

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CSTB194

(Question Serial No. 2457)

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 Culture, Sports and Tourism

Question:

As regards the key performance measures in respect of recreation and sports services, please advise this Committee of the following:

1. It was stated under Programme (1) that the planned target average usage rate of sports centres (arena) (%) would drop to 85% in 2023. What are the criteria the Department uses in this regard?
2. The number of schools participating in school sports programmes (%) is anticipated to increase substantially in 2023. What were the numbers of primary and secondary schools participated in such programmes and their regional distributions by District Council districts for each of the past 2 years?
3. Among those primary and secondary schools participated in such programmes, how many agreed to provide venues for the purpose of training athletes with disabilities for each of the past 2 years?
4. What were the reasons behind the anticipated continuous drop in the average usage rate of tennis courts over the past 3 years? Will the Government carry out surveys on the public's demand for tennis courts, while considering additional provision of covers for tennis courts to boost the usage rate?

Asked by: Hon FOK Kai-kong, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 27)

Reply:

1. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) sets the planned usage rate of respective sports facilities by making reference to the usage rate of existing facilities, the provision of sports facilities, the expected usage trend as well as the policy objective of sports promotion. The actual usage rate of sports centres (arena) has remained steady at between 85% and 88% over the past years. There was a tight supply of sports facilities during the COVID-19 epidemic due to the use of a number of sports centres for anti-epidemic purposes, contributing to the increase in the actual usage rate to 94%

in both 2021 and 2022. Following a full resumption of normalcy in society, some of such sports centres were gradually returned by the relevant policy bureaux, thereby alleviating the tight supply of venues. The LCS D pitches the planned usage rate of sports centres (arena) for 2023 at 85%. The LCS D will continue to review the planned usage rate of respective sports facilities on an annual basis, taking into consideration the above factors.

2. The numbers of secondary, primary and special schools participated in the School Sports Programme (the Programme) in the past 2 years are listed below:

	Primary Schools	Secondary Schools	Special Schools
Central and Western District	(2021) 8 (2022) 7	(2021) 7 (2022) 7	(2021) 0 (2022) 0
Wan Chai District	(2021) 8 (2022) 11	(2021) 8 (2022) 8	(2021) 1 (2022) 1
Eastern District	(2021) 12 (2022) 18	(2021) 16 (2022) 18	(2021) 0 (2022) 0
Southern District	(2021) 9 (2022) 14	(2021) 15 (2022) 15	(2021) 0 (2022) 1
Kowloon City District	(2021) 24 (2022) 26	(2021) 17 (2022) 29	(2021) 2 (2022) 2
Wong Tai Sin District	(2021) 15 (2022) 19	(2021) 12 (2022) 14	(2021) 3 (2022) 1
Kwun Tong District	(2021) 16 (2022) 20	(2021) 16 (2022) 17	(2021) 2 (2022) 4
Yau Tsim Mong District	(2021) 8 (2022) 14	(2021) 15 (2022) 11	(2021) 0 (2022) 1
Sham Shui Po District	(2021) 16 (2022) 15	(2021) 16 (2022) 16	(2021) 5 (2022) 3
Tsuen Wan District	(2021) 11 (2022) 10	(2021) 8 (2022) 7	(2021) 0 (2022) 0
Kwai Tsing District	(2021) 11 (2022) 11	(2021) 12 (2022) 18	(2021) 4 (2022) 1
Sai Kung District	(2021) 17 (2022) 11	(2021) 15 (2022) 21	(2021) 1 (2022) 1
Sha Tin District	(2021) 18 (2022) 22	(2021) 25 (2022) 29	(2021) 2 (2022) 3
Tai Po District	(2021) 14 (2022) 12	(2021) 8 (2022) 15	(2021) 1 (2022) 0
North District	(2021) 12 (2022) 12	(2021) 11 (2022) 17	(2021) 1 (2022) 1
Tuen Mun District	(2021) 19 (2022) 24	(2021) 15 (2022) 28	(2021) 1 (2022) 1
Yuen Long District	(2021) 20 (2022) 28	(2021) 24 (2022) 27	(2021) 1 (2022) 2
Islands District	(2021) 3 (2022) 10	(2021) 5 (2022) 5	(2021) 1 (2022) 0
Total	(2021) 241 (2022) 284	(2021) 245 (2022) 302	(2021) 25 (2022) 22

3. A total of 511 and 608 schools including secondary, primary and special schools participated in the Programme in 2021 and 2022 respectively. The Department does

not hold a breakdown for how many such schools agreed to provide venues for the purpose of training athletes with disabilities.

4. The usage rate of tennis courts under the LCSD has remained steady at between 65% and 66% over the past years. That said, there was an increase in the public's demand for outdoor sports facilities during the COVID-19 epidemic, resulting in the usage rates of such tennis courts increasing to 75% and 82% respectively in 2020 and 2021. Following the announcement by the Government on reopening of sports premises and the reopening of indoor sports facilities under the LCSD in early 2022, the usage rate of such tennis courts slightly fell to 79% in that year. The LCSD will, alongside the works departments, actively explore the feasibility of providing covered tennis courts for new works projects.

On another front, to encourage greater use of tennis courts under the LCSD, especially during non-peak hours, the Department will continue to allow concessionary use of such courts by schools, subvented non-governmental organisations, citizens aged 60 or above and full-time students during such hours. Organisations for people with disabilities can also enjoy concessionary rates at all times. Moreover, the LCSD will upgrade the standard of its sports facilities and organise major promotional events such as Sport For All Day, as well as fun days, training courses and competitions to promote the use of such facilities as tennis courts.

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