

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(PL)182

(Question Serial No. 2891)

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

Question:

It is mentioned in paragraph 139 of the Budget (Speech) that “In last year’s Budget, I set aside \$1 billion to support non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in using vacant government sites and restoring school premises for various short-term uses that are beneficial to the community.” In this regard, please provide the following information:

1. The number of idle government sites in the territory that are currently available for letting through short-term tenancies (STTs) and applying for institution or community use as at the end of this year;
2. Further to (1) above, please list the distribution and land information of those idle government sites with a breakdown by district.
3. Regarding the numerous existing idle government sites that have yet to be formed and thus not readily usable by members of the public or organisations, has the Government earmarked a provision for land formation by NGOs on their successful applications for sites through STTs? What is the ceiling of funding available for application for carrying out site formation of each site?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-chun (LegCo internal reference no.: 62)

Reply:

1. & 2. The information on vacant government sites (including vacant school premises (VSPs)) under the Lands Department’s (LandsD) management and available for application for short-term use is uploaded onto the LandsD’s “GeoInfo Map” website (https://www.map.gov.hk/gm/map/search/faci/_VGS?lg=en). As of 8 March 2019, there are 854 sites (including 27 VSPs) available for application for short-term use and a breakdown by District Council (DC) district is provided below.

DC District	No. of Sites	Area (m ²) (About)
Central and Western	15	3 000
Eastern	7	27 000
Island	48	54 000
Kowloon City	9	9 000
Kwai Tsing	48	53 000
Kwun Tong	5	2 000
North District	178	147 000
Sai Kung	29	33 000
Sham Shui Po	5	2 000
Shatin	59	47 000
Southern	30	19 000
Tai Po	25	27 000
Tsuen Wan	59	201 000
Tuen Mun	85	293 000
Wan Chai	9	75 000
Wong Tai Sin	7	9 000
Yau Tsim Mong	2	2 000
Yuen Long	234	243 000
Total	854	1 246 000

3. To further support non-government organisations (NGOs) to make better use of vacant government sites and school premises for community purposes, the Development Bureau (DEVB) launched a funding scheme on 21 February 2019 for application by NGOs to pursue basic restoration works on vacant government sites under short-term tenancies to take forward worthy projects for the community. Such works may include slope upgrading, site formation, erection of temporary structures (e.g. those using modular integrated construction methods), provision of sewerage/drainage or pedestrian/vehicular access, renovation of dilapidated premises, installation of fire safety equipment or barrier-free facilities and more. The financial subsidy for each approved project is capped at \$60 million. Details about the DEVB's funding scheme (including the application form and procedure) have been uploaded onto its website (https://www.devb.gov.hk/en/issues_in_focus/Funding_Scheme_to_Support_the_Use_of_Vacant_Government_Sites_by_Non_government_Organisations/index.html).

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