

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CSTB172

(Question Serial No. 1813)

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:

It is mentioned in paragraph 172 of the Budget Speech that the “Government will promote urban sports in collaboration with the sports community, schools and other sectors. The Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau is examining the conversion of some underutilised floors of the Kwun Chung Municipal Services Building into an urban sports centre, so as to provide a suitable venue for activities such as sport climbing and skateboarding.” In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What types of sports are involved in “urban sports”?
- (b) What is the estimated expenditure to be involved in the construction of the urban sports centre? When will the facility be completed? Is there any timetable? Apart from providing venues for sport climbing and skateboarding, what types of “urban sports” venues will be included?
- (c) What are the reasons for choosing the Kwun Chung Municipal Services Building?
- (d) Many sports participants have pointed out the inadequacy of venues in Hong Kong. Will the Government explore the construction of more “urban sports” venues? If yes, what are the details and estimated expenditure?
- (e) Apart from providing venues, what other means will the Government adopt to promote “urban sports”?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hoi-yan (LegCo internal reference no.: 3)

Reply:

- (a) In recent years, the International Olympics Committee has been focusing on promoting youth engagement in sports, and has introduced a range of sports popular among the youth to provide more opportunities for them to pursue their Olympics dreams. To be in line with the international trend, the Government will step up efforts in promoting

urban sports included in the Olympic Games or the Youth Olympic Games, including 3-on-3 basketball, futsal, sport climbing, skateboarding and breaking.

- (b) It is announced in the 2023-24 Budget that the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau is examining the conversion of some underutilised floors of the Kwun Chung Municipal Services Building into an urban sports centre, so as to provide a suitable venue for activities such as sport climbing and skateboarding. To facilitate early completion of the project, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) along with related departments will expedite the planning process, and the technical feasibility study of the conversion project (including venue type) is expected to be completed within this year. We will provide the details on estimated expenditure and implementation schedule when we consult the relevant Legislative Council (LegCo) panels and seek the funding approval of the Finance Committee.
- (c) Kwun Chung Municipal Services Building is at an accessible location between Yau Ma Tei and Tsim Sha Tsui. Placing the urban sports centre there will be convenient for users. Moreover, with a large area and plenty of headroom, Kwun Chung Market meets the requirements for the proposed facilities in the urban sports centre, such as sport climbing walls and skateboard grounds. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department's timely plan to vacate Kwun Chung Market, which offers spaces matching the requirements of the urban sports centre, enables the optimised use of land.
- (d) The LCSD has been looking to promote relevant urban sports by enhancing existing facilities, e.g. conversion of suitable existing venue facilities to provide bouldering walls and skateboarding facilities. The Government also earmarked \$318 million in the 2021-22 Budget to implement a five-year plan for upgrading over 70 soccer pitches, including converting some of the 7-a-side hard-surface soccer pitches into 5-a-side ones and adding 5-a-side soccer markings to suitable 7-a-side hard-surface soccer pitches. The plan aims to provide more 5-a-side soccer pitches of international standards to support the development of the sport.

Moreover, the Department has implemented various works projects to provide urban sports facilities. Details of such projects are at Annex. We will provide the project details, including the expenditure, when we consult the relevant LegCo panels and the Public Works Subcommittee and seek the funding approval of the FC.

- (e) The Government will cooperate with the sports sector, schools and related stakeholders in promoting urban sports. Subventions will be provided to schools and organisations that are interested in joining the promotional programme (such as district sports associations, non-governmental organisations and sports associations) for organising training courses and events with a view to jointly promoting urban sports.

Annex to Reply Serial No. CSTB172

Works projects providing facilities for urban sports

Item	District	Project Title	Dedicated Venue		Multipurpose Venue		
			Sport Climbing	Skate-boarding	3-on-3 Basketball (Note 1)	5-a-side Soccer	Breaking (Note 2)
1	Eastern	Public Open Space at East Coast Park Precinct, North Point	0	1	0	0	0
2	Eastern	Sports Centre and Open Space at Aldrich Bay*	1	0	5	3	6
3	Kowloon City	Open Space with Public Vehicle Park at Hung Lok Road and Hung Luen Road, Hung Hom*	0	0	0	1	0
4	Wong Tai Sin	Reprovisioning of Portion of Ma Chai Hang Recreation Ground (a Shatin to Central Link project)	0	0	1	0	3
5	Wong Tai Sin	District Open Space, Sports Centre and Public Vehicle Park at Sze Mei Street	1	0	5	2	3
6	Kwun Tong	Development of New Campus of Vocational Training Council at Kowloon East (Cha Kwo Ling) – Pre-construction Works*	0	0	2	2	0
7	Sham Shui Po	Sports Centre, Outdoor Sports and Recreation Facilities, Social Welfare Facilities and Underground Public Vehicle Park at Po Lun Street, Lai Chi Kok*	0	0	2	1	3

Item	District	Project Title	Dedicated Venue		Multipurpose Venue		
			Sport Climbing	Skate-boarding	3-on-3 Basketball (Note 1)	5-a-side Soccer	Breaking (Note 2)
8	Sham Shui Po	Cheung Wah Street/Cheung Sha Wan Road Development Scheme initiated by the Urban Renewal Authority (SSP-018) – Proposed facilities for the works project of the Joint-user Building at Cheung Sha Wan Road in Sham Shui Po*	0	0	2	1	3
9	Yau Tsim Mong/Kowloon City	Open Space at Hung Hom Waterfront	0	0	1	0	0
10	Yau Tsim Mong	Open Space at Hoi Fan Road, Tai Kok Tsui	0	0	2	0	0
11	Yau Tsim Mong	Hoi Ting Road Joint User Complex*	0	0	2	2	5
12	Yau Tsim Mong	Open Space cum Public Vehicle Park at To Wah Road*	0	0	1	0	0
13	Tai Po	Ha Hang Village Playground in Area 31, Tai Po	0	0	1	0	0
14	Tai Po	Football-cum-Rugby Pitch with Public Vehicle Park in Area 33, Tai Po*	0	0	1	0	0
15	Tai Po	Sports Centre, Social Welfare Facilities and Public Vehicle Park in Area 6, Tai Po*	1	0	2	0	4
16	Sai Kung	Town Park in Area 68, Tseung Kwan O	0	0	2	0	0
17	Sai Kung	Joint-user Complex at Site G2, Anderson Road Quarry	0	0	2	0	3

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			Sport Climbing	Skate-boarding	3-on-3 Basketball (Note 1)	5-a-side Soccer	Breaking (Note 2)
18	Sai Kung	Quarry Park in Anderson Road Quarry*	0	0	2	2	0
19	Sha Tin	Amenity Complex in Area 103, Ma On Shan	1	0	2	1	3
20	Sha Tin	Whitehead Sports Park*	1	1	0	0	0
21	Tsuen Wan	Improvement of Tsuen Wan Riviera Park and Tsuen Wan Park – Phase 1 Development	0	0	2	0	0
22	Tuen Mun	Construction of Playground at Open Space in Area 6, Tuen Mun	0	0	0	2	0
23	Tuen Mun	Open Space with Public Vehicle Park in Area 17, Tuen Mun*	0	1	0	1	0
24	Yuen Long	Sports Centre in Area 12, Yuen Long*	1	0	3	1	0
25	Yuen Long	Leisure and Cultural Complex in Tin Yip Road, Tin Shui Wai – Phase II*	0	0	2	1	0
26	Islands	Joint User Complex in Area 107, Tung Chung*	0	0	3	1	4
27	Islands	Waterfront Promenade in Tung Chung East*	0	0	0	1	0
28	Islands	Cycle Park cum Skatepark in Area 147, Tung Chung*	0	1	0	0	0

Note 1: Including indoor or outdoor basketball courts

Note 2: Including the arena, secondary hall or activity room

* The works project is still under planning and its facilities are yet to be confirmed subject to technical feasibility, actual venue conditions and design.