

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

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(Question Serial No. 4434)

Head: (91) Lands Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Land Administration
Controlling Officer: Director of Lands (Ms Bernadette LINN)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

According to the Indicators of “temporary use of government land” under the performance measures in respect of land administration mentioned in paragraph 6 of Programme (1), it is planned that 29 hectares (ha) of land for short term tenancies (STTs) are to be let by tender in 2016-17. The actual number of hectares of land let by tender dropped from 37.42 ha in 2014 to 19.58 ha in 2015. Please advise on the reasons for the decrease in the number of hectares of land for STTs let by tender in 2015 and the reasons for the estimated increase in this year.

The list of “vacant government sites suitable for greening/community purposes” in each district is available at the respective District Lands Office. The sites are available for renting by non-governmental or community organisations on short-term basis for greening and community purposes by way of STTs. As the lists are now only available in physical form, will there be any plan to upload them onto the Internet to facilitate public inspection so as to encourage renting?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung (Member Question No. 109)

Reply:

The total area of land let on short term tenancy (STT) by tender depends on the size of the sites that are available for letting and the actual uptake. Of the total area of 37.42 hectares (ha) of land let by tender in 2014 comprising 54 STT sites, about half is attributable to three STT sites each of a relatively large area ranging from about three ha to 12.2 ha. The total area of 19.58 ha of land let by tender in 2015 however comprises 60 STT sites of generally small sizes. In 2016, the total estimate of 29 ha of land to be let by tender is based on the STT sites that are expected to be available for letting in the year. The actual area to be let will depend on market responses to the tenders.

For sites which may be temporarily used by District Councils or non-governmental organisations for greening or community purposes, the relevant District Lands Offices (DLOs) circulate the lists to the relevant District Councils on a regular basis. The list relevant to the concerned district is also copied to the subject District Office and District Social Welfare Office and is available for public inspection at the subject DLO. While the current arrangement functions well in making the information available to the public, we will consider the suggestion of uploading the relevant information onto the departmental website having regard to manpower and other relevant factors.

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