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8 June 2020

Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn: Ms Joanne Mak)

Dear Ms Mak,

Panel on Home Affairs
Supplementary information on the Amendment of Pleasure Grounds Regulation
CB(2)1119/19-20(02)

At the meeting of the Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs held on 11 May 2020, Members requested the Administration to provide supplementary information on the Amendment of Pleasure Grounds Regulation to step up control of noise nuisance in parks managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD). Having consulted the LCSD, our reply is set out as follows:

- (a) the number of advice that would be given to request a person to bring down the excessive sound level from singing activities before enforcement action would be taken by officers of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department under section 32 of the Pleasure Grounds Regulation (Cap. 132BC) to remove the person concerned from the park**

The number of advice given to request a person to bring down the sound level from singing activities depends on the circumstances of individual cases. In general, LCSD officer will first warn the person concerned verbally. If the warning is unheeded, enforcement action would follow. However, LCSD officer may also take enforcement action right away without prior warning where the circumstances warrant.

- (b) whether or not the Kowloon City District Council had been consulted on the proposed amendments to Cap. 132BC and if yes, the date on which the**

consultation was made

The Kowloon City District Council (KCDC) has all along been expressing concern over the progress of amending the Pleasure Grounds Regulation (Cap. 132BC) to regulate music activities in pleasure grounds. In this regard, the Government has gauged the views of KCDC through the following channels:

1. At the regular meeting with District Councils held on 25 April 2019, LCSD consulted the Chairmen and Vice-chairmen of the 18 District Councils on the proposed amendments to Cap. 132BC. The ex-KCDC Chairman proposed to regulate the use of amplifiers in pleasure grounds and apply a fixed penalty system. After review, the proposed regulation on the use of amplifiers has been incorporated into the latest proposal.
2. Representatives from LCSD attend the Leisure and District Facilities Management Committee meetings of KCDC regularly to gauge members' views on the proposals. At the meeting on 25 July 2019, DC members requested LCSD to expedite the amendments to Cap. 132BC, raise the penalty level of section 25 of Cap. 132BC and regulate the use of amplifiers in Hoi Sham Park. Their views have been incorporated in the latest proposal.
3. LCSD has conducted a number of meetings with the KCDC members and residents' organisations concerned to gauge their views on the regulation of music activities in Hoi Sham Park. At the meeting held on 25 June 2019, the attendees requested LCSD to adopt more measures to step up the control of noise problems in parks. The latest proposal has responded to their request.
4. Some KCDC members issued a letter to LCSD in February 2019 and proposed to regulate the use of amplifiers in Hoi Sham Park. Their views have been incorporated in the latest proposal.

Yours sincerely,



(Ms Elania Luk)
for Secretary for Home Affairs

c.c. Director of Leisure & Cultural Services
(Attn.: Chief Leisure Manager (Land-based Venues))

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