

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

TLB052

(Question Serial No. 3259)

Head: (100) Marine Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (3) Local Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Marine (Mr S.F. WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Logistics

Question:

Regarding berthing spaces for pleasure vessels, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) (a) the number of vessels holding a valid licence for Class IV vessels (pleasure vessels) and (b) the number of vessels applying for a new licence for Class IV vessels (pleasure vessels), in each of the past 5 years (as at the end of the respective year), with a breakdown by length of vessels (i.e. (i) less than 36 feet; (ii) from 36 feet to 60 feet; (iii) from 61 feet to 99 feet; (iv) from 100 feet to 199 feet; and (v) 200 feet or above);
- (2) the current number and area of berthing spaces available for pleasure vessels; whether any assessment has been conducted to determine if such berthing spaces are sufficient to meet the berthing needs of pleasure vessels; and
- (3) the number of arrivals of non-Hong Kong registered pleasure vessels visiting Hong Kong in each of the past 5 years (as at the end of the respective year).

Asked by: Hon LAM Ming-fung, Lothair (LegCo internal reference no.: 37)

Reply:

- (1) According to the records of the Marine Department (MD), the numbers of vessels holding a valid licence and applying for a new licence for Class IV vessels (pleasure vessels) in the past 5 years are as follows:

a) Numbers of vessels holding a valid licence for Class IV vessels

Length of vessel	Year				
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Less than 36 feet	9 182	9 747	9 898	9 682	9 395
From 36 feet to 60.9 feet	1 830	1 874	1 901	1 908	1 892
From 61 feet to 99.9 feet	691	696	689	671	672
From 100 feet to 199.9 feet	64	61	64	64	63
200 feet or above	0	0	1	0	2
Total	11 767	12 378	12 553	12 325	12 024

b) Numbers of vessels applying for a new licence for Class IV vessels

Length of vessel	Year				
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Less than 36 feet	1 189	1 041	722	407	315
From 36 feet to 60.9 feet	94	99	105	86	87
From 61 feet to 99.9 feet	48	33	23	29	34
From 100 feet to 199.9 feet	6	6	11	4	4
200 feet or above	0	0	0	0	1
Total	1 337	1 179	861	526	441

- (2) Under normal weather conditions, local vessels may be anchored at any safe and suitable locations within Hong Kong waters (except for certain areas of waters where anchoring is prohibited), including typhoon shelters and sheltered anchorages, according to their daily business and operational needs provided that no obstruction is made to marine traffic, and no permission from MD is required.

MD carries out assessments of the overall territory-wide supply and demand situation of sheltered spaces on a regular basis. According to the Assessment of Typhoon Shelter Space Requirements released in December 2022 and based on estimates of the general utilisation of berthing spaces by pleasure vessels, as at the end of 2025, the

supply of sheltered spaces for pleasure vessels was 254.1 hectares while the demand was 253.9 hectares, leaving a surplus of sheltered spaces of 0.2 hectares. A new round of assessment has been commenced in the third quarter of 2025 to assess the overall territory-wide supply and demand of sheltered spaces from 2027 to 2040, and is expected to be completed between late 2027 and early 2028.

- (3) According to the records of MD, the numbers of arrivals of pleasure vessels visiting Hong Kong in the past 5 years are as follows:

Year	Number of arrivals
2021	37
2022	42
2023	80
2024	68
2025	84

- End -