 701	17 480	13 448
	Mobile Library 4	20 043	20 245	18 138
	Mobile Library 5	10 018	13 237	12 150
	Mobile Library 6	10 921	13 480	13 538
	Mobile Library 7	30 073	35 824	29 789
	Mobile Library 8	34 648	45 599	42 942
	Mobile Library 9	37 503	52 206	45 838
	Mobile Library 10	14 364	18 293	13 651
	Mobile Library 11	17 371	14 156	11 889
	Mobile Library 12	18 316	15 529	9 605

Notes

- (1) Due to the impact of the COVID-19 epidemic, all public libraries under the LCSD were closed temporarily and intermittently starting from 29 January 2020 in light of the epidemic development.
- (2) Number of loans as at 31 January 2024.
- (3) Sham Shui Po Public Library (District Library) came into operation on 30 March 2023.

**Hong Kong Public Libraries
Top 10 Printed Book Titles in Terms of Circulation in 2023**

Table 1 (Chinese Printed Books)

Item	Title	Number of Loans
1.	西遊記 ⁽¹⁾	9 192
2.	三國演義 ⁽¹⁾	8 915
3.	京阪神攻略完全制霸 ⁽¹⁾	8 272
4.	九州攻略完全制霸 ⁽¹⁾	7 324
5.	北海道攻略完全制霸 ⁽¹⁾	6 908
6.	東京攻略完全制霸 ⁽¹⁾	6 668
7.	九州 ⁽¹⁾	6 047
8.	東京食玩買終極天書 ⁽¹⁾	6 026
9.	東京達人天書 ⁽¹⁾	5 933
10.	關西近郊攻略完全制霸 ⁽¹⁾	5 904

Table 2 (English Printed Books)

Item	Title	Number of Loans
1.	My little pony: friendship is magic	2 946
2.	Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination. English language 2022. ⁽²⁾	2 802
3.	The battle for Crystal Castle: the thirteenth adventure in the Kingdom of Fantasy (Kingdom of fantasy) ⁽²⁾	2 668
4.	Harry Potter and the chamber of secrets ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾	2 636
5.	Time warp: the seventh journey through time (Journey through time) ⁽²⁾	2 537
6.	Super Peppa! (Peppa Pig) ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾	2 463
7.	The sewer rat stink (Geronimo Stilton, the graphic novel) ⁽²⁾	2 401
8.	Dog Man: grime and punishment (Dog Man) ⁽²⁾	2 350
9.	Magical mission (Geronimo adventures) ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾	2 265
10.	The hunt for the hundredth key: plus a bonus mini mystery and cheesy jokes! (Geronimo Stilton) ⁽²⁾	2 171

Notes:

- (1) Including books of different editions/years of publication of the same title.
- (2) For a series of books under the same title, only the information of the books with the highest circulation will be provided.

**Hong Kong Public Libraries
Top 10 e-Book Titles in Terms of Usage in 2023**

Table 1 (Chinese e-Books)

Item	Title	Usage	Title of e-Book Collection
1.	原子習慣：細微改變帶來巨大成就的實證法則	8 091	HyRead ebook
2.	被討厭的勇氣：自我啟發之父「阿德勒」的教導	7 693	HyRead ebook
3.	超治癒の小毛球樂園. 3，家有櫻花雪米糍	7 412	SUEP e-Book
4.	麵包狗：住在麵包屋的小狗狗們	4 310	HyRead ebook
5.	微表情心理學：入門觀察攻略	3 709	SUEP e-Book
6.	歡迎光臨夢境百貨：您所訂購的夢已銷售一空	3 460	HyRead ebook
7.	燒腦IQ大作戰. 1	3 363	Pop-up e-Book
8.	6分鐘日記的魔法：最簡單的書寫，改變你的一生	3 063	HyRead ebook
9.	電影版 角落小夥伴 魔法繪本裡的新朋友：紙上電影書	2 895	HyRead ebook
10.	超治癒の小毛球樂園. 2，宅男與他的好動鼠	2 865	SUEP e-Book

Table 2 (English e-Books)

Item	Title	Usage	Title of e-Book Collection
1.	A New World Power: America from 1920 to 1945	537	Britannica Collective ⁽¹⁾
2.	America Between the Civil War and the 20th Century: 1865 to 1900	376	Britannica Collective ⁽¹⁾
3.	El océano (Ocean)	330	Britannica Collective ⁽¹⁾
4.	Animales bebés (Animal Babies)	226	Britannica Collective ⁽¹⁾
5.	American Indians of California, the Great Basin, and the Southwest	212	Britannica Collective ⁽¹⁾
6.	The Getaway	194	OverDrive eBooks
7.	The Arts	188	Britannica Collective ⁽¹⁾
8.	Legends, Myths, and Folktales	172	Britannica Collective ⁽¹⁾
9.	The Deep End	167	OverDrive eBooks
10.	The Psychology of Money: Timeless lessons on wealth, greed, and happiness	157	OverDrive eBooks

Note:

(1) Formerly known as Britannica eBooks.

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