

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CSTB206

(Question Serial No. 1762)

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:

Under this programme, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department maintains the plants in public parks, gardens and roadside amenity areas in their best and healthy form to enhance greening and visual amenity. Meanwhile, the Department continues to increase the provision of "Inclusive Park for Pets" in 18 districts after consultation with local community, making a total of more than 150 such parks across the territory. In this connection, would the Government advise this Committee of:

- a) whether "Inclusive Park for Pets" incurs higher costs related to repair, maintenance and cleaning as compared with general parks, and if so, the details of such costs;
- b) the estimated expenditures involved in additional provision of facilities and complementary facilities, given the anticipated increase in the number of "Inclusive Park for Pets" from currently 103 to 150.

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ling-lai, Lillian (LegCo internal reference no.: 25)

Reply:

- a) & b) The concept behind the "Inclusive Park for Pets" scheme is to open up existing parks to the public to visit with pets. No fences will be provided for designation of pet areas, and the environments and facilities of such parks will be subject to minimal changes. To facilitate the use by pet owners, the Department will provide basic ancillary facilities such as dog excreta collection bins, hand-washing facilities and drinking fountains in light of the actual circumstances and needs. As this scheme will be implemented by the Department with the use of existing resources and manpower, and the associated daily costs are part of the overall operation of the venues, no separate breakdown for "Inclusive Park for Pets" is available.

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