

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

CSTB229

(Question Serial No. 0890)

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:

According to the Government, some floors of the Kwun Chung Municipal Services Building in Kowloon will be converted into an urban sports centre to provide a venue for skateboarding and sport climbing. Futsal will also be taken into consideration. Would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

1. What are the estimates for the above conversion works? What is the expected year of completion?
2. At present, apart from the Kwun Chung Municipal Services Building in Kowloon, are there any plans to convert other government buildings into urban sports centres?
3. Regarding the five-year plan for upgrading football pitches announced in 2021 to substantially increase the number of 5-a-side football pitches meeting international standards, would the Government advise how many 5-a-side football pitches meeting international standards have been converted or added since the launch of the plan? Has the Government reviewed the estimates for the plan and is it necessary to increase the funding in the future?

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 15)

Reply:

1. 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 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 panels and seek the funding approval of the Finance Committee.

2. Apart from the Kwun Chung Municipal Services Building, the LCSD currently has no plan to convert other government buildings into urban sports centres.
3. The Government earmarked \$318 million in the 2021-22 Budget to implement a five-year plan for upgrading over 70 5-, 7- and 11-a-side football pitches. The LCSD along with the works departments will commission necessary improvement works as appropriate, including returfing, repainting of line-markings and enhancement of ancillary facilities such as provision of spectator stands, in light of the actual conditions and areas of such pitches and the existing ancillary facilities. As at February 2023, the LCSD has provided 21 additional 5-a-side football pitches meeting international standards. The LCSD will continue to maintain close contact with relevant works departments and follow up on the remaining improvement works under the planned budgets of those departments. Additional funding is not required at the moment.

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