

**Request for a Comprehensive Review and Improvement of the Shortage of Sitting-out Areas and Leisure Venues in the Central and Western District**

On the issue raised in the captioned paper, the response of the Planning Department is as follows:

The Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines (HKPSG) currently prescribes an open space provision standard at a minimum of 20 hectares (ha) per 100,000 persons, i.e. two square metres (m<sup>2</sup>) per person. Based on the Planning Department (PlanD)'s figures and the population figures in the 2021 Census announced by the Census and Statistics Department, the existing and planned open space provision<sup>1</sup> in the Central and Western District generally meets the open space standard. The standard for provision of major recreational facilities (such as sports centre) are also generally met.

Relevant departments and PlanD will review the respective planning standards on the provision of open space and recreational facilities in a timely manner.

Presumably Leisure and Cultural Services Department would provide reply regarding the data of leisure and recreational facilities, the future planning on the expansion of relevant facilities, as well as the policies and measures in boosting the utilization rate of the public open space within the Central and Western District.

Planning Department  
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<sup>1</sup> The existing open space provision figure mentioned above has included inputs from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and Housing Department. Open space in private developments are counted as existing open space provision, but sports grounds, water sports centres, camp sites and holiday villages, etc. managed by LCSD, as well as slopes are excluded. The area of sports ground facilities within parks have been excluded from open space calculation according to LCSD's guidelines.