

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**CSTB330**

**(Question Serial No. 0056)**

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): ()

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:

The Bureau has been developing urban sports in recent years, and stated last year that it would examine the conversion of some underutilised floors of the Kwun Chung Municipal Services Building in Jordan into the first urban sports centre in Hong Kong to promote urban sports. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

1. What is the progress of the preliminary technical feasibility study of the above conversion project? Would the Bureau inform this Committee of the estimated expenditure and implementation schedule of the project, if any?
2. The Government strives to promote urban sports; nevertheless, there is a lack of formal venues for various types of urban sports. Would the Bureau inform this Committee of any current plans to convert other government buildings into urban sports centres, in addition to the Kwun Chung Municipal Services Building?
3. Futsal is one of the urban sports specifically promoted by the Bureau. The Government announced a five-year plan for upgrading football pitches in 2021 and stated that there would be a significant increase in the number of 5-a-side football pitches meeting international standards. Would the Bureau inform this Committee of the increase in the number of 5-a-side football pitches meeting international standards in Hong Kong since the launch of the plan? What are the estimates?

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (LegCo internal reference no.: 7)

Reply:

1. It was announced in the 2023-24 Budget that the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau was examining the conversion of some 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. The technical feasibility study of the conversion project is in progress. The Government will provide the details on estimated expenditure and implementation schedule, which have yet to be confirmed, when

consulting the relevant Legislative Council panel and the Public Works Subcommittee and seeking funding approval from the Finance Committee.

2. At present, the venues available for conducting urban sports include 13 indoor and outdoor sport climbing facilities, 8 skateboard grounds, 5 skateparks, over 140 5-a-side football pitches, some 500 basketball courts and over 190 dance rooms/multipurpose activity rooms. Apart from the Kwun Chung Municipal Services Building, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) currently has no plan to convert other government buildings into integrated urban sports centres. Nevertheless, the LCSD will, having regard to actual circumstances, provide urban sports facilities when planning the construction of new sports facilities.
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 turfing, repainting of line-markings and enhancement of ancillary facilities such as provision of spectator stands, having regard to the actual conditions and surface areas of such pitches and the existing ancillary facilities. Since the launch of the plan, the LCSD has provided 50 additional 5-a-side football pitches meeting international standards. The LCSD will continue to actively look into the technical feasibility of improvement works with the works departments concerned and confirm the remaining venues for improvement works in due course.

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