

Index page

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Session No. : 1

File name : ENB-e1.doc

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.
ENB001	1566	ENB033	1014	ENB065	0024
ENB002	1567	ENB034	1015	ENB066	0025
ENB003	3660	ENB035	1016	ENB067	0026
ENB004	3661	ENB036	1017	ENB068	0027
ENB005	0531	ENB037	1018	ENB069	0028
ENB006	0532	ENB038	0414	ENB070	0029
ENB007	0534	ENB039	0235	ENB071	1538
ENB008	0102	ENB040	0530	ENB072	1539
ENB009	0103	ENB041	1376	ENB073	1540
ENB010	0104	ENB042	1377	ENB074	1541
ENB011	0198	ENB043	2299	ENB075	1542
ENB012	0337	ENB044	3824	ENB076	1543
ENB013	1915	ENB045	1558	ENB077	1544
ENB014	1916	ENB046	1559	ENB078	1545
ENB015	0366	ENB047	3253	ENB079	1546
ENB016	0367	ENB048	3254	ENB080	1547
ENB017	0368	ENB049	1948	ENB081	1548
ENB018	0222	ENB050	1949	ENB082	1549
ENB019	0406	ENB051	1946	ENB083	1550
ENB020	1975	ENB052	1019	ENB084	1551
ENB021	1976	ENB053	1020	ENB085	1552
ENB022	0226	ENB054	1021	ENB086	1553
ENB023	0227	ENB055	1022	ENB087	1554
ENB024	1563	ENB056	0346	ENB088	1555
ENB025	1564	ENB057	0347	ENB089	1556
ENB026	3605	ENB058	0348	ENB090	1557
ENB027	3606	ENB059	0349	ENB091	0536
ENB028	3607	ENB060	0294	ENB092	0537
ENB029	3608	ENB061	1412	ENB093	3067
ENB030	3609	ENB062	0021	ENB094	3632
ENB031	2300	ENB063	0022	ENB095	3633
ENB032	2301	ENB064	0023	ENB096	3634

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.
ENB097	3635	ENB136	1437	ENB175	1079
ENB098	3636	ENB137	1438	ENB176	2792
ENB099	3637	ENB138	1439	ENB177	2793
ENB100	3638	ENB139	1440	ENB178	2795
ENB101	3639	ENB140	1911	ENB179	2796
ENB102	3640	ENB141	1912	ENB180	0340
ENB103	3641	ENB142	1913	ENB181	1647
ENB104	3646	ENB143	1914	ENB182	1766
ENB105	3647	ENB144	0369	ENB183	1767
ENB106	0516	ENB145	0370	ENB184	3178
ENB107	0517	ENB146	0371	ENB185	2503
ENB108	1338	ENB147	0372	ENB186	2505
ENB109	1752	ENB148	0383	ENB187	2977
ENB110	1753	ENB149	1942	ENB188	2978
ENB111	1754	ENB150	0223	ENB189	2209
ENB112	1755	ENB151	0224	ENB190	2332
ENB113	1756	ENB152	0225	ENB191	0733
ENB114	1757	ENB153	1462	ENB192	1917
ENB115	1758	ENB154	2952	ENB193	3502
ENB116	1759	ENB155	2953	ENB194	0030
ENB117	1760	ENB156	2954	ENB195	0031
ENB118	1761	ENB157	2955	ENB196	0032
ENB119	1763	ENB158	0314	ENB197	0033
ENB120	1513	ENB159	0321	ENB198	0034
ENB121	1514	ENB160	1200	ENB199	1560
ENB122	0106	ENB161	3666	ENB200	1561
ENB123	0109	ENB162	0353	ENB201	1562
ENB124	1459	ENB163	0354	ENB202	3569
ENB125	1460	ENB164	0355	ENB203	3570
ENB126	1461	ENB165	0356	ENB204	3571
ENB127	2458	ENB166	1384	ENB205	3572
ENB128	2764	ENB167	1385	ENB206	0521
ENB129	1813	ENB168	1386	ENB207	1762
ENB130	1814	ENB169	1387	ENB208	1764
ENB131	0286	ENB170	1734	ENB209	1765
ENB132	0287	ENB171	3694	ENB210	1458
ENB133	0288	ENB172	1063	ENB211	2459
ENB134	1435	ENB173	1064	ENB212	2460
ENB135	1436	ENB174	1078	ENB213	0445

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.
ENB214	0569				
ENB215	1907				
ENB216	1908				
ENB217	1909				
ENB218	1910				
ENB219	0373				
ENB220	0374				
ENB221	0375				
ENB222	0376				
ENB223	2969				
ENB224	1071				
ENB225	1072				
ENB226	1073				
ENB227	1196				
ENB228	1197				
ENB229	1198				
ENB230	1199				
ENB231	0345				
ENB232	0350				
ENB233	0352				
ENB234	0149				
ENB235	1080				
ENB236	2023				
ENB237	2024				
ENB238	0662				
ENB239	2640				
ENB240	2641				
ENB241	2642				
ENB242	2666				
ENB243	0779				
ENB244	2902				

**Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members
in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12**

**Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment
Session No. : 1**

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
ENB001	1566	CHAN Hak-kan	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks
ENB002	1567	CHAN Hak-kan	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks
ENB003	3660	CHAN Tanya	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks
ENB004	3661	CHAN Tanya	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks
ENB005	0531	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks
ENB006	0532	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks
ENB007	0534	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks
ENB008	0102	EU Yuet-mee, Audrey	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks
ENB009	0103	EU Yuet-mee, Audrey	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks
ENB010	0104	EU Yuet-mee, Audrey	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks
ENB011	0198	EU Yuet-mee, Audrey	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks
ENB012	0337	HO Chung-tai, Raymond	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks
ENB013	1915	IP Wai-ming	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks
ENB014	1916	IP Wai-ming	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks
ENB015	0366	KAM Nai-wai	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks
ENB016	0367	KAM Nai-wai	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks
ENB017	0368	KAM Nai-wai	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
ENB018	0222	LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks
ENB019	0406	LAU Wong-fat	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks
ENB020	1975	LEUNG Kwok-hung	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks
ENB021	1976	LEUNG Kwok-hung	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks
ENB022	0226	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks
ENB023	0227	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	22	Nature Conservation and Country Parks
ENB024	1563	CHAN Hak-kan	33	Management of Construction and Demolition Materials
ENB025	1564	CHAN Hak-kan	33	Management of Construction and Demolition Materials
ENB026	3605	CHAN Tanya	33	Management of Construction and Demolition Materials
ENB027	3606	CHAN Tanya	33	Management of Construction and Demolition Materials
ENB028	3607	CHAN Tanya	33	Management of Construction and Demolition Materials
ENB029	3608	CHAN Tanya	33	Management of Construction and Demolition Materials
ENB030	3609	CHAN Tanya	33	Management of Construction and Demolition Materials
ENB031	2300	IP Wai-ming	33	Management of Construction and Demolition Materials
ENB032	2301	IP Wai-ming	33	Management of Construction and Demolition Materials
ENB033	1014	LAU Kin-ye, Miriam	33	Management of Construction and Demolition Materials
ENB034	1015	LAU Kin-ye, Miriam	33	Management of Construction and Demolition Materials
ENB035	1016	LAU Kin-ye, Miriam	33	Management of Construction and Demolition Materials
ENB036	1017	LAU Kin-ye, Miriam	33	Management of Construction and Demolition Materials
ENB037	1018	LAU Kin-ye, Miriam	33	Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
ENB038	0414	LAU Wong-fat	33	Management of Construction and Demolition Materials
ENB039	0235	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	33	Management of Construction and Demolition Materials
ENB040	0530	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	39	Sewage Services
ENB041	1376	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	39	Sewage Services
ENB042	1377	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	39	Sewage Services
ENB043	2299	IP Wai-ming	39	Sewage Services
ENB044	3824	LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla	39	Sewage Services
ENB045	1558	CHAN Hak-kan	42	Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety
ENB046	1559	CHAN Hak-kan	42	Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy
ENB047	3253	CHAN Tanya	42	Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy
ENB048	3254	CHAN Tanya	42	Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy
ENB049	1948	EU Yuet-mee, Audrey	42	Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy
ENB050	1949	EU Yuet-mee, Audrey	42	Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety
ENB051	1946	KAM Nai-wai	42	Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy
ENB052	1019	LAU Kin-ye, Miriam	42	Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety
ENB053	1020	LAU Kin-ye, Miriam	42	Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety
ENB054	1021	LAU Kin-ye, Miriam	42	Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety
ENB055	1022	LAU Kin-ye, Miriam	42	Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety
ENB056	0346	LEE Wing-tat	42	Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety
ENB057	0347	LEE Wing-tat	42	Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
ENB058	0348	LEE Wing-tat	42	Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety
ENB059	0349	LEE Wing-tat	42	Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety
ENB060	0294	WONG Sing-chi	42	Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety
ENB061	1412	WONG Sing-chi	42	Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy
ENB062	0021	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Waste
ENB063	0022	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Waste
ENB064	0023	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Waste
ENB065	0024	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Waste
ENB066	0025	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Waste
ENB067	0026	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Waste
ENB068	0027	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Waste
ENB069	0028	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Waste
ENB070	0029	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Waste
ENB071	1538	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Waste
ENB072	1539	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Waste
ENB073	1540	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Waste
ENB074	1541	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Waste
ENB075	1542	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Air
ENB076	1543	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Nature Conservation
ENB077	1544	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Air
ENB078	1545	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Water
ENB079	1546	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Noise
ENB080	1547	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Noise
ENB081	1548	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Air
ENB082	1549	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Air
ENB083	1550	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Air
ENB084	1551	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Air
ENB085	1552	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Air
ENB086	1553	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Air
ENB087	1554	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Environmental Assessment and Planning
ENB088	1555	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Nature Conservation
ENB089	1556	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Nature Conservation
ENB090	1557	CHAN Hak-kan	44	Nature Conservation
ENB091	0536	CHAN Kin-por	44	Air

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
ENB092	0537	CHAN Kin-por	44	Air
ENB093	3067	CHAN Tanya	44	Air
ENB094	3632	CHAN Tanya	44	Waste
ENB095	3633	CHAN Tanya	44	Waste
ENB096	3634	CHAN Tanya	44	Waste
ENB097	3635	CHAN Tanya	44	Waste
ENB098	3636	CHAN Tanya	44	Waste
ENB099	3637	CHAN Tanya	44	Noise
ENB100	3638	CHAN Tanya	44	Environmental Assessment and Planning
ENB101	3639	CHAN Tanya	44	Air
ENB102	3640	CHAN Tanya	44	Air
ENB103	3641	CHAN Tanya	44	Air
ENB104	3646	CHAN Tanya	44	Nature Conservation
ENB105	3647	CHAN Tanya	44	Nature Conservation
ENB106	0516	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	44	Waste
ENB107	0517	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	44	Nature Conservation
ENB108	1338	CHEUNG Hok-ming	44	Air
ENB109	1752	CHEUNG Hok-ming	44	Waste
ENB110	1753	CHEUNG Hok-ming	44	Air
ENB111	1754	CHEUNG Hok-ming	44	Waste
ENB112	1755	CHEUNG Hok-ming	44	Waste
ENB113	1756	CHEUNG Hok-ming	44	Waste
ENB114	1757	CHEUNG Hok-ming	44	Waste
ENB115	1758	CHEUNG Hok-ming	44	Waste
ENB116	1759	CHEUNG Hok-ming	44	Noise
ENB117	1760	CHEUNG Hok-ming	44	Nature Conservation
ENB118	1761	CHEUNG Hok-ming	44	Nature Conservation
ENB119	1763	CHEUNG Hok-ming	44	-
ENB120	1513	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	44	Waste
ENB121	1514	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	44	Waste
ENB122	0106	EU Yuet-mee, Audrey	44	Waste
ENB123	0109	EU Yuet-mee, Audrey	44	Water
ENB124	1459	EU Yuet-mee, Audrey	44	Waste
ENB125	1460	EU Yuet-mee, Audrey	44	Air
ENB126	1461	EU Yuet-mee, Audrey	44	-
ENB127	2458	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	44	Waste
ENB128	2764	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	44	-
ENB129	1813	IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina	44	Waste
ENB130	1814	IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina	44	Waste

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
ENB131	0286	IP Wai-ming	44	Waste
ENB132	0287	IP Wai-ming	44	Waste
ENB133	0288	IP Wai-ming	44	Waste
ENB134	1435	IP Wai-ming	44	Waste
ENB135	1436	IP Wai-ming	44	Waste
ENB136	1437	IP Wai-ming	44	Waste
ENB137	1438	IP Wai-ming	44	Air
ENB138	1439	IP Wai-ming	44	Air
ENB139	1440	IP Wai-ming	44	Air
ENB140	1911	IP Wai-ming	44	Nature Conservation
ENB141	1912	IP Wai-ming	44	Nature Conservation
ENB142	1913	IP Wai-ming	44	Nature Conservation
ENB143	1914	IP Wai-ming	44	Nature Conservation
ENB144	0369	KAM Nai-wai	44	Waste
ENB145	0370	KAM Nai-wai	44	Air
ENB146	0371	KAM Nai-wai	44	Air
ENB147	0372	KAM Nai-wai	44	Nature Conservation
ENB148	0383	KAM Nai-wai	44	Air
ENB149	1942	KAM Nai-wai	44	Air
ENB150	0223	LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey	44	Waste
ENB151	0224	LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey	44	Waste
ENB152	0225	LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey	44	Air
ENB153	1462	LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey	44	Nature Conservation
ENB154	2952	LAU Kin-ye, Miriam	44	Air
ENB155	2953	LAU Kin-ye, Miriam	44	Air
ENB156	2954	LAU Kin-ye, Miriam	44	Air
ENB157	2955	LAU Kin-ye, Miriam	44	Air
ENB158	0314	LAU Wong-fat	44	Air
ENB159	0321	LAU Wong-fat	44	Water
ENB160	1200	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	44	Air
ENB161	3666	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	44	Air
ENB162	0353	LEE Wing-tat	44	Waste
ENB163	0354	LEE Wing-tat	44	Waste
ENB164	0355	LEE Wing-tat	44	Air
ENB165	0356	LEE Wing-tat	44	Air
ENB166	1384	LEE Wing-tat	44	Noise
ENB167	1385	LEE Wing-tat	44	Environmental Assessment and Planning
ENB168	1386	LEE Wing-tat	44	Nature Conservation

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
ENB169	1387	LEE Wing-tat	44	Nature Conservation
ENB170	1734	LEE Wing-tat	44	Air
ENB171	3694	LEE Wing-tat	44	Air
ENB172	1063	LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla	44	Water
ENB173	1064	LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla	44	Water
ENB174	1078	LEUNG Yiu-chung	44	Waste
ENB175	1079	LEUNG Yiu-chung	44	Waste
ENB176	2792	LI Fung-ying	44	-
ENB177	2793	LI Fung-ying	44	Noise
ENB178	2795	LI Fung-ying	44	Waste
ENB179	2796	LI Fung-ying	44	Waste
ENB180	0340	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	44	Air
ENB181	1647	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	44	-
ENB182	1766	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	44	Waste
ENB183	1767	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	44	Air
ENB184	3178	TAM Wai-ho, Samson	44	-
ENB185	2503	WONG Kwok-hing	44	Waste
ENB186	2505	WONG Kwok-hing	44	-
ENB187	2977	WONG Kwok-hing	44	-
ENB188	2978	WONG Kwok-hing	44	-
ENB189	2209	WONG Ting-kwong	44	Air
ENB190	2332	WONG Ting-kwong	44	Air
ENB191	0733	LI Fung-ying	60	Capital Projects
ENB192	1917	IP Wai-ming	100	Port Services
ENB193	3502	WONG Kwok-kin	100	Port Services
ENB194	0030	CHAN Hak-kan	137	Power
ENB195	0031	CHAN Hak-kan	137	Power
ENB196	0032	CHAN Hak-kan	137	Power
ENB197	0033	CHAN Hak-kan	137	Power
ENB198	0034	CHAN Hak-kan	137	Power
ENB199	1560	CHAN Hak-kan	137	Power
ENB200	1561	CHAN Hak-kan	137	Power
ENB201	1562	CHAN Hak-kan	137	Power
ENB202	3569	CHAN Tanya	137	Power
ENB203	3570	CHAN Tanya	137	Power
ENB204	3571	CHAN Tanya	137	Power
ENB205	3572	CHAN Tanya	137	Director of Bureau's Office
ENB206	0521	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	137	Power
ENB207	1762	CHEUNG Hok-ming	137	Power

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
ENB208	1764	CHEUNG Hok-ming	137	-
ENB209	1765	CHEUNG Hok-ming	137	-
ENB210	1458	EU Yuet-mee, Audrey	137	Power
ENB211	2459	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	137	Power
ENB212	2460	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	137	Power
ENB213	0445	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	137	-
ENB214	0569	IP Wai-ming	137	Power
ENB215	1907	IP Wai-ming	137	Power
ENB216	1908	IP Wai-ming	137	Power
ENB217	1909	IP Wai-ming	137	Power
ENB218	1910	IP Wai-ming	137	Sustainable Development
ENB219	0373	KAM Nai-wai	137	Director of Bureau's Office
ENB220	0374	KAM Nai-wai	137	Power
ENB221	0375	KAM Nai-wai	137	Sustainable Development
ENB222	0376	KAM Nai-wai	137	Sustainable Development
ENB223	2969	LAU Kin-ye, Miriam	137	Power
ENB224	1071	LAU Sau-shing, Patrick	137	Power
ENB225	1072	LAU Sau-shing, Patrick	137	Power
ENB226	1073	LAU Sau-shing, Patrick	137	Power
ENB227	1196	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	137	Power
ENB228	1197	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	137	Power
ENB229	1198	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	137	Sustainable Development
ENB230	1199	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	137	Sustainable Development
ENB231	0345	LEE Wing-tat	137	Power
ENB232	0350	LEE Wing-tat	137	Power
ENB233	0352	LEE Wing-tat	137	Power
ENB234	0149	LEUNG Kwan-yuen, Andrew	137	Power
ENB235	1080	LEUNG Yiu-chung	137	Power
ENB236	2023	LI Fung-ying	137	Power
ENB237	2024	LI Fung-ying	137	Power
ENB238	0662	LI Wah-ming, Fred	137	Director of Bureau's Office
ENB239	2640	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	137	Sustainable Development
ENB240	2641	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	137	Sustainable Development
ENB241	2642	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	137	Power
ENB242	2666	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	137	Power
ENB243	0779	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	137	Power
ENB244	2902	TSE Wai-chun, Paul	137	Sustainable Development

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB001

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Question Serial No.

1566

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

In 2010, 19 hill fires were attended to. Please provide the following details of each hill fire: the date it occurred, the location, areas affected and the number of trees destroyed. In addition, it is estimated that the number of hill fires attended to in 2011 will be increased to 34. What are the reasons? What is the estimated expenditure on hill fire prevention in 2011-12?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

(1) The particulars of hill fires affecting country parks (CP) and special areas (SA) in 2010 are as follows:

Serial No.	Date	CP/SA	Area Affected (Hectare)	Trees Affected (Number)*
01	15.01.10	Tai Lam CP	1	0
02	15.01.10	Lantau North CP	1.5	150
03	14.03.10	Pat Sin Leng CP	1	0
04	24.03.10	Lantau North CP	4	0
05	28.03.10	Lantau North CP	5	0
06	21.10.10	Lantau North Extension CP	1.5	0
07	28.10.10	Tai Lam CP	2	0
08	30.10.10	Pat Sin Leng CP	1	0
09	28.11.10	Ma On Shan CP	0.5	0
10	10.12.10	Tai Lam CP	0.5	30
11	10.12.10	Kam Shan CP	0.2	250
12	14.12.10	Pat Sin Leng CP	0.3	80
13	25.12.10	Pat Sin Leng CP	1	0
14	25.12.10	Plover Cove CP	0.1	0
15	25.12.10	Plover Cove CP	0.1	0
16	26.12.10	Shing Mun CP	120	15 000
17	27.12.10	Shing Mun CP	8	0
18	27.12.10	Lam Tsuen CP	420	0
19	31.12.10	Lantau South CP	5	650
Total			572.7	16 160

*Rounded figures

- (2) The estimated number of hill fires to be attended to in 2011 is based on the average of the number of hill fires in the past three years. Since the weather was relatively humid in 2010, the number of hill fires in 2010 was lower than that in previous years.
- (3) In 2011-12, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department has earmarked \$33 million for the prevention and fighting of hill fires in country parks and special areas.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 15 March 2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB002

Question Serial No.

1567

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

The estimated numbers of seedlings to be produced or planted in 2011 are lower than those in 2010. Please explain.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The numbers of seedlings to be produced and planted in 2011 are estimated to be 650 000 and 700 000 respectively after taking into account the need and availability of suitable sites for large scale tree planting programmes. As the majority of country park areas are now well wooded or covered with good vegetation, opportunities for large scale tree planting activities are not readily available. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department will focus more on enhancing the quality of planting instead of quantity. Apart from planting for rehabilitation of areas damaged by hill fires and controlling soil erosion, more attention will be paid to enriching the existing exotic plantations through inter-planting with native tree species.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ALAN WONG _____

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date _____ 14 March 2011 _____

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB003

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Question Serial No.

3660

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

Will the Department refer to the report "Conserving Biodiversity in Protected Areas: Recommendations for the Extension of Protected Areas in Hong Kong" submitted to the Government by the University of Hong Kong in 2000 to facilitate the identification of sites of high scientific value and to allocate more resources to facilitate the listing of such sites as "Sites of Special Scientific Interest"? What are the details of the work involved and the estimated expenditure?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department has been conducting territory-wide ecological surveys with a view to establishing a comprehensive ecological database for Hong Kong. We regularly update and review the conditions of ecologically important sites, making reference to results of the surveys and other studies, including the study conducted by the University of Hong Kong in 2000. Where appropriate, sites of high conservation value would be considered for designation as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

Currently, 67 sites have been designated SSSI. In 2011-12, a total of \$5.2 million has been earmarked for conducting the territory-wide ecological surveys, identifying new SSSI sites, and monitoring the vegetation management of existing SSSI.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 14 March 2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB004

Question Serial No.

3661

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

- (a) Will the Department allocate resources and manpower to review the penalties for illegal tree felling under the Country Parks Ordinance? If yes, what are the details of the work and the estimated expenditure?
- (b) Regarding the increase in cases of illegal vandalism in country park areas in recent years, will the Department allocate more resources to step up efforts in patrol and the enforcement of legislation related to nature conservation? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

- (a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will review from time to time the Country Parks Ordinance and its subsidiary legislation including their penalty provisions. Such reviews will be funded by the recurrent expenditure of law enforcement in country parks.
- (b) In 2011-12, AFCD will allocate an additional \$2.5 million for the strengthening of the related patrol and enforcement work.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 14 March 2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB005

Question Serial No.

0531

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

Under Programme 2, it is estimated by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department that 700 000 seedlings will be planted in 2011. Please provide the number of seedlings of native species to be planted in 2011 and the estimated expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

It is estimated that 500 000 seedlings of native species will be planted and the estimated expenditure involved will be \$8.9 million in 2011-12.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ALAN WONG _____

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date _____ 14 March 2011 _____

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB006

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Question Serial No.

0532

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

Under Programme 2, it is stated that the number of hill fires attended to in 2010 was 19 whereas the estimated number of hill fires to be attended to in 2011 is 34. Please inform the Committee of the following details of each hill fire in 2010: areas affected, the number of trees destroyed, the expenditure on fighting hill fires, and the estimated expenditure involved in this aspect in 2011.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

(1) The particulars of hill fires affecting country parks (CP) and special areas (SA) in 2010 are as follows:

Serial No.	Date	CP/SA	Area Affected (Hectare)	Trees Affected (Number)*
01	15.01.10	Tai Lam CP	1	0
02	15.01.10	Lantau North CP	1.5	150
03	14.03.10	Pat Sin Leng CP	1	0
04	24.03.10	Lantau North CP	4	0
05	28.03.10	Lantau North CP	5	0
06	21.10.10	Lantau North Extension CP	1.5	0
07	28.10.10	Tai Lam CP	2	0
08	30.10.10	Pat Sin Leng CP	1	0
09	28.11.10	Ma On Shan CP	0.5	0
10	10.12.10	Tai Lam CP	0.5	30
11	10.12.10	Kam Shan CP	0.2	250
12	14.12.10	Pat Sin Leng CP	0.3	80
13	25.12.10	Pat Sin Leng CP	1	0
14	25.12.10	Plover Cove CP	0.1	0
15	25.12.10	Plover Cove CP	0.1	0
16	26.12.10	Shing Mun CP	120	15 000
17	27.12.10	Shing Mun CP	8	0
18	27.12.10	Lam Tsuen CP	420	0
19	31.12.10	Lantau South CP	5	650
Total			572.7	16 160

*Rounded figures

- (2) The total expenditure involved in the prevention and fighting of hill fires in country parks and special areas was \$32 million in 2010-11.
- (3) The estimated number of hill fires to be attended to in 2011 is based on the average of the number of hill fires in the past three years. Since the weather was relatively wet in 2010, the number of hill fires in 2010 was lower than that in previous years. In 2011-12, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department has earmarked \$33 million for the prevention and fighting of hill fires in country parks and special areas.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 14 March 2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB007

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Question Serial No.

0534

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

Please inform the Committee of the respective numbers of plastic refuse bags used in managing country parks and the related expenditure in each year from 2008-09 to 2010-11.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

The numbers of plastic refuse bags used in country parks and the related expenditure from 2008-09 to 2010-11 are given as follows:

Year	No. of plastic refuse bags used	Expenditure
2008-09	380 000	\$0.23 million
2009-10	384 000	\$0.29 million
2010-11	379 900	\$0.30 million

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department will start the trial use of biodegradable plastic bags to collect litter in country parks in 2011.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 17 March 2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB008

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Question Serial No.

0102

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

Please advise on the details of the provision for the Hong Kong National Geopark in 2011-12.

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

In 2011-12, a total of \$29.2 million has been earmarked for the management and operation of the Hong Kong National Geopark. Major tasks include (a) conducting patrols and enforcement operations; (b) arranging cleaning and litter collection services; (c) setting up and maintenance of visitor facilities such as visitor centres and geo-trails; (d) organising education, promotional and publicity activities; (e) promoting local community and fishermen's participation in geo-conservation and tourism activities; and (f) conducting research and studies on geological science.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 14 March 2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB009

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Question Serial No.

0103

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

In 2010, 668 000 seedlings were produced whereas an estimated number of 650 000 seedlings will be produced in 2011. Please advise on the expenditure on fertilizers for producing seedlings under the estimate for 2011-12 and the amount involved in organic fertilizers.

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

The estimated expenditure on fertilizers for seedlings production and planting is \$1.2 million in 2011-12, of which \$40,000 will be for purchasing organic fertilizers.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ALAN WONG** _____

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date _____ 15 March 2011 _____

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB010

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Question Serial No.

0104

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

In 2010, 19 hill fires were attended to. Please advise on the details of each hill fire, including the date it occurred, the location, areas affected and the number of trees destroyed. It is estimated that there will be 34 hill fires in 2011-12. Please advise on the estimated expenditure on hill fire prevention.

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

(1) The particulars of hill fires affecting country parks (CP) and special areas (SA) in 2010 are as follows:

Serial No.	Date	CP/SA	Area Affected (Hectare)	Trees Affected (Number)*
01	15.01.10	Tai Lam CP	1	0
02	15.01.10	Lantau North CP	1.5	150
03	14.03.10	Pat Sin Leng CP	1	0
04	24.03.10	Lantau North CP	4	0
05	28.03.10	Lantau North CP	5	0
06	21.10.10	Lantau North Extension CP	1.5	0
07	28.10.10	Tai Lam CP	2	0
08	30.10.10	Pat Sin Leng CP	1	0
09	28.11.10	Ma On Shan CP	0.5	0
10	10.12.10	Tai Lam CP	0.5	30
11	10.12.10	Kam Shan CP	0.2	250
12	14.12.10	Pat Sin Leng CP	0.3	80
13	25.12.10	Pat Sin Leng CP	1	0
14	25.12.10	Plover Cove CP	0.1	0
15	25.12.10	Plover Cove CP	0.1	0
16	26.12.10	Shing Mun CP	120	15 000
17	27.12.10	Shing Mun CP	8	0
18	27.12.10	Lam Tsuen CP	420	0
19	31.12.10	Lantau South CP	5	650
Total			572.7	16 160

*Rounded figures

- (2) In 2011-12, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department has earmarked \$33 million for the prevention and fighting of hill fires in country parks and special areas.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 15 March 2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB011

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Question Serial No.

0198

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

Please advise on the details of and the estimated expenditure on “the inclusion of selected country park enclaves into country parks” in 2011-12.

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

There are currently 77 country park enclaves, of which 23 have already been covered by Outline Zoning Plans (OZP) under the Town Planning Ordinance (TPO). Amongst the remaining 54 enclaves, seven have been covered by draft Development Permission Area (DPA) plans gazetted under TPO since August 2010. The remaining 47 enclaves, covering an approximate area of 1 219 hectares, will be incorporated in country parks or included into DPA plans under TPO depending on the specific circumstances of individual cases.

In 2011-12, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department will allocate \$2.5 million for the strengthening of patrol and enforcement relating to the country park enclaves.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 14 March 2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB012

Question Serial No.

0337

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

Please provide details on the estimated expenditure for the management and operation of the Hong Kong National Geopark in 2011-12.

Asked by : Hon. HO Chung-tai, Raymond

Reply :

In 2011-12, a total of \$29.2 million has been earmarked for the management and operation of the Hong Kong National Geopark. Major tasks include (a) conducting patrols and enforcement operations; (b) arranging cleaning and litter collection services; (c) setting up and maintenance of visitor facilities such as visitor centres and geo-trails; (d) organising education, promotional and publicity activities; (e) promoting local community and fishermen's participation in geo-conservation and tourism activities; and (f) conducting research and studies on geological science.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 14 March 2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB013

Question Serial No.

1915

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

Regarding the territory-wide survey programme for collecting information and maintaining an ecological database, please provide the following information:

- (a) the projects covered by the survey programme;
- (b) the date the survey programme was launched and the estimated date of completion; and
- (c) the estimated expenditure on the survey programme.

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

- (a) The territory-wide biodiversity survey programme is a long-term programme which covers different habitats and locations in Hong Kong. The programme includes the collection of data on (a) the status and species composition of about 100 plant and wetland communities; and (b) the distribution and abundance of over 1 200 animal species, including amphibians, beetles, birds, butterflies, dragonflies, freshwater fish, mammals and reptiles. Besides, the programme includes the implementation of conservation action plans for selected species of conservation concern. The data collected in the programme have been computerised and incorporated in a Geographic Information System to enable the storage of the data in digital format and the performance of spatial analysis. Part of the data collected has also been uploaded to the internet for public access through the website of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department.
- (b) The programme has started since 2002-03. Since the ecological environment and its components are constantly changing, continuous monitoring and surveys are required to update the database in order to obtain the most up-to-date information for policy/decision making on environmental issues.
- (c) \$4 million has been earmarked for the programme in 2011-12.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 14 March 2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB014

Question Serial No.

1916

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

Regarding the project of the promotion of geo-conservation, please inform the Committee of the following:

- 1) details of the project, the expenditure and manpower involved over the last year; and
- 2) details of the project, the expenditure and manpower involved in the coming year.

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

- (a) In 2010-11, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has conducted a variety of education and publicity activities to promote geo-conservation. On-going activities include: (a) production of books and learning kits for the general public, and field guides for professionals; (b) implementation of training programmes for geopark guides, tour operators and fishermen operating in the geopark; (c) organisation of educational programmes for teachers and students; (d) holding exhibitions and public seminars; (e) production of videos on geo-conservation and the history of the Earth; and (f) setting up of education and interpretative facilities of geo-trails, visitor centres and local geological education centres. Besides, AFCD has collaborated with the local communities and non-governmental organisations in setting up three local geo-heritage centres and launching a Recommended Geopark Guide Scheme to improve the quality of the geopark guides. The expenditure and manpower involved in 2010-11 were \$8 million and 10 staff respectively.
- (b) In 2011-12, AFCD will continue to conduct the above-mentioned on-going education and publicity activities to promote geo-conservation. It is also planned to set up an earth science discovery centre together with school programmes supported by school-based paleontological exhibits and a series of science popularisation videos. \$8 million and 10 staff have been earmarked for these activities in 2011-12.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 14 March 2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB015

Question Serial No.

0366

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

Regarding the Indicators of the programme "Nature Conservation and Country Parks" of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, please inform the Committee of the following:

- (a) the reasons for the drop in the estimated numbers of seedlings produced, seedlings planted, ecological impact assessment applications and studies handled, participants in educational activities, visitors to country parks and endangered species inspections this year (i.e. 2011-12), in comparison with the actual numbers of the last two years (i.e. 2009-10 and 2010-11); and
- (b) the total expenses of the Indicators, and the proportion of such expenses to the overall expenditure.

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

(a) The reasons are as follows:

(i) Numbers of seedlings produced and planted

The numbers of seedlings to be produced and planted in 2011 are estimated to be 650 000 and 700 000 respectively after taking into account the need and availability of suitable sites for large scale tree planting programmes. As the majority of country park areas are now well wooded or covered with good vegetation, opportunities for large scale tree planting activities are not readily available. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will focus more on enhancing the quality of planting instead of quantity. Apart from planting for rehabilitation of areas damaged by hill fires and controlling soil erosion, more attention will be paid to enriching the existing exotic plantations through inter-planting with native tree species.

(ii) Number of ecological impact assessment applications and studies handled

The number of applications and studies varies from year to year depending on the number of development projects that may have potential ecological impact. Therefore, the average number of ecological impact assessment applications and studies handled over the past ten years is adopted for estimating the number for the year ahead.

(iii) Participants in educational services

The figures in 2009 and 2010 were particularly high due to some additional 150 000 participants attracted in 2009 by a series of new educational and publicity programmes organised in connection with the opening of Hong Kong National Geopark, and another additional 100 000 participants attracted in 2010 by a series of diversified community activities in various country parks and Hong Kong National Geopark organised in collaboration with the Home Affairs

Department. In 2011, the estimated number of participants in education services will return to the normal figure of 280 000 as in the years before 2009.

(iv) Visitors to country parks

The higher number of visitors in 2010 was mainly due to the novelty effect of the newly opened Hong Kong National Geopark. It is anticipated that such effect would gradually vanish in 2011 and hence the estimated number of visitors to country parks.

(v) Endangered species inspections

The number of inspections fluctuates from year to year. The higher number of inspections (24 000) in 2010 as compared with that (21 000) in 2009 was due to an upsurge in import shipment of endangered species requiring inspection. It is anticipated that the number of import shipment requiring inspection will return to an average level of 22 000 in 2011.

(b) The expenditure of the above mentioned indicators are given in the following table:

Indicators	Expenditure	
	Expenditure under this indicator	% of overall expenditure
Number of seedlings produced	\$8.6 million	1.7%
Number of seedlings planted	\$12.8 million	2.6%
Participants in educational activities	\$8.7 million	1.8%
Visitors to country parks	\$170.1 million	34.6%
Endangered species inspections	\$10.9 million	2.2%

Regarding the ecological impact assessment (EIA), the work is an integral part of the AFCD's effort in dealing with EIA and conservation aspects of development projects. The expenditure is absorbed under Programme (2) ("Nature Conservation and Country Parks Programme") under Head 22 – AFCD.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 15 March 2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB016

Question Serial No.

0367

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

Regarding the nature conservation and management of wetlands in Hong Kong, please inform the Committee of:

- (a) the annual expenditure involved for the conservation and management of the Mai Po and Inner Deep Bay Ramsar site, and the respective percentages to the overall expenditure under the Programme of Nature Conservation and Country Parks over the past three years (i.e. from 2008-09 to 2010-11);
- (b) the expenditure involved for the management of the Hong Kong Wetland Park over the past three years (i.e. from 2008-09 to 2010-11).

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

- (a) The expenditure on the conservation management work of the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site and as a percentage of the total expenditure of the Conservation and Country Park Branches in the past three years are tabulated as below:

2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
\$13.0 million	\$15.0 million	\$14.5 million
3.3%	3.7%	3.3%

- (b) The expenditure on the management of Hong Kong Wetland Park in the past three years are as follows:

2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
\$43.4 million	\$49.8 million	\$45.5 million

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 14 March 2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB017

Question Serial No.

0368

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

In connection with Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12, please inform the Committee of the following:

- (a) the progress of “the inclusion of selected country park enclaves into country parks” over each of the past three years (i.e. from 2008-09 to 2010-11), future action plans and the expenditure involved.
- (b) the progress of the promotion of geo-conservation over each of the past three years (i.e. from 2008-09 to 2010-11), future action plans and the expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

- (a) There are currently 77 country park enclaves, of which 23 have already been covered by Outline Zoning Plans (OZP) under the Town Planning Ordinance (TPO). Amongst the remaining 54 enclaves, seven enclaves have been covered by draft Development Permission Area (DPA) plans gazetted under TPO since August 2010. The remaining 47 enclaves, covering an approximate area of 1 219 hectares, will be considered whether they are suitable for inclusion in country parks or to be covered by DPA plan followed by OZP under TPO. Upon the completion of the selection process, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will then initiate the process for incorporating the selected country park enclaves into the relevant country parks in accordance with the procedures stipulated in the Country Parks Ordinance (Cap. 208). In 2011-12, AFCD will allocate \$2.5 million for the strengthening of patrol and enforcement relating to the country park enclaves.
- (b) Since the opening of Hong Kong National Geopark in September 2009, AFCD has been conducting a variety of education and publicity activities to promote geo-conservation. On-going activities include: (a) production of books and learning kits for the general public, and field guides for professionals; (b) implementation of training programmes for geopark guides, tour operators and fishermen operating in the geopark; (c) organisation of educational programmes for teachers and students; (d) holding exhibitions and public seminars; (e) production of videos on geo-conservation and the history of the Earth; and (f) setting up of education and interpretative facilities of geo-trails, visitor centres and local geological education centres. Besides, AFCD has collaborated with the local communities and non-governmental organisations in setting up three local geo-heritage centres and launching a Recommended Geopark Guide Scheme to improve the quality of the geopark guides. The expenditure involved in 2009-10 and 2010-11 were \$7 million and \$8 million respectively.

In 2011-12, AFCD will continue to conduct the above-mentioned on-going education and publicity activities to promote geo-conservation. It is also planned to set up an earth science discovery centre together with school programmes supported by school-based paleontological exhibits and a series of science popularisation videos. \$8 million has been earmarked for these activities in 2011-12.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 14 March 2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB018

Question Serial No.

0222

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department's work in pursuit of its aim involves the monitoring and auditing of ecological mitigation measures for development projects approved under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499). Will the Administration inform the Committee of:

- (a) the number of development projects in progress that have been approved under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499) and the total expenditure involved; and
- (b) the details of ecological mitigation measures for the above approved development projects and the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

Reply :

- (a) In the last three years (2008-2010), a total of 26 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) reports of development projects involving ecological issues have been approved under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499). The implementation of these projects is currently under different stages of development. The work of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) in processing EIA is an integral part of the AFCD's effort in dealing with EIA and conservation aspects of development projects.
- (b) Ecological mitigation measures recommended in the above approved EIA reports include avoidance of ecologically sensitive areas, restoration and enhancement of disturbed habitats, translocation of rare species, compensatory planting as well as habitat compensation. AFCD is responsible for monitoring and auditing these ecological mitigation measures. About \$1.7 million has been earmarked for this task in 2011-12.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 15 March 2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB019

Question Serial No.

0406

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

What is the existing staffing involved in the enhancement of biodiversity of country parks and special areas? Please provide the respective figures of the staff costs and total operating expenditure required.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply :

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department will continue its conservation measures, including the Country Parks Plantation Enrichment Scheme, to enhance biodiversity in country parks and special areas. These include removal of trees of poor conditions, in-planting of native seedlings in existing plantations and creating suitable habitats to propagate rare and special plant species to enhance the species diversity of woodlands. For example, out of the 700 000 tree seedlings estimated to be planted in country parks and special areas in 2011, about 500 000 seedlings are native species which could effectively enhance the biodiversity of the country parks and special areas. About 15 000 seedlings of these 500 000 seedlings are rare or protected native species, which could better support flora conservation. About 500 staff will be involved in planting 700 000 tree seedlings during the planting season between mid-March and May and the estimated total expenditure required is \$12.4 million, of which \$4.0 million is staff cost.

Besides, AFCD will continue its territory-wide survey programme to monitor the ecological status of different habitats in Hong Kong including country parks and special areas as well as to update the ecological database. \$4.0 million and five staff have been earmarked for the programme in 2011-12.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 14 March 2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB020

Question Serial No.

1975

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

It is learnt that the area near Nam She Tsim in Sai Kung is classified as dangerous path by the Administration, where members of the public are not encouraged to go hiking. However, this path is very popular amongst hikers and many people will go there at their own risk. Does the Administration have any plans to restore the eroded section in order to safeguard the safety of hikers?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply :

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) is aware that some hikers who like challenging hiking experiences are interested in hiking up the Nam She Tsim (Sharp Peak) in Sai Kung East Country Park. However, the extremely steep terrain and narrow ridge of Sharp Peak, together with poor accessibility for rescue and escape, warrant its classification as a dangerous path where hiking by the general hikers are discouraged. As such, a "no through access" sign has been erected at the Tai Long Au, where an unmaintained path leading to Sharp Peak, to alert hikers. AFCD has no plan to restore the eroded section of the path due to its extreme conditions. In parallel, AFCD will further deter hikers from attempting the dangerous section through public education and publicity. Nonetheless, AFCD will carry out essential erosion-control measures to contain degradation of the natural landscape in the area.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date _____ 15 March 2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB021

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Question Serial No.

1976

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

What was the expenditure on the promotion of the Hong Kong National Geopark in 2010-11? Please set out the numbers of local and overseas visitors to the Geopark last year respectively.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply :

The expenditure on the promotion of the Hong Kong National Geopark in 2010-11 was \$2 million. According to the visitor survey conducted by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, it is estimated that some 1.2 million visitors have visited the Geopark since its opening in November 2009. As the survey does not collect separate statistics on the numbers of local and overseas visitors, such data is not available.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ALAN WONG _____

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date _____ 14 March 2011 _____

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB022

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Question Serial No.

0226

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

In Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12, "the inclusion of selected country park enclaves into country parks" is indicated. Will the Department advise on:

- (a) the principles and criteria for the selection of enclaves;
- (b) the distribution and sizes of enclaves that are to be included into country parks; and
- (c) whether there will be any consultation? If yes, please give details. If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply :

- (a) Country parks are designated for the purposes of nature conservation, countryside recreation and nature education. In considering whether a country park enclave is suitable to be incorporated into a country park, the conservation value, landscape and aesthetic value and recreation potential of the enclave are the main criteria. Other factors such as geographical location, land status and existing land use of the enclave would also be considered during the selection process.
- (b) There are currently 77 country park enclaves, out of which 23 have already been covered by Outline Zoning Plans (OZP) under the Town Planning Ordinance (TPO). Amongst the remaining 54 enclaves, seven enclaves have been covered by draft Development Permission Area (DPA) plans gazetted under the TPO since August 2010. The remaining 47 enclaves, covering an approximate area of 1 219 hectares, will be considered whether they are suitable for inclusion in country parks according to the selection criteria mentioned in (a) above. As such, the list of enclaves planned to be incorporated into country parks is not available at this stage.
- (c) For the purpose of incorporating a country park enclave into a country park, the Country and Marine Parks Authority (the Authority) will follow the procedures stipulated in the Country Parks Ordinance (CPO) on replacement of the approved map of the country park. According to the CPO, the Authority is required to consult the Country and Marine Parks Board (CMPB) on the preparation of the draft map, to publish a notice in respect of the draft map in the Gazette, to publish the notice in three issues of daily newspapers (1 English Language and 2 Chinese language), and to display the notice in some conspicuous parts of the country park. In addition, a copy of the draft map shall be made

available for inspection by the public at various offices of the Government, and AFCD will actively consult the relevant District Councils during inspection period. Any person aggrieved by the draft map may within the inspection period of 60 days lodge an objection to the CMPB. Upon the hearing of the objection, the CMPB may reject the objection or direct the Authority to amend the draft map.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 14 March 2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB023

Head : 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead :

Question Serial No.

0227

Programme : (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer : Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

Regarding "the enhancement of biodiversity in country parks and special areas" under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12, please advise on the following:

- (a) how to assess the effectiveness;
- (b) what are the resources earmarked; and
- (c) what were the measures adopted in the past three years (i.e. from 2008 to 2010) to combat the illegal hunting activities by cross-border hunters and please state the effectiveness of such measures.

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply :

- (a) The Government has been carrying out regular territory-wide biodiversity surveys which also cover country parks and special areas since 2002. Results showed that country parks and special areas are rich in biodiversity. In Hong Kong, there are currently over 3 100 species of vascular plants, of which about 2 100 of them are native species. There are over 240 species of butterflies, some 50 species of mammals, 500 species of birds, 80 species of reptiles, 20 species of amphibians, 180 species of freshwater fish, and 110 species of dragonflies. Among them, over 98% of the native species are represented in country parks and special areas, suggesting that conservation management measures are effective in enhancing the biodiversity of these sites.
- (b) In 2011-12, \$12.4 million has been earmarked for planting 700 000 tree seedlings in country parks and special areas. Out of the 700 000 seedlings, about 500 000 are native species which could effectively enhance the biodiversity of the country parks and special areas. Besides, an estimated expenditure of \$4.0 million will be provided for the territory-wide biodiversity survey programme in 2011-12, of which the biodiversity surveys for country parks and special areas will be covered.
- (c) Regular patrols and special joint operations with Police are conducted to deter any illegal hunting activities in the Ramsar Site and other countryside areas in the territory. In the past three years, there is no prosecution case involving cross-border hunters.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ALAN WONG

Post Title Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date 14 March 2011

Apart from reusing and recycling of the fill received, we are delivering surplus fill to the designated site in the Mainland for reclamation. The stockpiling capacities of the existing fill banks can cope with the anticipated demand in 2011. The Environment Bureau and the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) are maintaining regular liaison with the relevant Mainland authorities to continue the arrangement of cross-boundary delivery of the surplus fill beyond 2011. CEDD will also continue to study other options to tackle the surplus fill problem.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C K HON

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date _____ 14.3.2011

- (c) Civil Engineering and Development Department implemented the delivery scheme through works contracts which were awarded through established open tendering procedures and administered under well-established contract management procedures which are adopted for public works contracts.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C K HON _____

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development _____

Date _____ 14.3.2011 _____

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead
(No. & title) :

Programme : (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

- (a) The Department estimated that the public fill received at public fill reception facilities in 2011 will be more than that in 2010 by 7.9 million tonnes. What are the reasons for such an estimated increase in the public fill? How much resources by estimation should be allocated for handling the increased amount of public fill?
- (b) The Department estimated that the public fill stockpiled at public fill reception facilities as at end 2011 will be more than that in 2010 by 6.9 million tonnes. What are the reasons for such an estimated increase in the stockpiled public fill? How much resources by estimation should be allocated for handling the increased amount of public fill?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

The quantities of fill received at the reception facilities will be subject to, inter alia, the implementation programme of infrastructure and construction projects of which the amount of fill generated may vary year by year. The amounts of fill received and stockpiled at the reception facilities in 2011 are estimated based on the progress of known projects taking into account amounts that could be recycled for reuse locally or delivered to the Mainland.

To cater for the anticipated quantity of fill to be handled at the reception facilities and the delivery of surplus fill to the Mainland, we estimate to spend about \$1.0 billion in 2011-12.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C K HON

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date _____ 14.3.2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Subhead
Development Department (No. & title) :

Programme : (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

Will the Department consult the public and industry on the long-term strategy to accommodate inert construction and demolition materials? If yes, what are the details and estimated expenditure of the public consultation?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

The Civil Engineering and Development Department is looking into the long term strategy for handling surplus fill. The various options being studied include identification of alternative outlets for surplus fill and setting up of long-term construction and demolition materials handling facilities. Upon completion of all relevant studies, we will consult the public including the relevant District Councils and other stakeholders. Details of the public consultation and the related estimated expenditure will be worked out at the appropriate juncture.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C K HON

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date _____ 17.3.2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Subhead
Development Department (No. & title) :

Programme : (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

The Administration intends to plan for setting up long-term construction and demolition (C&D) materials handling facilities. In this connection, will the Administration advise this Committee:

- (a) Has the Administration selected any location for the provision of the above facilities? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons? What are the details of the construction plan for the facilities? Has any construction timetable been set out?
- (b) Regarding the above facilities under the Administration's plan for construction, how much C&D materials will they be able to handle? What is the estimated expenditure and manpower required for the facilities from planning, construction to operation?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

The Civil Engineering and Development Department, together with other relevant government departments, are considering and examining the long term strategy for handling surplus fill which include, inter alia, the setting up of long-term C&D materials handling facilities. We are committed to consulting the stakeholders and relevant District Councils when more details of the proposals are developed.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C K HON

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date _____ 17.3.2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Subhead
Development Department (No. & title) :

Programme : (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

Regarding the latest progress in the Civil Engineering and Development Department's work in identifying alternative outlets for handling the surplus construction waste arising from the mega infrastructure projects, what are the respective preliminary proposals? What are the targets and resources involved for the work in 2011?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-yee, Miriam

Reply :

The quantities of fill received at the public fill reception facilities vary from time to time and are dependent on the fill generated from major infrastructure projects being undertaken in Hong Kong. To handle the fill generated from the on-going and forthcoming major infrastructure projects, apart from reusing and recycling of the fill received, we are delivering surplus fill to the Mainland for reclamation. The Environment Bureau and the Civil Engineering and Development Department are also maintaining regular liaison with the relevant Mainland authorities to continue the arrangement of cross-boundary delivery of the surplus fill so as to maintain such outlet. We will also continue to encourage project proponents to maximise the reuse of fill within their own projects and are studying other local options to tackle the surplus fill problem. The estimated expenditure for the delivery of surplus fill to the Mainland in 2010-11 is \$678.4 million. It includes the costs of delivery, operation and maintenance of the public fill reception facilities and associated staff costs and administrative overheads. Resources required for other alternative outlets to handle surplus fill will be examined when details of the proposals are developed.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C K HON

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date _____ 14.3.2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Subhead
Development Department (No. & title) :

Programme : (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

What are the estimated expenditures to be incurred in 2011 by the operation of the temporary construction waste sorting facilities at Tuen Mun and Tseung Kwan O?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-yee, Miriam

Reply :

The estimated expenditure for operating the temporary construction waste sorting facilities at Tuen Mun and Tseung Kwan O in 2011 is about \$45 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C K HON

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date _____ 14.3.2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Subhead
Development Department (No. & title) :

Programme : (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

Are there any measures to assess the efficiency and benefit of the waste sorting facilities? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply :

The construction waste sorting facilities at Tuen Mun and Tseung Kwan O were commissioned in 2006 in support of the implementation of the Construction Waste Disposal Charging Scheme launched in December 2005. The facilities have provided effective sorting of mixed construction waste by retrieving inert construction materials that could be of beneficial reuse. Since the launch of the charging scheme, the amount of construction waste disposed in landfill have dropped by around 55% by 2010.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C K HON

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date _____ 14.3.2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Subhead
Development Department (No. & title) :

Programme : (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

The estimated expenditure under the above Programme will increase substantially by nearly 50% in the coming year mainly due to the increased provision for handling additional quantity of surplus public fill under the cross-boundary delivery scheme. As the cross-boundary delivery will easily cause pollution to the environment on the way, will the expenditure concerned allow for monitoring work? How much expenditure will be involved in monitoring?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply :

The cross-boundary delivery of surplus fill is monitored continuously throughout the delivery process. Real time monitoring and tracking system, which comprises a global positioning system and a camera, has been installed on every vessel for tracking its position and taking photos any time during the delivery process. The monitoring results show that the delivery so far has been carried out in full compliance with the standards and established requirements. The expenditure on the monitoring work is a relatively small portion of the funding provision for the delivery scheme.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C K HON

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date _____ 15.3.2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead
(No. & title) :

Programme : (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

As mentioned in paragraph (47), the department will continue to deliver surplus public fill for beneficial reuse in the Mainland and continue to liaise with the Mainland authority to enhance the scheme. In this connection, will the Department advise on the following:

- (a) The proportion of public fill delivered to the Mainland for reuse against the total amount of surplus public fill;
- (b) The details of the co-operation method with the Mainland authority; and
- (c) Is the progress of the scheme satisfactory? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply :

The information requested is as follows:-

- (a) In 2009 and 2010, the fill banks operated by Civil Engineering and Development Department received 14 million tonnes and 10.5 million tonnes of fill respectively. During the same period, some 11.1 million tonnes and 9.4 million tonnes of surplus fill were delivered to the Mainland.
- (b) In accordance with the relevant agreement with the Mainland, the Mainland authorities are responsible for identifying suitable site(s) in the Mainland for receiving surplus fill from Hong Kong. On the other hand, we are responsible for engaging a contractor for the delivery of the surplus fill to the identified site(s).

- (c) The delivery scheme provides an outlet for surplus fill generated in Hong Kong, especially those from major infrastructure projects. It has effectively alleviated the burden of handling large quantity of such surplus fill locally.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C K HON _____

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development _____

Date _____ 14.3.2011 _____

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB041

Question Serial No.

1376

Head : 39 – Drainage Services DepartmentSubhead :Programme : (2) Sewage ServicesControlling Officer : Director of Drainage ServicesDirector of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : How many appeal cases of sewage charge and trade effluent surcharge were there in 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11? Of which, how many were from the restaurant trade? How many appeal cases were approved? Of which, how many were from the restaurant trade? What is the average time needed to complete the processing of an appeal case?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, TommyReply :

The number of applications and approved cases for reassessment of (i) trade effluent surcharge (TES) rate and (ii) discharge factor (DF) for sewage charge and TES in 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 are as follows:

		2008-09	2009-10	2010-11 (for 11 months only)
Reassessment of TES rate ⁽²⁾	Number of applications received			
	- <i>All trades</i>	200	311	237
	- <i>Restaurant trade</i>	133	290	227
	Number of applications approved ⁽¹⁾			
	- <i>All trades</i>	187	126	261
	- <i>Restaurant trade</i>	119	122	243
Reassessment of discharge factor (DF)	Number of applications received			
	- <i>All trades</i>	27	30	1 ⁽³⁾
	- <i>Restaurant trade</i>	0	0	0
	Number of applications approved ⁽¹⁾			
	- <i>All trades</i>	8	18	16
	- <i>Restaurant trade</i>	0	0	0

Notes:

- As there is a time lag for processing the applications, the number of applications approved within a year may exceed the number of applications received.
- We have further extended the validity period of TES rate reassessments from two years to three years with effect from 1 August 2008. The extension was applicable to all reassessments which were still valid on 1 August 2008. As a result, we received the majority of TES rate reassessment applications (many of which are the deferred renewal applications) in the last few months of 2009-10 and many of them were approved in the first few months of 2010-11. The number of TES rate reassessment applications approved is therefore particularly high in 2010-11 due to the special circumstances as explained above.
- Since end 2008, three years validity period (instead of two years as in 2007-08) has been granted to all successful DF reassessment applications, thus leading to a lack of renewal applications in 2010-11. The number of applications received within 2010-11 is therefore particularly low as a result.

It normally takes three to four months to process a case.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ CHAN Chi-chiu

Post Title _____ Director of Drainage Services

Date _____ 15 March 2011

ENB042

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

1377

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Over the past 3 years (from 2008-09 to 2010-11), what are the annual expenditures involved and manpower required for the maintenance of sewage treatment facilities? What are the annual expenditures on the maintenance of sewerage systems over the same periods?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

The apportionment of the expenditure involved and number of staff required for the repair and maintenance of sewage treatment facilities in 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 are listed below:

	2008-09 (Actual)	2009-10 (Actual)	2010-11 (Revised Estimate)
(a) Expenditure for repair and maintenance works (\$ million)	565	587	603
(i) sewage treatment works (\$ million)	375	397	410
(ii) sewers (\$ million)	190	190	193
(b) Number of staff ^{Note}	630	620	599

Note:

The manpower involved has included the number of staff for the repair and maintenance of sewage treatment works and sewers.

Signature _____

Name in block letters CHAN Chi-chiu

Post Title Director of Drainage Services

Date 17 March 2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB043

Head: 39 - Drainage Services Department Subhead:

Question Serial No.

2299

Programme: (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

The Department will continue to maintain sewage treatment facilities. In this connection, please advise the Committee on:

- a) the number of maintenance works carried out on sewage treatment facilities by the Department last year. What is the respective number of works on Hong Kong Island, in Kowloon and the New Territories? What is the expenditure involved? Do all of them have odour mitigation facilities? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
- b) the expenditure and manpower involved for the implementation of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme last year. What are the details of the Scheme?

Asked by: Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply:

- a) The sewage treatment facilities maintained by the Drainage Services Department (DSD) in 2010 are listed below:

Location	No. of Sewage Treatment Facilities
Hong Kong Island and Outlying Islands	89
Kowloon	37
New Territories	151
Total	277

The revised estimated expenditure involved for the repair and maintenance of the above sewage treatment facilities is \$410 million for 2010-11.

All the sewage treatment facilities that may cause odour nuisance to the public have been, or are being, provided with odour control measures. DSD has adopted one or a combination of the following three types of measures in the sewage treatment facilities to tackle the odour problem:

- (i) dosing of chemicals or injection of oxygen into sewage to control the generation of odour;
- (ii) covering up of odour sources at the facilities; and
- (iii) using deodourisation units to clean up foul gases from odour sources in the facilities.

- b) The estimated expenditure of Harbour Area Treatment Scheme (HATS) stage 2A is \$2,110 million in 2010-11 with the manpower input of 2 420 man-months of professional and technical supervision.

HATS stage 2A comprises the construction of 21 km deep tunnels, the upgrading of eight existing preliminary treatment works on Hong Kong Island and in the existing Stonecutters Island Sewage Treatment Works to provide additional treatment capacity and disinfection treatment. The construction works commenced in a progressive manner since July 2009 and we have so far awarded nine works contracts, totalling \$11.7 billion. Two other works contracts are being tendered. Our current target is to complete all the essential construction works for commissioning of HATS stage 2A in 2014-15, bringing about further long-term improvements to the water quality of Victoria Harbour.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ CHAN Chi-chiu _____

Post Title _____ Director of Drainage Services _____

Date _____ 15 March 2011 _____

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB044

Head: 39 - Drainage Services Department Subhead:

Question Serial No.

3824

Programme: (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

In Hong Kong, improper connection of sewers to drains in many old tenement buildings has given rise to direct discharge of sewage into the harbour and thus pollution. In this connection, will the Department inform this Committee:

- (a) whether the Department has ever estimated the approximate number of old tenement buildings with such problems in the territory; and
- (b) of the expenditures on stepping up inspection and improvement works in the coming 3 years (2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14), and whether such expenditures have increased as compared with those in the past 3 years (2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11)?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla

Reply:

We do not have comprehensive information on the number of old tenement buildings involving improper connection of sewers to drains. Based on recent surveys and studies conducted by other government departments on some districts, there are 46 cases in the Tsuen Wan district, and some 200 cases in the Yau Tsim Mong and Sham Shui Po districts.

The Government would take action to rectify misconnections from buildings and illegal discharges. As the action forms part of the routine operations that cover a wide range of activities, it is not possible to provide a breakdown of the expenses specifically on tackling misconnections or illegal discharges.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ CHAN Chi-chiu _____

Post Title _____ Director of Drainage Services _____

Date _____ 15 March 2011 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB045

Question Serial No.

1558

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Subhead (No. & title):
Services Department

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : On the aspect of gas supply, there was a gas supply company pulled out of the central domestic liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) market in Hong Kong last year which affected the gas supply to some housing estates. Has the gas supply to these housing estates all been taken over by other supply companies? Was there a price increase as a result of this change?

Also, does the Administration have any measure to encourage more gas supply companies to operate and invest in Hong Kong? Has there been any additional resources involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

A gas supply company pulled out of the domestic liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) market in Hong Kong last year and ten housing estates were affected. We understand that the company has committed to maintain LPG supply to these housing estates during the transition. As at end February 2011, the LPG supply to four of the affected housing estates have already been taken over by new gas supply companies. Four more housing estates are to be taken over by new gas supply companies within the next six months. The remaining two housing estates are preparing to source new gas supply companies. The Administration has been monitoring the situation closely to ensure continuous LPG supply to the housing estates. As to the pricing of LPG supply, we understand that price adjustment of central LPG supply has been following an established mechanism. There has been no change to such mechanism due to the pulling out of a gas supply company from the market.

Any company with sufficient resources to carry out the business as a gas supply company in Hong Kong may apply to become a registered gas supply company. Last year, the Administration received two applications for becoming LPG supply companies and the applications are being processed. The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department will deploy existing resources to handle this task.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____ Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____ 14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB046

Question Serial No.

1559

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the indicator “Energy-saving projects for Government and public bodies”, the estimated number of energy-saving projects completed is reduced by 100 from 2010 to 2011. Please explain the reasons. Please list out, for 2011, the departments and public bodies for which the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department will implement energy-saving projects. Please also provide details, expenditure and estimated reduction in energy consumption of these projects.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The number of energy-saving projects varies from year to year depending on the circumstances in relevant government departments and public bodies as well as availability of resources.

The allocation for energy-saving projects for 2011-12 is about \$59.5 million, which covers energy-saving projects for the Hong Kong Police Force, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the Judiciary, the Government Property Agency, the Customs and Excise Department, the Fire Services Department, and the Immigration Department etc. These projects involve retrofitting of energy efficient lighting and control systems, light emitting diode (LED) exit signs, and energy efficient air-conditioning and control systems etc. The estimated total annual energy saving is about 5 million kWh upon completion of these projects.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB047

Question Serial No.

3253

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : What measures will be taken by the Administration to promote public awareness? What is the estimated expenditure?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

The estimated expenditure in 2011-12 for promoting public awareness on energy efficiency and conservation is about \$1 million. The promotion measures will include seminars, talks, exhibitions and publications, etc.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____ Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____ 15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB048

Question Serial No.

3254

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In the financial year of 2011-12, what measures and resources will the Administration use to implement the Voluntary Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

In 2011-12, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) will continue to encourage more importers and suppliers to join the Voluntary Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme, and to promote public awareness through seminars, talks, website and information leaflets. EMSD will deploy existing resources for the implementation work.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____ Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____ 15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB049

Question Serial No.

1948

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the 75 energy-saving projects to be implemented for the Government and public bodies in 2011, please advise the title of each energy-saving project, the government departments and public bodies involved, the estimated reduction in energy consumption and saving in electricity cost.

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

The energy-saving projects to be implemented in 2011 will involve retrofitting of energy efficient lighting and control systems, light emitting diode (LED) exit signs, and energy efficient air-conditioning and control systems etc. These projects will be carried out for the Hong Kong Police Force, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the Judiciary, the Government Property Agency, the Customs and Excise Department, the Fire Services Department, and the Immigration Department etc. The estimated annual saving in energy consumption and electricity cost would be about 5 million kWh and \$5 million (assuming an electricity tariff of \$1 per kWh) respectively upon completion of these projects.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB050

Question Serial No.

1949

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Subhead (No. & title):
Services Department

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The department approved three liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) filling stations in each of 2009 and 2010 and estimated that only one LPG filling station would be approved in 2011. Please advise the expenditure involved and the expected reduction in average queuing time at each LPG filling station.

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

The handling of application of new liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) filling stations is undertaken by a team of engineers and inspectors, whose responsibilities cover a wide range of duties in relation to LPG filling network and supporting infrastructure for LPG vehicles, such as inspection of existing network, processing of new application, etc. We do not have separate breakdown on expenditure involved for this particular task.

There is no available information about changes in queuing time at each LPG filling station, resulting from the setting up of new LPG filling stations.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB051

Question Serial No.

1946

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the establishment and updating work on energy end-use database, and the research and development work on the application of innovative energy efficiency technologies, please advise:

- (a) progress of the above two types of work in each of the past two years, and the manpower and expenditure involved for each type of work; and
- (b) the future work plan, associated expenditure and manpower for the above two types of work, as well as the proportion of resources involved within the overall expenditure of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department.

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

- (a) In 2009-10 and 2010-11, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has updated the energy end-use database and completed three research and development studies on the application of innovative energy efficiency technologies in each year. An expenditure of \$2.6 million and \$2 million respectively was incurred for the above two types of work. EMSD deployed existing resources for the work and there is no separate breakdown on manpower involved.
- (b) EMSD will continue to update the energy end-use database in 2011-12 and the estimated expenditure is about \$2 million. There is also a plan to conduct three research and development studies on the application of innovative energy efficiency technologies in 2011-12 and the estimated expenditure is about \$1.5 million. EMSD will deploy existing resources for the above works and there is no separate breakdown on manpower incurred. The total expenditure for the above two items in 2011-12 is about 1% of EMSD's overall expenditure.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB052

Question Serial No.

1019

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In 2010, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department achieved 100% for targets on approvals for construction and use of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) filling stations within 30 working days and 12 working days respectively. Please advise this Committee on the numbers and locations of LPG filling stations approved for construction and use in 2010. Was there any disapproval of construction of LPG filling station? If yes, what was the reason for the disapproval? What measures do the Administration have for encouraging more new applications for construction of LPG filling stations?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-yee, Miriam

Reply :

In 2010, we received three applications for use of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) filling stations. All these applications were approved. The locations of these three LPG filling stations were at the Hong Kong International Airport, Fanling and Stanley. To make refilling more convenient for LPG vehicles, the Government has a standing policy since 2000 to include the provision of LPG filling facilities in land sales requirement for petrol filling stations, subject to safety requirements being met. At present, there are already a total of 12 dedicated and 50 non-dedicated LPG filling stations in Hong Kong.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB053

Question Serial No.

1020

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Subhead (No. & title):
Services Department

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Since the introduction of the incentive scheme for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicles in 2000, the second round of 5-year revalidation of LPG fuel tanks started to increase from 2010 and is expected to reach the peak level in 2011. Therefore, the number of the approval and revalidation of LPG fuel tanks will increase by 30% from 6 601 in 2010 to 8 700 in 2011. In view of the recent incidents of stalling of LPG taxis, will the Administration tighten up the approval and revalidation procedures? If so, what are the details and the additional resources and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-yee, Miriam

Reply :

The approval and revalidation of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) fuel tanks are processed under Regulations 7(1) and 8(2) of the Gas Safety (Gas Supply) Regulations (Cap. 51B) to ensure safety standard of the LPG fuel tanks. The approval and revalidation procedures have been effective and strictly adhered. We maintain close monitoring of the international development and latest professional knowledge in this regard. At present, the procedures remain appropriate.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____ Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____ 15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB054

Question Serial No.

1021

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Although there was an extensive outbreak of stalling incidents of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) taxis / light buses in early 2010, the number of enquiries and complaints on LPG vehicle safety received by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department in 2010 was comparable to that of 2009, both were around a thousand and there was no major increase in 2010. In this connection, please advise on the areas that the enquiries and complaints were related to.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply :

The following table shows the respective percentage of enquiries and complaints on liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicle safety received in 2009 and 2010.

Year	Total Number of Enquiries and Complaints	Enquiries	Complaints
2009	1 110	97%	3%
2010	1 080	88%	12%

In 2010, the enquiries on LPG vehicle safety cover a wide range of issues including LPG vehicle fuel tank revalidation, operation of LPG filling stations, auto-LPG pricing, enlistment of competent persons, safe use of LPG vehicles, etc. while the majority of the complaints were about LPG vehicle stalling. Although the total numbers of enquiries and complaints were comparable, the number of complaints received in 2010 was more than that of 2009 due to the LPG vehicle stalling incident.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB055

Question Serial No.

1022

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : (a) After the liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicle stalling incident in early 2010, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) strengthened the monitoring of operation, repair and maintenance of LPG filling stations. The number of inspections of filling stations was increased from 248 in 2009 to 275 in 2010. , What additional resources were required by the department to carry out the increased number of inspections?

(b) Though the number of inspections was increased, there was occasional recurrence of LPG vehicle stalling incidents. If the EMSD decreased the number of inspections in 2011 to 240 (i.e. the level of inspections in 2009), will the quality of LPG filling stations still be maintained? Apart from inspections, what other measures will be taken by the department to strengthen the monitoring of LPG filling stations? What are resources required?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply :

(a) The inspection of operation, repair and maintenance of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) filling station is undertaken by a team of engineers and inspectors. This team is responsible for a wide range of duties which also include other enforcement duties relating to LPG filling network, supporting infrastructure for LPG vehicles and revalidation of LPG vehicle fuel tanks. Following the LPG vehicle stalling incidents in early 2010, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has deployed internal resources to increase the number of inspections.

(b) In addition to the regular inspection of LPG filling stations, EMSD has put in place the LPG sampling scheme to monitor the LPG quality since early 2010 and has deployed additional resources to implement the scheme. The LPG sampling scheme will continue while the number of inspections of LPG filling stations in 2011 will return to the inspection level of 2009. The measures including the inspection to the filling stations and the LPG sampling scheme are considered adequate to monitor the operation and maintenance of the LPG filling stations.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB056

Question Serial No.

0346

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Subhead (No. & title):
Services Department

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the work in relation to “investigation of gas incidents”, please advise

- (a) the work details, progress, manpower and expenditure involved in each of the past three years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2010-11); and
- (b) the future work plan, associated expenditure and manpower for this task; as well as the proportion of the resources involved within the estimates of the programme and the department.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply :

- (a) Over the past three years (i.e. 2008 to 2010), the number of gas incidents investigated was 414, 392 and 345 respectively. Gas incidents were handled by a team of engineers and inspectors whose responsibilities cover a wide range of duties including inspection, investigation, public education and publicity. We do not have separate breakdown of manpower or expenditure involved in investigation only.
- (b) The number of gas incidents in 2011 is envisaged to be close to that of 2010. The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department will deploy the existing resources to handle the task. There is no separate breakdown of manpower or expenditures involved in investigation only.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date 14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB057

Question Serial No.

0347

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Subhead (No. & title):
Services Department

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding enlistment of competent persons for maintenance of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicles, please advise:

- (a) the work details, progress, manpower and expenditure involved in each of the past three years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2010-11);
- (b) the future work plan, associated expenditure and manpower for this task, as well as the proportion of resources involved within the estimates of the programme and the department;
- (c) the current total number of enlisted competent persons for maintenance of LPG vehicles in Hong Kong and the government's assessment criteria for the enlistment.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply :

- (a) 23, 14 and 36 persons were enlisted in 2008, 2009 and 2010 respectively as competent persons for maintenance of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicles. Processing of applications for enlistment as competent persons for maintenance of LPG vehicles is undertaken by a team of engineers and inspectors. Responsibilities of this team cover a wide range of enforcement duties relating to LPG filling network, supporting infrastructure for LPG vehicles and revalidation of LPG vehicle fuel tanks. As such, there is no separate breakdown on manpower and expenditure involved for this particular task.
- (b) It is estimated that 15 persons will be enlisted as competent persons for maintenance of LPG vehicles in 2011. The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department will deploy existing resources to handle this task.
- (c) As at 28 February 2011, 1 076 persons were enlisted as competent persons for maintenance of LPG vehicles in Hong Kong. A motor vehicle mechanic who has at least three years of relevant working experience and has completed relevant LPG vehicle servicing course conducted by the Vocational Training Council or equivalent is qualified to be enlisted as a competent person for maintenance of LPG vehicles.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB058

Question Serial No.

0348

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Subhead (No. & title):
Services Department

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding approval of fuel tanks in liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicles, please advise:

- (a) the work details, progress, manpower and expenditure involved in each of the past three years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2010-11);
- (b) the future work plan, associated expenditure and manpower for this task as well as the proportion of resources involved within the estimates of the programme and the department;
- (a) whether there is any standard or guideline for the approval of fuel tanks. If so, whether there is any review mechanism. What is the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply :

- (a) In the past three years, three types of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicle fuel tanks were approved. The approval of LPG vehicle fuel tanks was undertaken by a team of engineers and inspectors, whose responsibilities cover a wide range of enforcement duties relating to LPG filling network, supporting infrastructure for LPG vehicles and revalidation of LPG vehicle fuel tanks. As such, there is no separate breakdown on manpower and expenditure involved for this particular task.
- (b) The workload of this task will be minimal in the coming year as the anticipated number of new models of LPG vehicles to be introduced to Hong Kong will be limited.
- (c) The approval of LPG vehicle fuel tanks is processed in accordance with the requirements of the Gas Safety Ordinance (Cap. 51). Furthermore, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department has established an in-house operational procedure for the approval of LPG vehicle fuel tanks in 2008. The procedure is subject to annual review. The review is conducted by the same team mentioned at (a) above and there is no separate breakdown on manpower and expenditure involved for this particular task.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB059

Question Serial No.

0349

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the studies on the long-term market structure for the electricity market, please advise:

- (a) the work details, progress, manpower and expenditure involved in each of the past three years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2010-11);
- (b) the future work plan, associated expenditure and manpower for this task, as well as the proportion of resources involved within the estimates of the programme and the department .

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply :

- (a) In the past three years (i.e. 2008-2009 to 2010-11), the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) supported the Environment Bureau (ENB) to conduct studies on the long-term market structure for the electricity market. The studies covered the exploration of various options of a new market mechanism and the associated regulatory framework for the electricity market, with due regard to the unique situation of Hong Kong. Findings of the study are being analysed. EMSD deploys existing resources to handle the studies. As the officers providing technical support to ENB also handled other duties at the same time, there was no separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure for each task.
- (b) EMSD will continue to provide technical support to ENB on the studies on the long-term market structure for the electricity market. As mentioned in (a) above, EMSD will deploy existing resources to handle the work and there is no separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure for such work.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB060

Question Serial No.

0294

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Subhead (No. & title):
Services Department

Programme : (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : As regards “Gas Safety”, please advise:

- (a) how many staff of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) are now involved in gas safety related work; please state the manpower and expenses involved for each item under the “Gas Safety indicators”; and
- (b) whether any prosecution/disciplinary action/improvement notices in relation to gas safety have been carried out/issued against any people/organizations in the past five years (i.e. 2006-07 to 2010-11).

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing Chi

Reply :

(a) There are altogether 73 staff members in EMSD who oversee gas safety. Their duties cover a wide range of gas safety related work including inspection, investigation, taking prosecution/disciplinary action, public education and publicity. We do not have separate breakdown of manpower or expenditures for individual work items.

(b) During the period from 2006 to 2010, the number of prosecution/ disciplinary action conducted/ improvement notices served in relation to gas safety were 300, 148, 297, 131 and 117 respectively.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB061

Question Serial No.

1412

Head : 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer : Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the promotion of Voluntary Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme, please advise:

- (a) What is the progress of the scheme in the past three years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2010-11)? Was there any review of the achievement? Was there any survey on the energy savings achieved under the scheme? If so, what are the details and expenditure? If not, what is the reason?
- (b) At present, the scheme is planned to cover 20 types of electrical appliance, gas appliance and vehicle, will the government consider to expand the scope of the scheme? If so, what is the expenditure and timetable? If not, what is the reason?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply :

- (a) In the past three years, over 600 new product models have been registered under the Voluntary Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme. The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department deploys existing resources to regularly review the Scheme in consultation with the trade. As the Scheme aims to enhance awareness of the public as well as the trade on energy efficiency and conservation, there is no plan at this stage to conduct survey on energy savings.
- (b) In 2011-12, the scheme will be expanded to cover 20 types of appliances which include a product type of light emitting diode (LED) lamp planned to be launched in mid 2011. We will deploy existing resources to closely monitor the international and local development, and review the need to cover more types of appliances.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____

Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB062

Question Serial No.

0021

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : How many resources have been earmarked by the Administration for the setting up of odour removal facilities in the current three landfills and their surrounding area? What are the specific facilities? Apart from the odour issues, has the Administration considered funding in taking measures to mitigate the nuisance caused by the landfills to the nearby environment and residents?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The three strategic landfills in Hong Kong (i.e. the South East New Territories Landfill at Tseung Kwan O, the North East New Territories Landfill at Ta Kwu Ling and the West New Territories Landfill at Nim Wan) are designed and operated to meet very stringent international standards, including odour control and other environmental monitoring measures.

In order to mitigate any potential odour impact to the surrounding areas, a number of additional measures have been implemented at the landfills. These measures include where appropriate the use of impermeable plastic cover for tipping areas not currently in use, deployment of movable cover for special waste trench, installation of additional extraction wells and mobile flares for landfill gas, operation of deodorizers at or near waste tipping area and site boundary, etc. Noting that refuse collection vehicles could also cause potential odour nuisance, we will also upgrade the vehicle washing facilities to enable more thorough cleansing of these vehicles before they leave the landfills. We have earmarked \$33 million in 2011-12 for the implementation of these additional measures and facilities at the landfills.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB064

Question Serial No.

0023

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : How much waste was received respectively by the different strategic landfills in the past 3 years (i.e. from 2008-09 to 2010-11)? What was the respective amount of domestic waste and trade waste received?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The quantities of waste received at the 3 strategic landfills over the past 3 years (2008, 2009 and 2010) are summarized below:

Year	Total Waste ² (‘0000 tonnes)			Domestic Waste (‘0000 tonnes)			Commercial and Industrial Waste (‘0000 tonnes)		
	2008	2009	2010	2008	2009	2010	2008	2009	2010
South East New Territories Landfill	189	189	188	28	33	27	60	58	52
North East New Territories Landfill	83	91	91	51	57	51	13	15	17
West New Territories Landfill	223	206	225	144	130	146	34	35	40
Total ³	494	486	504	223	220	224	108	108	109

Notes:

1. Waste figures are compiled on a calendar year basis and reported as such in the Controlling Officer's Report.
2. Total waste includes domestic waste, commercial & industrial waste, construction waste as well as other types of waste (e.g. sludge) that are disposed of at landfill.
3. Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB065

Question Serial No.

0024

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In respect of the review on the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags:

- (a) Ever since the implementation of the Scheme, how many retailers have applied for withdrawal from the Scheme? How many shops are involved?
- (b) How many irregularity cases have been found? What are the details of these irregularities?
- (c) Up to date, how many fewer plastic bags have been issued? Is there any discrepancy in this regard with the original anticipation of the Administration?
- (d) When will the next phase of the Scheme be implemented? Is it necessary to earmark resources and manpower for it? If yes, what is the respective required amount?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

- (a) Since the implementation of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags (the Scheme) in July 2009, 6 registered retailers have applied for deregistration from the Scheme. The deregistration involved altogether 149 retail outlets.
- (b) Since the implementation of the Scheme, the Environmental Protection Department has issued a total of 57 warnings and initiated 4 prosecutions on irregularities spotted during inspections. The 4 prosecution cases were related to a registered retailer and his franchisee who: (1) failed to charge the specified environmental levy for plastic shopping bags (PSBs) provided to their customers and (2) failed to display the certificate of registration for the Scheme at the registered retail outlet. Both defendants were convicted and fined \$8,000 in total, with \$2,000 fine on each count.
- (c) The Scheme requires registered retailers to submit quarterly returns on the amount of levy collected and number of PSBs distributed in each quarter. With reference to these quarterly returns and the findings of a pre-levy landfill survey, we estimate a reduction of some 90% in the number of PSBs distributed by registered retailers. The magnitude of reduction exceeds our original estimation which also shows that the Scheme is effective in addressing the indiscriminate use of PSBs in Hong Kong.

- (d) We will soon consult the public on the next phase of the Scheme. The funding and staffing resources required could only be ascertained when details of the proposal are further developed after taking into account the views collected from the consultation exercise.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection _____

Date _____ 10 March 2011 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB066

Question Serial No.

0025

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Please provide the names, total amount of invested capital, types of products and markets, annual production quantities and the numbers of employees of the enterprises that have leased land in EcoPark in Tuen Mun Area 38.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

All six lots in Phase 1 of EcoPark have been leased and the relevant details of the tenants are summarized below:

Tenants	Recycled Materials/ Products	No. of Staff *
Hong Kong Hung Wai Wooden Board Company	Shredded wood chips	11
Li Tong Group	Dismantled electronic components	21
Champway Technology Ltd	Biodiesel	30
Hong Kong Telford Envirotech Group Ltd	Plastic flakes, chips and pellets	8
Shiu Wing Metal Ltd	Sorted and sheared scrap metals	12
Cosmos Star Holdings Company Ltd	Dismantled battery components	3

**More staff would be employed upon full commissioning of the above recycling operations.*

As at the end of February 2011, the total capital investment reported by the six tenants is about \$130 million. Upon full commissioning of the recycling plants, the targeted annual amount of waste processed is about 60 000 tonnes.

In addition, two waste recycling centres, one for waste plastics and one for Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) have been set up in Phase 2 of the EcoPark to promote local processing of waste plastics and WEEE. These two centres are operated by non-profit making organisations for 3 years with a subsidy of \$10 million each from the Environment and Conservation Fund. The plastic recycling centre aims to process about 20 tonnes per day of locally collected waste plastics and the WEEE recycling centre aims to process about 200 tonnes per year of WEEE. The two centres employed 60 staff at present.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB067

Question Serial No.

0026

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Would the Administration earmark resources to conduct feasibility study on the extension of EcoPark in Tuen Mun Area 38 or on establishing EcoParks in other areas? If yes, what are the resources involved? What are the details and directions of the study?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The 20-hectare EcoPark in Tuen Mun Area 38 is developed in two phases. All six lots in Phase 1 have been leased out. The construction works of Phase 2 have been substantially completed and the invitation to tender for leases of Phase 2 lots has commenced on 4 March 2011.

The Environmental Protection Department will monitor closely the progress in developing the existing EcoPark before considering extending it or developing a new EcoPark elsewhere.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB068

Question Serial No.

0027

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Since the first phase of the organic waste treatment facilities is expected to commence operation in 2014, what will be the channels used for collecting food waste from the commercial and industrial sectors? Will it involve additional resources and manpower? When will the second phase of the said facilities be constructed and when will it commence operation? After the second phase of the said facilities commence operation, what is the total amount of food waste expected to be treated by all such facilities per day? What percentage of it belongs to food waste from the commercial and industrial sectors?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

According to the current planning, the first phase of Organic Waste Treatment Facilities (OWTF) at Siu Ho Wan will receive source-separated food waste from waste generators of the commercial and industrial (C&I) sectors, who will be requested to separate their food waste at source and deliver them to the OWTF at their own costs.

To enlist the support of the C& I sectors in food waste reduction and recycling and to prepare for the first phase of OWTF, we have implemented a Food Waste Recycling Partnership Scheme since June 2010. The Scheme helps train the management and frontline staff of these sectors on food waste reduction and management practices, including source separation of food waste for recycling.

Subject to the approval of the Finance Committee, we plan to commence construction of the second phase of OWTF in 2014-15 for commissioning in 2016-17. The two phases of OWTF together could treat about 500 tonnes of source-separated food waste generated by the C&I sectors each day.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB069

Question Serial No.

0028

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : It is mentioned under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12 that the Department will “engage the public in discussion on possible options for Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) charging”. When is the engagement expected to begin? How will the engagement be conducted? Whether additional resources and manpower will be involved in the engagement?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

Municipal Solid Waste charging creates direct economic incentive to promote waste reduction and recovery. The principles, pros and cons of various charging options as well as these implications when implemented in Hong Kong will be presented for public engagement later this year. The public engagement exercise will be undertaken by staff of Environmental Protection Department as part of their normal duties and expenditures for the public consultation will be absorbed by the provisions for 2011-12.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB070

Question Serial No.

0029

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : (a) Since the feasibility study on the WENT Landfill Extension was completed in 2010, what will be the Administration's next phase of work? What are the estimated extended area and extra amount of waste to be received? For how long can the extension site extend the life of the said Landfill?

(b) Moreover, are there any plans to extend the NENT Landfill? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

To tackle the imminent waste problem in Hong Kong, the Government has devised a multi-pronged action plan. This includes initiatives on reduction and recycling of waste at source, development of modern waste treatment facilities and timely extension of the three operating landfills (i.e. the South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill, the North East New Territories (NENT) Landfill and the West New Territories (WENT) Landfill).

The WENT Landfill extension covers an area of over 200 hectares with a capacity of about 81 million cubic metres. With the completion of the associated environmental impact assessment and engineering feasibility studies in 2010, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) plans to seek funding approval from the Legislative Council in early 2012 to carry out the contract document preparatory work and tendering exercise.

The NENT Landfill extension covers an area of about 70 hectares with a capacity of about 21 million cubic metres. Following the completion of the environmental impact assessment and engineering feasibility studies in 2007 and 2008 respectively, the preparatory work for the procurement of the NENT Landfill extension contract is underway. EPD plans to seek funding approval from the Legislative Council in early 2012 for the implementation of the project.

Together with the further efforts in waste reduction and recovery, and subject to the implementation of the three landfill extension schemes together with the commissioning of other planned waste facilities such as the sludge treatment facility, the integrated waste management facilities and the organic waste treatment facilities, the total landfilling capacity of the three extended landfills could cope with waste disposal need in the medium to longer term. The actual life span of individual landfill extension scheme will depend primarily on the distribution of waste generation and respective waste intake.

Signature _____

Name in block letters

ANISSA WONG

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date

10 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB071

Question Serial No.

1538

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : What are the costs for treatment of per tonne of municipal solid waste (i.e. from collection to landfill disposal)? Please give a breakdown of the expenditure, including collection, transportation and transfer of waste, as well as the operation costs of landfills, etc.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

A breakdown of the costs for transfer and disposal of municipal solid waste at landfills in 2010-11 is provided below :

	2010-11 (\$/tonne)
Transfer	190
Disposal at landfills	147
Total cost per tonne	337

Household waste collection and delivery service is mainly provided by Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the unit cost per tonne in 2010-11 is \$212.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG**

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB072

Question Serial No.

1539

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : How many closed landfills still are needed to be restored and monitored? Please list the names of the landfills concerned and the amount of expenditure involved annually.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

There are a total of 13 closed landfills in Hong Kong where the construction of restoration facilities has all been completed. Thereafter the landfill aftercare work commenced, which comprises operation and maintenance of the restoration facilities as well as environmental monitoring.

The 13 closed landfills include Shuen Wan Landfill, Ngau Chi Wan Landfill, Sai Tso Wan Landfill, Ma Yau Tong West Landfill, Ma Yau Tong Central Landfill, Jordan Valley Landfill, Gin Drinkers Bay Landfill, Tseung Kwan O Stage I Landfill, Tseung Kwan O Stage II/III Landfill, Ngau Tam Mei Landfill, Ma Tso Lung Landfill, Siu Lang Shui Landfill and Pillar Point Valley Landfill. The estimated expenditure in 2011-12 on the related aftercare work is about \$51.3 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB073

Question Serial No.

1540

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Apart from allocating funds for community waste recovery scheme through the Environment and Conservation Fund, what is the expenditure incurred for waste recovery by the Environmental Protection Department under this Programme? Which main fields of work is the expenditure on?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The Environmental Protection Department has spent about \$21.99 million in 2010-11 to promote the Programme on Source Separation of Waste and encourage community participation in waste reduction, separation, recovery and recycling. A breakdown of the key expenditures is as follows.

	Expenditure Categories	Amount HK\$ million
1	Implementing education and promotion programmes such as holding workshops, forums, publicity events and related activities.	8.82
2	Production of publicity materials, e.g. videos, computer programmes, leaflets, brochures, banners, souvenirs, etc.	6.18
3	Media advertisement, e.g. newspapers, radio, internet, public video walls, MTR stations, bus TV, bus bodies, etc.	4.55
4	Provision of recycle bins and other necessary technical support.	2.44

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB074

Question Serial No.

1541

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : At present, what is the annual expenditure of the Administration on EcoPark in Tuen Mun Area 38? What major areas is the expenditure incurred on?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The Administration spends about \$15.6 million annually in managing EcoPark and its facilities, maintaining the facilities, facilitating EcoPark tenants to develop their recycling business, implementing promotional activities on EcoPark and waste recycling, and operating the Visitor Centre and a dedicated website.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 16 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB075

Question Serial No.

1542

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : At present, how many government departments have conducted carbon audit?
Please list the names of these audited departments, their audit results and expenditures so incurred.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

Over the last three years, twelve government departments had conducted carbon audits at 68 buildings following the building-based "Guidelines to Account for and Report on Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Removals for Buildings (Commercial, Residential or Institutional Purpose) in Hong Kong" issued by Environmental Protection Department and Electrical & Mechanical Services Department. Below is a summary of the departments involved :-

Department	Number of Buildings Covered
Customs and Excise Department	1
Civil Engineering and Development Department	1
Electrical & Mechanical Services Department	1
Fire Services Department	1
Housing Department	5
Hong Kong Police Force	2
Independent Commission Against Corruption	1
Leisure and Cultural Services Department	1
Home Affairs Department	5
Drainage Services Department	2
Hongkong Post	1
Government Property Agency	47 [#]
Total	68

[#] Joint-user government buildings managed by Government Property Agency

The results obtained from the carbon audits serve as a useful baseline reference for the relevant departments when evaluating their future performance and taking forward improvement measures. The financial resources for conducting carbon audits had been absorbed by the individual departments concerned.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date 9 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB076

Question Serial No.

1543

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Since the implementation of the "Management Agreement Scheme", how many projects have been subsidized by the government? How much capital and conserved land are involved? How effective is the scheme in terms of conservation?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

There are currently two Management Agreement (MA) projects being funded under the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) in respect of Fung Yuen and Long Valley.

The ECF has granted a total of \$21 million for the projects since 2005, which will last until 2012-13. The areas conserved cover around 2 hectares at Fung Yuen and 13 hectares at Long Valley.

The bird species recorded at Long Valley and the butterfly species at Fung Yuen have increased by more than 20% since the launching of MA projects. A total of 259 bird species (over half of those recorded in Hong Kong) and 201 butterfly species (over 80% of those recorded in Hong Kong) have been recorded in Long Valley and Fung Yuen respectively. These figures show that the management measures are effective in enhancing the conservation value of these sites.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB077

Question Serial No.

1544

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the one-off grant to encourage early replacement of Pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles with new ones complying with the prevailing statutory emission standard, please provide, upon completion of the scheme, the expected number of old vehicle owners who will replace their vehicles through the grant; the percentages of the new vehicles in the total numbers of Pre-Euro and Euro I vehicles; the amount of grant involved in the scheme as well as the percentage of the amount in the approved provision.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The one-off grant scheme to encourage early replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles with new ones complying with the prevailing statutory emission standard ended in March 2010. A special arrangement was made to allow those eligible vehicle owners who had ordered new replacement vehicles before the grant scheme's deadline but the new vehicles could not arrive on time to complete the application to retain their eligibility to apply for the grant until end-March 2011. Including the applications under the special arrangement, the Government received about 17 000 applications and approved about 16 900 of them as at end-February 2011. This represents about 30% of all pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles at the launch of the scheme. The amount of grant involved was about \$758 million, representing about 24% of the approved amount of \$3.2 billion.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB078

Question Serial No.

1545

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (4) Water

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Has the Government any plan to improve the water quality of typhoon shelters and main rivers such as Shing Mun River and Lam Tsuen River in 2011-12? If yes, what are the specific plan and expenditure involved? If no, how will the Government monitor the water quality of these typhoon shelters and rivers?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

Based on the Environmental Protection Department's water quality monitoring results, the water quality has shown improving trend in the recent years. In the case of inland watercourses, the overall rate of compliance with the water quality objectives was 88% in 2010, as compared with 76% in 1997. For the typhoon shelters, the compliance rate was 70% in 2010, as compared with 63% in 1997. The water quality improvement is brought about by legislative enforcement and on-going sewerage improvement works.

In order to further improve the water quality of inland water courses, typhoon shelters as well as marine waters, the Government will, apart from its on-going effort in enforcing the environmental legislation, continue to extend and upgrade the sewerage network. Apart from the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme Stage 2A project which the Government has already allocated some \$17 billion, the estimated expenditure in 2011-12 for other sewerage improvement works is about \$1.8 billion, including those planned for Shing Mun and Lam Tsuen areas.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB079

Question Serial No.

1546

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Noise

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Why did the number of prosecutions under the Noise Control Ordinance in 2010 increase more than 30% over 2009? What are the types of noise so involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The number of prosecutions under the Noise Control Ordinance increased from 68 in 2009 to 93 in 2010. The increase was mainly related to construction noise and was due to the increases in construction activities in connection with building property development and public infrastructure works. Apart from construction noise, the types of noise complaints involved with these prosecutions include that generated from air-conditioning, ventilation, refrigeration and pumping system emanating from commercial or residential premises.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB080

Question Serial No.

1547

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Noise

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In respect of mitigating existing road traffic noises, the present initiative of the Administration is to carry out mitigating works as far as feasible on roads having a noise level exceeding 70 decibel. How is the above indicator set by the Administration? Will the Administration consider reviewing the indicator? If yes, what are the resources involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

In setting the noise limit of 70dB(A)L₁₀(1 hour), we have made reference to relevant international studies and have fully considered the actual situation in Hong Kong. This standard is considered relatively strict as what it measures is the noise level of a one-hour period at peak traffic flow. Similar standard are adopted in the UK and the US. Therefore, we believe that the current noise standard can cater for the actual situation in Hong Kong. We have no plan to change the noise limit at present. We would continue to monitor the situation and development in other places in considering whether a review is necessary.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB081

Question Serial No.

1548

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12, it is mentioned that the Department will “seek funding for subsidising franchised bus companies to procure hybrid buses for trial along busy corridors at Causeway Bay, Central and Mongkok.” In this connection, please provide the following information:

- (a) How many buses are expected to be procured by the bus companies under the subsidy scheme? What is the expenditure so involved? Will the expenditure be fully subsidised by the Administration?
- (b) Has any discussion on the subsidy scheme been held with the franchised bus companies? What is the progress?
- (c) What is the period of the trial?
- (d) When will the proposal be expected to be submitted to the Legislative Council for deliberation and application for funding?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

- (a) We propose to fund the full cost of procuring six hybrid buses by the franchised bus companies. The total cost of the six hybrid buses is estimated to be about \$33 million.
- (b) We are in discussion with the franchised bus companies on the details of the trial arrangements. In parallel, the franchised bus companies are preparing the technical specifications for acquiring the six hybrid buses. Our aim is to start the procurement process soon after receipt of funding approval of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council.
- (c) The trial period is proposed to be two years.
- (d) We consulted the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs on 24 January 2011 and plan to seek funding approval from the Finance Committee on 15 April 2011.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB082

Question Serial No.

1549

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12, the Department will conduct a trial to ascertain the feasibility of retrofitting Euro II and Euro III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices. In this connection, please provide the follow information:

- (a) How many Euro II and Euro III franchised buses of each franchised bus company are expected to join the above scheme?
- (b) What standard will be used to assess whether emissions of nitrogen oxides of the buses retrofitted with the said devices have been reduced?
- (c) If the findings of the trial are not positive, will the Administration require the franchised bus companies to phase out all Euro II and Euro III buses? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

- (a) The Kowloon Motor Bus Co. (1933) Ltd. will provide for the trial one Euro II and two Euro III buses, and Citybus Limited / New World First Bus Services Limited two Euro II buses.
- (b) Our target is to reduce the nitrogen oxides (NOx) emissions of these buses to the emission level of a Euro IV bus.
- (c) Selective Catalytic Reduction device (SCR) is a mature technology widely deployed in the existing Euro IV and Euro V franchised buses to control their NOx emissions. There are also successful overseas experiences in retrofitting in-use buses with SCR to reduce their NOx emissions. If successful, the retrofit is more cost-effective than phasing out these Euro II and III buses ahead of their normal retirement schedule. The Administration is endeavouring to make the trial a success by working together with the franchised bus companies, independent experts and SCR suppliers. Our plan is to review the initial findings of the trial six months after its launch. The outcome of the review will help us examine how best the emissions of these buses could be reduced.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB083

Question Serial No.

1550

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the work in updating the Air Quality Objectives (AQOs), the Administration had already completed the relevant consultation work earlier on, but why has the Administration still failed to work out the above AQOs? When will the above AQOs be implemented? In working out the AQOs, will the Administration evaluate the risk on public health brought about by the quality of air? If such an evaluation is included, will the work incur additional expenditure? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The achievement of the proposed new Air Quality Objectives (AQOs) depends on the successful implementation of the proposed package of the air quality improvement measures. As the proposed air quality improvement measures encompass a wide range of issues and cut across a number of policy areas and some of them, e.g., the fuel mix for the power sector, bus route rationalization and low emission zones are controversial and complicated, there is a need to study carefully the views collected during the public consultation in order to map out the best way to update the AQOs and to implement the improvement measures. In the meantime, we have been endeavouring to introduce those improvement measures that are already supported or likely supported by the community to bring early improvement to air quality.

The Consultant for reviewing the AQOs has already estimated that the attainment of the proposed new AQOs could lead to an avoidance of some 4 200 hospital admissions, a saving of around 7 400 life year and about \$1,228 million per year as compared to the estimated annualized cost of about \$596 million to be incurred by the society for implementing the air quality improvement measures. We have no plan to conduct additional evaluation of the health benefits for the time being.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB084

Question Serial No.

1551

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the control of emissions of non-road mobile sources, the Administration completed a trial on subsidising ferry companies to use ultra low sulphur diesel last year. What are the trial results and the response of the ferry companies? Has the Administration reserved any funds to take forward the said scheme? Apart from ferries, has the Administration considered introducing measures to control emissions from other vessels coming to or leaving Hong Kong, including fishing boats, cruise vessels and container carriers?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

Together with ferry operators, we completed in 2010 a trial of powering local ferries by ultra low sulphur diesel (ULSD) and are analyzing the trial data. According to the preliminary findings (including the feedback of the participating ferry operators), the use of ULSD could reduce environmental nuisances but would incur additional fuel costs. We will map out the best way to reduce the emissions from ferries in the light of the trial findings.

In the case of cross-boundary vessels, Hong Kong has been implementing the requirements of Annex VI to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) since June 2008 to regulate ship emissions. Having regard to IMO Marine Environment Protection Committee's (MEPC) subsequent resolution MEPC.176(58), Hong Kong tightened on 1 July 2010 the relevant applicable requirement for the emissions of nitrogen oxides; and will further reduce the fuel sulphur cap to 3.5 % from 1 January 2012 and then to 0.5% from 1 January 2020. We will continue working closely with the Marine Department to monitor the IMO's and international community's latest development in policies and measures on maritime emission reduction and fuel quality enhancement and to study the feasibility of introducing such measures into Hong Kong.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB085

Question Serial No.

1552

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In respect of initiatives to combat climate change, will the Administration conduct consultation exercises? If yes, what is the specific consultation work? If no, what are the reasons?

Apart from the Environmental Protection Department, which departments will participate in the relevant work? Will the Administration earmark additional resources for the above initiatives?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The Government rolled out a public consultation on Hong Kong's climate change strategy and action agenda in September 2010. The public consultation ended on 31 December 2010.

We are analysing the comments received and aim to complete a consultation report in the next couple of months to chart the way forward. The Inter-departmental Working Group on Climate Change, comprising representatives from five bureaux and 16 departments, will monitor and co-ordinate efforts within the Administration in implementing suitable measures to reduce carbon emissions, facilitate adaptation to climate change in Hong Kong, as well as promoting public awareness and understanding of climate change and its likely impacts. In carrying out specific measures in the future, responsible bureaux / departments will seek necessary funding in accordance with established procedures.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB086

Question Serial No.

1553

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Why was "the number of days with air pollution index (API) not exceeding 100" for 2010 fewer than that for 2009? While the Administration continues to introduce measures to improve air quality, why is it estimated that there will still be about 140 days with API exceeding 100 for 2011? Which months are high air pollution days expected to fall in?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

While the ambient and roadside levels of sulphur dioxide (SO₂) and respirable suspended particulates (RSP) reduced in 2010 as compared with 2009, the roadside nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) concentration increased, resulting in more incidents of the roadside API exceeding 100 and hence fewer days with API not exceeding 100.

To tackle the roadside NO₂ problem, a number of initiatives are being explored. These include reducing the emissions from the franchised bus fleet by retrofitting their Euro II and III buses with selective catalytic reduction devices, deploying low emission buses as far as practicable to routes cutting through busy corridors, strengthening the emission control of petrol and liquefied petroleum gas vehicles, phasing out aged diesel commercial vehicles, encouraging a wider use of hybrid and electric vehicles and continuing working together with the Mainland to reduce the ozone level in the whole Pearl River Delta Region. These initiatives will take time to complete. We thus anticipate that the number of days with API exceeding 100 in 2011 will be close to the figure of around 140 in 2010, on the assumption that 2011 and 2010 have similar meteorological conditions.

High pollution days usually happen in cool seasons when the weather conditions are generally less favourable for dispersion of air pollutants and Hong Kong is more susceptible to regional pollution.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB087

Question Serial No.

1554

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (5) Environmental Assessment and Planning

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In paragraphs 70-72 of the Budget Speech, it is pointed out that our infrastructural investment will continue to grow in the coming years. Has the Government allowed for any resources under this Programme for extra manpower to cope with the environmental impact assessment work associated with these projects?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The infrastructural development projects will have to fully meet the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance and other relevant environmental legislations under established procedures. The Environmental Protection Department regularly monitors and reviews the adequacy of its resources in managing the impact assessment work and enforcing environmental legislation. It would follow up in accordance with the established mechanism if additional resources are necessary.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG**

Post Title _____ **Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection**

Date _____ **11 March 2011**

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB088

Question Serial No.

1555

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : What is the total number of visitors recorded since the opening of the Hong Kong National Geopark (the Geopark) so far? What are the numbers of local and overseas visitors respectively? Was there any person involved in major vandalism in the Geopark? According to the recent assessment by the Administration, was the guided tour service adequate? Is there any provision required for providing additional manpower to meet the service demand?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

According to the survey conducted by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD), about 1 200 000 visitors have visited the Geopark since its opening in November 2009 and most of the visitors are local residents. So far, no major vandalism took place in the Geopark. According to the recent assessment by AFCD, the guided tour services to the Geopark were limited by the number of high quality geotour guides. In view of this, in collaboration with the Hong Kong Travel Industry Council and the local NGOs, AFCD will further promote the Recommended Geotour Guide programme and organise more high quality geotour guide training courses. In 2011-12, \$2.58 million has been earmarked for AFCD to recruit more frontline staff to support management and enforcement in the Geopark.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

16 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB089

Question Serial No.

1556

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Are there any plans for the Administration to apply for listing more local scenic sites with unique geo-features as national geoparks during 2011-12? If yes, what are the scenic sites involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

We do not have any plan to apply for listing more local scenic sites as national Geoparks during 2011-12.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB090

Question Serial No.

1557

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Since the new nature conservation policy was promulgated in 2004, there has not been any successful public-private partnership pilot (PPP) scheme implemented. Will the Administration consider reviewing the local nature conservation policy so that relevant initiatives would be more in line with the present conservation requirements? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

There has been progress made in respect of projects under the PPP Pilot Scheme. The development proposal for Sha Lo Tung (SLT) has been taken forward after consultation with the Advisory Council on the Environment in 2008. The proponent for the SLT development has completed an environmental impact assessment (EIA) study and has submitted an EIA report under the EIA Ordinance. At present, the proponent for the SLT development is making arrangement for public inspection of the EIA report in accordance with the procedures under the EIA Ordinance.

Separately, a development proposal for Fung Lok Wai, which comprises sites in the Ramsar Site and Deep Bay Wetland outside Ramsar Site, has been taken forward by the proponent. The EIA report for the Fung Lok Wai development has been approved under the EIA Ordinance. At present, the town planning and land matters for the development are being considered

These projects which cover the twelve ecological sites identified are being processed in accordance with the New Nature Conservation Policy and the implementation experience will be under close monitoring.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB091

Question Serial No.

0536

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In Programme (2) under Head 44 – Environmental Protection Department Controller Officer's Report, the Administration stated that the one-off grant to encourage early replacement of Pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles with new ones complying with the prevailing statutory emission standard has been completed. Would the Administration advise this Committee:

- (a) The response to the said incentive scheme has been far from satisfactory since its launch in 2007, and there are still more than 38 000 pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles running on the road. Has the Administration considered deploying resources to extend the deadline for the scheme to coincide with the one-off grant to encourage early replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles?
- (b) If the incentive scheme fails to attract vehicle owners to replace their vehicles, has the Administration reserved provision for fully acquiring pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles and phasing out aged, highly polluting diesel vehicles?
- (c) The Administration also mentioned that it would seek funding for subsidising franchised bus companies to procure hybrid buses for trial along busy corridors at Causeway Bay, Central and Mongkok. Has the Administration also planned to seek funding for subsidising other public transport means such as minibus for similar trial?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Kin-por

Reply :

- (a) The principal objective of the one-off grant scheme was to expedite the replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles. Before the scheme ended in March 2010, we have already provided eligible vehicle owners with 36 months to apply for the subsidy to replace their aged vehicles. We consider it inappropriate to revive the scheme and extend its deadline to coincide with that of the incentive scheme for Euro II diesel commercial vehicles because doing so will go against the objective of expediting the replacement of these aged vehicles with new ones. Nevertheless, to help those eligible vehicle owners who had ordered new replacement vehicles before the grant scheme's deadline but the new vehicles could not arrive on time to complete the application for the grant, we have allowed them to retain their eligibility to apply for the grant until end-March 2011.
- (b) The Administration has been offering financial incentives to encourage owners of aged commercial vehicles to replace their vehicles with new ones. To give further impetus to vehicle owners to replace these aged vehicles, it is also necessary to consider introducing disincentives, such as raising the licence fees of aged vehicles, to discourage their continued usage. In addition, some commercial vehicle owners have decided to scrap their old vehicles

without replacement because they no longer have operational or business needs for the vehicles. In fact, during the incentive scheme to encourage pre-Euro and Euro I commercial vehicles to replace with new ones, some 11 000 pre-Euro and Euro I commercial vehicles have been deregistered by their owners voluntarily without joining the scheme and receiving any Government subsidies. We do not have plan to fully acquire pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles and to phase them out using public funds.

- (c) Franchised buses are the major cause of roadside air pollution on busy corridors. The ultimate policy objective of the Government is to have zero emission buses running across the territory. When the current bus franchises expire in the coming few years, the Administration will impose additional requirements in the franchises for the bus companies to switch to zero emission buses or the most environmental-friendly buses when replacing existing ones, taking into account the feasibility and affordability for bus operators and passengers. To this end, the Administration will fund the full cost of procuring six hybrid buses for use by the franchised bus companies along busy corridors to test the operational efficiency and performance of these buses under Hong Kong conditions and to collect operational data. As for other public transport operators, we would encourage them to make use of the \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund, which will be set up before the end of March 2011, for trying green and innovative transport technologies, including hybrid vehicles

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB092

Question Serial No.

0537

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under Programme (2) of Head 186 - Controlling Officer's Report for the Transport Department, the Transport Department will continue to provide support to the Environment Bureau in the implementation of incentive schemes for the early replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles with new ones complying with the prevailing statutory emission standard. Among all kinds of vehicles, diesel commercial vehicles cause the most serious air pollution. They are the major source of roadside air pollution. Therefore, those schemes are worth supporting. Please advise this Committee:

- (a) Ever since similar schemes were introduced, response from the transport sector has been quite lukewarm, resulting in ineffectiveness of the schemes. Apart from implementing deterrent measures like imposing a higher licence fee, has the Administration reserved more resources for providing incentives to attract the transport sector to replace their vehicles with new ones?
- (b) The transport sector points out that maintenance of environment-friendly vehicles is more difficult than that of ordinary vehicles and that diesel consumption by such vehicles is much higher. Has the Administration considered subsidising maintenance service providers and even providing diesel subsidy so as to reduce the seriously polluting old diesel commercial vehicles on the roads?
- (c) With only Euro II diesel commercial vehicles mentioned in the Budget and the completion of the one-off grant scheme for pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles earlier, there are still over 38 000 pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles on the roads. Has the Administration considered allocating resources to support the incentive schemes again?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Kin-por

Reply :

(a) and (c)

The schemes for encouraging the early replacement of aged diesel commercial vehicles pegged the incentive level at 12% of the vehicle cost for pre-Euro diesel vehicles and 18% for Euro I and II diesel vehicles. In the case of the incentive scheme for Euro II diesel commercial vehicles, which is now in operation, a vehicle owner could receive a subsidy up to \$203,000 per vehicle, depending on the vehicle class of the vehicle. Such subsidy level is one of the highest amongst similar incentive schemes operated by other countries/cities, and we have no plan to increase the subsidy level. To give further impetus to vehicle owners to replace these aged vehicles, it is necessary to consider introducing disincentives, such as raising the licence fees of aged vehicles, to discourage their continued usage.

- (b) Euro V emission standard is the qualifying standard for the incentive scheme for environment-friendly commercial vehicles. The design of the engines of Euro V commercial vehicles has a lot in common with Euro IV engines, which are the statutory requirements for newly registered vehicles, particularly in respect of emission control technologies. Their maintenance requirements and costs are also broadly similar to those of Euro IV vehicles. Vehicle owners have the responsibility to ensure that their vehicles are properly maintained. We thus do not consider it justifiable to subsidize the costs of vehicle maintenance.

There is also no evidence to suggest that environment-friendly vehicles use more fuel than Euro IV vehicles. To help address the difficult operation environment of the transport trades and facilitate the introduction of Euro V diesel, the Administration has already reduced the duty of motor diesel to zero since August 2008.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date 14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB093

Question Serial No.

3067

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : What measures has the Administration taken to encourage vehicle owners to switch to environmental-friendly vehicles?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

The Administration has taken the following measures to encourage vehicle owners to switch to environment-friendly vehicles:

- (i) to provide First Registration Tax (FRT) concessions for environment-friendly petrol private cars and environment-friendly commercial vehicles since April 2007 and April 2008, respectively;
- (ii) to extend the waiver of FRT on electric vehicles for five years till March 2014;
- (iii) to implement the \$540 million one-off grant scheme to encourage the early replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles by new ones;
- (iv) to provide for the business sector to enjoy a 100% profits tax deduction for the capital expenditure on environment-friendly vehicles (including electric vehicles, hybrid vehicles, environment-friendly commercial vehicles and environment-friendly petrol private cars) in the first year of their acquisition;
- (iv) to set up a \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund before the end of March 2011 for public transport operators and goods vehicle owners to apply for testing out green and low-carbon transport technology; and
- (v) to fully fund the franchised bus companies to procure six hybrid buses for use along busy corridors to test the operational efficiency and performance of these buses under Hong Kong conditions; and to provide them with the same financial support should they be interested in testing other greener buses such as electric buses.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB094

Question Serial No.

3632

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : (a) The department points out that about 5 million tonnes of solid waste were disposed in the three landfills in 2010. How many tonnes of waste was disposed in each landfill respectively in last year? What are the operating expenditures of each landfill in 2010?

(b) When will the three strategic landfills be filled up respectively as estimated by the Department? What are the estimated expenditures for restoring each of the three landfills respectively?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

- (a) In 2010, the total quantity of waste disposed of at the South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill, North East New Territories (NENT) Landfill and West New Territories (WENT) Landfill were 1 880 000 tonnes, 910 000 tonnes and 2 250 000 tonnes respectively. The operation fee in 2010-11 for the SENT Landfill, NENT Landfill and WENT Landfill are \$163 million, \$125 million and \$129 million respectively.
- (b) It is estimated that the SENT Landfill, NENT Landfill and WENT Landfill will be exhausted in around 2014, 2016 and 2018 respectively.

The restoration of the three strategic landfills will be carried out progressively as part of the overall landfill development under the Design, Build and Operation contract of individual landfills. There is no specific cost breakdown for restoration works in the contracts.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB095

Question Serial No.

3633

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Environmental Protection Department (EPD) said that it had made good progress in implementing the Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste (the Policy Framework) and that the Source Separation of Waste Programme (the Programme) had now been extended to cover some 80 per cent of the population. What measures were adopted by EPD to implement the Policy Framework in 2010? What was the amount of expenditure involved? On what basis does EPD consider that it has made good progress in implementing the Policy Framework? How was the coverage rate of the Programme calculated?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has spent about \$21.99 million in 2010-11 to promote the Programme on Source Separation of Waste and encourage community participation in waste reduction, separation, recovery and recycling. A breakdown of the key expenditures is as follows.

	Expenditure Categories	Amount HK\$ million
1	Implementing education and promotion programmes such as holding workshops, forums, publicity events and related activities.	8.82
2	Production of publicity materials, e.g. videos, computer programmes, leaflets, brochures, banners, souvenirs, etc.	6.18
3	Media advertisement, e.g. newspapers, radio, internet, public video walls, MTR stations, bus TV, bus bodies, etc.	4.55
4	Provision of recycle bins and other necessary technical support.	2.44

When the Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste was launched in 2005, yearly targets were set on the number of housing estates joining the Programme. The outcome in recruiting housing estates to join the Programme is encouraging and the yearly enrolment targets have all been achieved.

Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Target (no. of housing estates)	470	700	920	1 140	Over 1 360
Actual enrolment (no. of housing estates)	497	766	996	1 256	1 637

In terms of population coverage of the programme, we have also met the target stated in the Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste (2005-2014), that is to have 80% of Hong Kong population taking part in the SSW Programme by 2010.

By December 2010, more than 1 600 housing estates and residential buildings have joined the Source Separation of Domestic Waste Programme. In total, the population in all these housing estates and residential buildings is estimated to be about 78.5% based on the number of household units. In rural areas, villagers can also participate in source separation of waste by using the recycle bins recently placed at the refuse collection points in more than 700 villages. The population coverage in these villages is estimated to be about 2% from the census record. Therefore, the total population participating in source separation of domestic waste is estimated to be about 80.5% in December 2010.

The recovery rate of domestic waste has increased significantly from 14% in 2004 to 35% in 2009, with the amount of landfill disposal of domestic waste dropped by more than 10% in the same period. Overall, we achieved a recovery rate of 49% for Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) in 2009, which overshot the target of achieving 45% by 2009 laid down in the 2005 Policy Framework. We will enhance our work on waste recycling and commit to raise our target of MSW recovery rate to 55% by 2015.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date 15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB096

Question Serial No.

3634

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : According to the indicators provided by Environmental Protection Department (EPD), the amount of waste received by the strategic landfills in 2010 exceeded that in 2009 by about 180 000 tonnes. What are the reasons? What was the amount of additional resources allocated by EPD to deal with the increase in waste? Since the amount of waste has increased by 180 000 tonnes, why does EPD still consider that it has made good progress in implementing the Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

The increase in waste disposal in 2010 might be a result of strong economic rebound, with GDP increase by 6.8% and population growth by 0.9% in 2010 as compared to 2009 according to the latest statistics published by the Census and Statistics Department. In addition, the amount of construction waste disposed of at landfills has also increased in 2010 as the overall level of construction activities rose with the commencement of some large infrastructure projects during this period. The total fee for operation of landfills in 2010-11 is \$21.33 million higher than that in 2009-10, mainly due to increase in waste received and higher price fluctuation indices.

Despite the slight increase in waste disposal in 2010, our per-capita disposal rate for Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), now standing at 1.29 kilogrammes per day, is still 7% below the level in 2005 when the Policy Framework for the Management of MSW was promulgated. The Source Separation of Waste Programme launched in 2005 has now covered 80% of the population as targeted in the Policy Framework. In addition, our MSW recovery rate has reached 49% in 2009 which has exceeded the target of 45% by 2009 stated in the Policy Framework. We will continue to enhance our efforts to promote waste reduction, reuse, recovery and recycling as well as the need for modern waste treatment facilities and timely landfill extension. In January 2011, we reaffirmed this multi-pronged approach in our waste management strategy to tackle the imminent waste problem in Hong Kong.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

16 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB097

Question Serial No.

3635

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : What is the specific work of the Department's study on the municipal solid waste (MSW) charging? When will the department plan to conduct public consultation on the MSW charging? What are the consultation details and estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

Municipal Solid Waste charging creates direct economic incentive to promote waste reduction and recovery. The principles, pros and cons of various charging options as well as these implications when implemented in Hong Kong will be presented for public engagement later this year. The public engagement exercise will be undertaken by staff of Environmental Protection Department as part of their normal duties and expenditures for the public consultation will be absorbed by the provisions for 2011-12.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB098

Question Serial No.

3636

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In respect of the work on introducing licensing control on the collection and disposal of clinical waste, what is the Department's specific work plan? Regarding the licensing, what are the procedures involved? Does the Department have any plan to consult the public and the trade on the licensing? If yes, what are the consultation details and the expected expenditure?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

The relevant provisions of the Waste Disposal (Clinical Waste) (General) Regulation took effect in November 2010 which requires clinical waste collectors and disposal facility operators to obtain the relevant licences before the full implementation of the clinical waste control scheme in the second half of 2011. Licence applicants are required to submit an application together with an Operation Plan setting out in details their operation and maintenance procedures, pollution control measures, environmental monitoring procedures, and safety and insurance provisions. In order to ensure environmentally sound and safe waste collection and disposal operations, Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will assess each element of the Operation Plan and conduct inspections to ascertain if it fulfills all licensing control provisions before granting a licence. As part of the preparatory work for licensing, EPD has issued guidance documents and conducted a briefing session to the relevant trade in December 2010. In addition, all licensing information and the Codes of Practice for the Management of Clinical Waste have been uploaded to the department's website for reference.

We also consulted the relevant stakeholders including the Hospital Authority, Hong Kong Medical Association, Hong Kong Doctors Unions, Practising Estate Doctors' Association, Hong Kong Dental Association, the College of Nursing and waste collectors in August 2009 on the scheme. The consultation exercise was undertaken by EPD staff as part of the normal duties and did not incur additional expenditure.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB099

Question Serial No.

3637

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Noise

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Will the department allocate resources and manpower for carrying out studies on tackling road traffic noise problem and for examining locations that should be given priority for retrofitting noise barriers? If yes, what are the relevant time table and details of work, etc? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

To mitigate the noise impact of existing roads, the Government will consider the implementation of direct engineering solutions, where practicable, by way of retrofitting of barriers and enclosures. Upon the identification of noisy roads, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD), in conjunction with the Highways Department, Transport Department and Fire Services Department, will conduct studies on reviewing the eligibility of the road sections for retrofitting of barriers. These reviews involve assessing the impact of traffic noise from the concerned roads on neighbouring residents and to seek comments from other government departments on the engineering and technical feasibility of retrofitting of barriers. Eligible road sections will be included in the retrofitting programme for implementation in line with the procedures of the Public Works Programme. The works will be carried out in stages with priority given to road sections with the highest noise exposure and number of affected residents. These reviews are part of the on-going regular works of EPD and there is no separate account on the resources involved.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB100

Question Serial No.

3638

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (5) Environmental Assessment and Planning

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Will the Department allocate resources and manpower to review and amend the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance? If yes, what are the relevant time table and details of work? What is the expected expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

The Environmental Protection Department regularly reviews the operation of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) system, including the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (EIAO) with a view to enhancing the system's effectiveness and efficiency. These reviews take into account the experiences accumulated in implementing the EIA system, development and practices in overseas countries as well as feedback from all stakeholders using the EIA system. . The reviews are continual and regular processes which are taken up by existing manpower and resources. Should the review findings lead to necessary amendment of the EIAO, appropriate manpower and resources will be sought accordingly.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB101

Question Serial No.

3639

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : It is mentioned that the Department will work out the best way forward for updating the Air Quality Objectives. What are the specific details of the relevant work? When does the Department plan to consult the views of the public on this issue? What are the consultation details and estimated expenditure so involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

The attainment of the proposed new Air Quality Objectives (AQOs) depends on the successful implementation of the proposed package of air quality improvement measures. The recommended air quality improvement measures encompass a wide range of issues and cut across a number of policy areas. Many of them are controversial and complicated. We are studying carefully the views collected during the public consultation for mapping out the best way to implement the improvement measures and to update the AQOs.

Meanwhile, to bring early improvement to our air quality, we are endeavouring to introduce those improvement measures that are already supported or likely supported by the community, including maximizing the use of the existing natural gas-fired generation units by the power companies; further tightening the emission caps of the power sector that have been set for 2010 onwards by about 34% to 50% from 2015; introducing relevant regulations to promote energy efficiency for electrical appliances and buildings; proposing emission standards for non-road mobile sources; providing subsidies to encourage early replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles with new ones; conducting a trial of retrofitting on franchised buses with "Selective Catalytic Reduction" devices to reduce emissions; designating pilot low emission zones at busy corridors in Causeway Bay, Central and Mong Kok; setting up a Pilot Green Transport Fund to encourage innovative transport technology. In taking forward these initiatives, we have consulted the relevant stakeholders and LegCo. The resources have been absorbed by the existing provisions.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB102

Question Serial No.

3640

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : What specific measures will be taken by the Department to continue implementing the technical support programme to promote the adoption of cleaner production technologies and practices by Hong Kong-owned factories in the Pearl River Delta Region? What is the estimated expenditure concerned?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

In April 2008, we launched a five-year Cleaner Production Partnership Programme in conjunction with the Economic and Trade Commission of Guangdong Province to encourage and facilitate Hong Kong-owned factories operating in the Pearl River Delta Region to adopt cleaner production technologies and practices with a view to reducing emissions and enhancing energy efficiency. The Programme provides funding support to participating factories to carry out on-site improvement assessments, implement demonstration projects and engage third party verification services to help verify the effectiveness of improvement projects. The Programme will also continue to organise awareness promotion and publicity activities, such as seminars, workshops, briefings, factory visits. We have budgeted some \$20 million for 2011-12 under the Programme.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB103

Question Serial No.

3641

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : What specific measures will be taken by the Department to continue engaging the community to conduct carbon audit for buildings and commence carbon reduction programmes? What is the estimated expenditure concerned?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

The Government continues to take forward the "Green Hong Kong • Carbon Audit" Campaign by inviting organisations from different sectors of the community to join the cause of carbon auditing. So far, more than 220 organisations from the property development and management, hotel, banking and logistics sectors, professional bodies, universities, non-profit organisations, etc. have become our "Carbon Audit • Green Partners" by undertaking conduct carbon audits and to initiate carbon reduction programmes in their buildings. In 2010-11, the Government engaged and provided funding to major local trade associations to sustain efforts in carbon reduction, including producing a web-based "Carbon Management Tool", and conducting workshops and seminars for their member organizations. Furthermore, we engaged local community associations in organising neighbourhood workshops and community programmes on climate change and carbon auditing.

In 2011-12, the Government will continue to engage the community in different initiatives to promote carbon audit for buildings as well as to reduce carbon emissions. About \$3.9 million is budgeted for this purpose.

We have also been promoting carbon audit through the Buildings Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes, under which \$450 million from the Environment and Conservation Fund has been earmarked for subsidizing building owners to conduct energy-cum-carbon audits and carry out energy efficiency improvement projects. Up to 28 February 2011, we have approved 121 applications for such audits.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB104

Question Serial No.

3646

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : It has been over 6 years since the introduction of the existing "New Nature Conservation Policy" in November 2004. Subject to several incidents happened recently causing damage to the natural environment, are there any plans to review such policy and update the "New Nature Conservation Policy"? If yes, what are the time table and details of work concerned? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

In accordance with the New Nature Conservation Policy, projects under the Management Agreement (MA) scheme and the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Pilot Scheme are being implemented. The 12 Priority Sites for enhanced conservation under the New Nature Conservation Policy have been regularly monitored by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) to keep in view their ecological and conservation conditions. Based on the monitoring results, the Priority Sites are generally in good conditions. Fung Yuen and Long Valley have continued to be managed under the Management Agreement (MA) scheme being funded by the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) since 2005. There has been progress made in respect of projects under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Pilot Scheme. The development proposal for Sha Lo Tung (SLT) has been taken forward after consultation with the Advisory Council on the Environment in 2008. Separately, a development proposal for Fung Lok Wai has also been taken forward by the proponent. We will keep in view the development of these projects from time to time and will closely monitoring the implementation of the New Nature Conservation Policy.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB105

Question Serial No.

3647

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : What specific work plans will be adopted by the Department in order to implement the existing nature conservation measures? In what ways will the Department monitor the "country parks enclaves" in particular so as to avoid precious natural resources being damaged by private construction works? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

We will continue to pursue nature conservation under the New Nature Conservation Policy promulgated in 2004. Fung Yuen and Long Valley have continued to be managed under the Management Agreement (MA) scheme being funded by the Environment and Conservation fund (ECF) since 2005. There has been progress made in respect of projects under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Pilot Scheme. The development proposal for Sha Lo Tung (SLT) has been taken forward after consultation with the Advisory Council on the Environment in 2008. Separately, a development proposal for Fung Lok Wai, which comprises sites in the Ramsar Site and Deep Bay Wetland outside Ramsar Site, has been taken forward by the proponent. At present, the town planning and land matters for the development are being considered.

Regarding the protection of enclaves, there are currently 77 country park enclaves, of which 23 have already been covered by Outline Zoning Plan (OZP) under the Town Planning Ordinance (TPO). Since August 2010, seven enclaves out of the 54 remaining enclaves have been covered by draft Development Permission Area (DPA) plan gazetted under TPO. For the 47 enclaves not covered by any statutory plan, consideration is being given to incorporate them either as part of the Country Parks or DPA plans to be followed by OZP under TPO.

In 2011-12, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will allocate \$2.5 million for the strengthening of patrol and enforcement relating to the country park enclaves. These resources will be absorbed under Programme (2) ("Nature Conservation and Country Parks Programme") under Head 22 – AFCD. The Environment Protection Department (EPD) will continue to oversee AFCD's works in this aspect and relevant resources are absorbed under Programme (6) ("Nature Conservation") under Head 44 - EPD.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

ANISSA WONG

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB106

Question Serial No.

0516

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12, the Administration will continue with leasing out land in EcoPark in Tuen Mun Area 38. Would the Administration inform this Committee about the amount of different types of waste treated by EcoPark in Tuen Mun Area 38 last year? What is the amount of waste expected to be treated in 2011-12?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

Most of the tenants in EcoPark are still in the commissioning or initial operation stage and a total of about 14 500 tonnes of recyclable wastes were processed in 2010. A breakdown of the different types of wastes processed is summarized below.

Tenants	Waste types	Date of Commissioning	Throughput 2010 (Tonnes)
Hong Kong Hung Wai Wooden Board Company	Waste wood	Trial operation commenced in May 2010	4 500
Li Tong Group	Waste computer equipment	Operation commenced in September 2010	80
Champway Technology Ltd	Waste cooking oil	Trial operation commenced in April 2010 and full operation commenced in August 2010	4 600
Hong Kong Telford Envirotech Group Ltd	Waste plastics	Trial operation commenced in November 2010	Small quantity
Shiu Wing Metal Ltd	Waste metals	Operation commenced in May 2010	4 500
Cosmos Star Holdings Company Ltd	Waste batteries	Operation is expected to commence in 2011	Not yet commissioned
Yan Oi Tong EcoPark Plastic Resources Recycling Centre	Waste plastics	Operation commenced in March 2010	600
St. James' Settlement "WEEE GO GREEN"	Waste electrical and electronic equipment	Operation commenced in October 2010	40

Upon full commissioning of the recycling plants, the targeted annual amount of waste processed is about 60 000 tonnes.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB107

Question Serial No.

0517

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : As regards Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12, the Administration mentioned that in 2011-12, it will take forward the proposed ban of commercial fishing in marine parks. Would the Administration give the details and updated progress of the above work?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

We have consulted relevant fishermen associations and District Councils as well as the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs (the Panel) on the proposal to ban commercial fishing in marine parks. A public hearing was conducted by the Panel on 15 December 2009 at which a total of 33 organizations, including green groups, rural committees, fishermen associations and recreational fishing associations, attended to express their views and concerns.

In view of the concerns expressed, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has invited fishermen organizations of Sai Kung and Northeast New Territories to take part in a pilot scheme of collaboration between fishermen associations and other ecotourism professionals to organize eco-tours. The pilot scheme was rolled out in the waters of Sai Kung and Northeast New Territories in October 2010. Up to now, about 70 fishermen were trained and participated in the pilot scheme.

AFCD would launch another pilot scheme in the southern waters in March 2011 and other areas later this year to assist fishermen taking up fisheries related eco-tourism business. The scheme would further assist the fishermen in broadening their skills and grasping new opportunities in eco-tourism.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB108

Question Serial No.

1338

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the measure to support the implementation of schemes for encouraging the early replacement of aged diesel commercial vehicles and the purchase of environment-friendly vehicles, what are the numbers of applications in each year since the launch of the schemes? Please provide the figures in a table form.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

The incentive scheme to encourage early replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles with new ones complying with the prevailing statutory emission standard commenced in April 2007 and ended in March 2010. A special arrangement was made to allow those eligible vehicle owners who had ordered new replacement vehicles before the grant scheme's deadline but the new vehicles could not arrive on time to complete the application to retain their eligibility to apply for the grant until end-March 2011. A similar incentive scheme to encourage early replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles was launched in July 2010. The numbers of applications received under these two schemes in each fiscal year since their launch are tabulated below:

	Apr 2007- Mar 2008 (no. of case)	Apr 2008- Mar 2009 (no. of case)	Apr 2009- Mar 2010 (no. of case)	Apr 2010- Feb 2011 (no. of case)
Incentive Scheme for pre-Euro and Euro I Diesel Commercial Vehicles (commenced from 1 April 2007)	4 997	6 241	4 741	1 075 [#]
Incentive Scheme for Euro II Diesel Commercial Vehicles (commenced from 1 July 2010)	N/A	N/A	N/A	1 164

[#] No. of applications received under the special arrangement for the incentive scheme for pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles.

The numbers of applications received under the tax incentive schemes for environment-friendly vehicles in each fiscal year since their launch are as follows:

	Apr 2007- Mar 2008 (no. of case)	Apr 2008- Mar 2009 (no. of case)	Apr 2009- Mar 2010 (no. of case)	Apr 2010- Feb 2011 (no. of case)
Environment-friendly Petrol Private Cars (commenced from 1 April 2007)	3 913	3 454	4 609	6 370
Environment-friendly Commercial vehicles (commenced from 1 April 2008)	N/A	246	426	1 847

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date 9 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB109

Question Serial No.

1752

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : (a) As it is said in paragraph 4 of the Brief Description, the Source Separation of Waste Programme has now been extended to cover some 80 per cent of the population. How was the above data collected?

- (b) At present, how many hotels, guesthouses and restaurants have joined the commercial and industrial sectors' Source Separation of Waste Programme? Will the Administration strengthen its publicity and encourage the above establishments to join the Programme actively?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

- (a) By December 2010, more than 1 600 housing estates and residential buildings have joined the Source Separation of Domestic Waste Programme. The population in all these housing estates and residential buildings is estimated to be about 78.5% based on the number of household units. In rural areas, villagers can also participate in source separation of waste by using the recycle bins recently placed at the refuse collection points in more than 700 villages. The population coverage in these villages is estimated to be about 2% from the census record. Therefore, the total population participating in source separation of domestic waste is estimated to be about 80.5% in December 2010.
- (b) The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) launched the Programme on Source Separation of Commercial and Industrial Waste (C&I Programme) in October 2007. By February 2011, 671 C&I buildings have joined the Programme, covering office buildings, industrial buildings, hotels, guesthouses, shopping complexes (including restaurants) and warehouses. To encourage more C&I premises to come forward and join the C&I Programme, EPD conducts education and promotion programmes such as annual commendation schemes to honour participants with good achievements in waste recovery. More promotional activities would be organized by EPD in the coming years to encourage the C&I sector to reduce, reuse and recycle their waste.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB110

Question Serial No.

1753

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Over the past two years, there has been a discrepancy between the actual number of smoky vehicle reports processed and the actual number of smoky vehicles tested. What are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

The actual number of smoky vehicle reports processed could be different from the actual number of smoky vehicles tested because in processing the smoky vehicle reports, we discard those that :-

- (a) are duplicated (i.e. the same vehicles are reported smoky by more than one accredited smoky vehicle spotter); or
- (b) fail to provide all the required information or provide vehicle particulars that are inconsistent with the vehicle registration record of the Transport Department.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB111

Question Serial No.

1754

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The amount of waste treated by the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre in 2010 was only 18 700 tonnes, a drastic reduction of nearly a half of the 39 100 tonnes treated in 2009. What are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

Chemical waste received at the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre (CWTC) comes from two sources. They are land based chemical waste produced from local commercial and industrial activities and marine based chemical waste (commonly known as MARPOL waste (Note)) which is mainly oily waste from ocean going vessels. According to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships 1973 as modified by the Protocol of 1978 (MARPOL Convention), the port authority should provide proper reception service for MARPOL waste and the CWTC is the only facility in Hong Kong providing such service.

As shown in the table below, the amount of chemical waste received at the CWTC fluctuated over the years. There was a general trend of decrease in land based chemical waste which might be due to relocation of industries since the 1990s. With respect to MARPOL waste, the vessels are free to decide which port to unload their MARPOL waste. There was no clear trend and no particular relation, for instance, to the number of vessels visiting Hong Kong.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Land based chemical waste (tonnes)	17 038	15 799	14 749	11 500	10 000	9 550
Marine based MARPOL waste (tonnes)	20 386	31 431	30 950	30 500	29 100	9 150
Number of ocean going vessels visiting Hong Kong	39 140	39 020	37 150	35 850	33 157	32 632#

: provisional figure

Note: "MARPOL" means International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB112

Question Serial No.

1755

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : (a) There were 21 prosecutions for chemical waste control offences in 2010. Please give details of the said prosecutions.

(b) Environmental Protection Department (EPD) expected that there would be 8 prosecutions for chemical waste control offences in 2011. Would EPD advise on what criteria and method was the above estimate made?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

- (a) The 21 chemical waste prosecutions in 2010 involved production of waste without registration, improper labelling and packaging of waste, failure to meet waste storage requirements and collection of waste without a licence. Eight waste producers and 2 waste collectors were prosecuted in these cases, and the fines of the convicted cases ranged from \$1,600 to \$6,000.
- (b) The 21 prosecutions recorded in 2010 included 16 cases spotted in 2009 but with legal proceeding completed in early 2010. On average, there were about 10 prosecutions in the past two years. With an improving compliance trend, it was estimated that the number of prosecutions in 2011 would be reduced to 8.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB113

Question Serial No.

1756

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The number of marine dumping permits issued in 2010 was 143, more than double of the 69 issued in 2009. What are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

The increase in number of permits issued under the Dumping at Sea Ordinance in 2010 was a result of the increase in construction activities associated with various infrastructure projects. Many of these projects involved dredging work that would generate marine sediments requiring permits under the Ordinance for proper disposal.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB114

Question Serial No.

1757

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Please provide information on the latest situation regarding leasing out of land and vacant rate in EcoPark in Tuen Mun Area 38.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

The 20-hectare EcoPark is developed in two phases with a total rentable area of 14 hectares. All six lots in Phase 1 with a total rentable area of 4 hectares have been leased. Two waste recycling centres operated by non-profit making organizations have been set up on two 0.5 hectare lots in Phase 2. Tenders were invited for leases of six lots in Phase 2, with a total rentable area of 5 hectares, on 4 March 2011.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG** _____

Post Title _____ **Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection** _____

Date _____ **9 March 2011** _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB115

Question Serial No.

1758

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : How many tonnes of food waste were collected in 2010? Has the Administration planned or considered drawing up any publicity strategy for educating the public and business sectors to treasure food so as to reduce food waste?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

In 2009, about 1.2 million tonnes of food waste, which was mixed with other municipal solid waste, was disposed of in the landfills. The statistics of food waste in 2010 are not yet available.

Over the years, the Government has carried out various education and publicity activities to enhance the awareness of the public and the business sectors about food waste avoidance and reduction. Our initiatives to promote food waste reduction include talks, exhibitions, the launching of a Green Lunch Charter for schools to stop using disposable containers, and a programme to support schools in retrofitting the necessary facilities to implement central meal portioning through the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF).

The ECF also supports non-profit making organizations in organizing and promoting food waste avoidance and reduction activities. For example, the ECF sponsored the "Save Food Day" activities to promote good eating culture and habits. In addition, we have implemented a "Food Waste Recycling Partnership Scheme" with the commercial and industrial sectors to promote good food waste management and to encourage the reduction of food waste. We are also drawing up plans through the ECF to assist private housing estates in educating the public, collecting source-separated food waste and treating the collected food waste using on-site treatment facilities.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB116

Question Serial No.

1759

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Noise

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Road traffic noise has always been an annoying problem to the public, especially in constantly congested roads during busy hours at daytime. Many motorists "sound their horns" because of slow traffic ahead on the road. It poses a serious nuisance to both pedestrians and nearby office workers. Will the Administration carry out studies for feasible measures to reduce noise nuisance caused by such kind of groundless "horn sounding"? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

The horn of a vehicle on a road is for warning other road users at times of danger. The driver should not use the horn under slow traffic condition unnecessarily. Section 43 of the Road Traffic (Traffic Control) Regulations (Cap. 374G) stipulates that "no person shall use any audible device on a vehicle on a road except to warn any person on or near a road of danger". Offenders are liable to a fine of \$2,000.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB117

Question Serial No.

1760

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In accordance with the new nature conservation policy, 12 priority sites for enhanced conservation have been identified for application for implementing pilot schemes for public-private partnership (PPP) and management agreement projects. Unfortunately, the Administration has been at a stalemate in approving these applications, resulting in most sites without implementation plans. Please provide information on:

- (a) What is the latest situation regarding the above 12 priority sites for priority conservation?
- (b) Would the Administration review the existing vetting criteria and conduct studies to improve the efficiency of vetting? If no, please list the reasons in detail.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

- (a) The 12 Priority Sites for enhanced conservation under the New Nature Conservation Policy have been regularly monitored by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department to keep in view their ecological and conservation conditions. Based on the monitoring results, the Priority Sites are generally in good conditions.

Two of the Priority Sites, namely Fung Yuen and Long Valley, have continued to be managed under the Management Agreement (MA) scheme being funded by the Environment and Conservation fund (ECF) since 2005. The number and diversity of birds at Long Valley and butterflies at Fung Yuen have increased. Management measures are confirmed to be effective in enhancing the conservation value of the sites. The ECF has granted a total of \$21 million for the projects since 2005, which will last until 2012-2013.

There has been progress made in respect of projects under the (PPP) Pilot Scheme. The development proposal for Sha Lo Tung (SLT) has been taken forward after consultation with the Advisory Council on the Environment in 2008. The proponent for the SLT development has completed an environmental impact assessment (EIA) study and has submitted an EIA report under the EIA Ordinance. At present, the proponent for the SLT development is making arrangement for public inspection of the EIA report in accordance with the procedures under the EIA Ordinance. Separately, a development proposal for Fung Lok Wai, which comprises sites in the Ramsar Site and Deep Bay Wetland outside Ramsar Site, has been taken forward by the proponent. The EIA report for the Fung Lok Wai development has been approved under the EIA Ordinance. At present, the town planning and land matters for the development are being considered.

- (b) As these MA and PPP projects are underway, there is no need to review the existing vetting criteria at this stage. We will keep in view the development of these MA and PPP projects and review the actual experience from these projects from time to time.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG**

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 9 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB118

Question Serial No.

1761

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : It is recently reported that geoparks were damaged by a small number of people who do not love nature. Regarding this situation, how many people are currently deployed to manage geoparks? Will the government increase manpower to patrol geoparks?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

About 50 staff from the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) are currently deployed to provide patrol and law-enforcement coverage for the Hong Kong National Geopark. In 2011-12, an additional \$2.58 million has been earmarked for AFCD to employ non-civil service contract staff to strengthen patrol and law-enforcement in the Hong Kong National Geopark.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB119

Question Serial No.

1763

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Please inform the Committee of the number of complaints about light pollution caused by external lightings received in 2009 and 2010 respectively, and the methods for addressing such complaints.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

The number of light pollution complaints received by the Environment Protection Department (EPD) in 2009 and 2010 is set out below : -

	2009	2010
Number of complaints	213	226

Upon receipt of complaints on light pollution, EPD would in general reflect complainants' concerns and appeals to the responsible parties of the lighting installations. EPD would also offer advice as appropriate, such as lowering the lighting intensity, adjusting the angle of spot lights to avoid nuisances from spill light, or switching off non-essential lights at an earlier time. We notice that improvement measures to abate the light nuisance have been adopted in many cases subsequent to our appeal and advice.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB120

Question Serial No.

1513

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF), what are the annual fund allocations for strengthening household participation in waste separation, food waste recovery and recycling in the past three years? How does the Administration plan to promote and encourage the community to use the ECF for the promotion of environmental protection activities?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

The ECF provides funding support to organizations to encourage waste reduction and recovery. The funds approved for projects in the areas of source separation of domestic waste, food waste reduction and recovery as well as waste recycling in the past three years are as follows:

	2008/09 Financial Year (\$ million)	2009/10 Financial Year (\$ million)	2010/11 Financial Year (\$ million)	Total Provision (\$ million)
Source separation of domestic waste	0.45	0.35	0.31	1.11
Food waste reduction and recovery	0.28	29.62	51.96	81.86
Waste recycling	0.97	23.93	9.53	34.43
Total provision	1.70	53.90	61.80	117.40

To facilitate the interested, eligible organizations to make use of funding support for environment and conservation projects, the ECF Committee selects specific themes and earmark funding for applications under the selected themes. For example, on food waste reduction and recovery, the ECF launched "On-site Meal Portioning Projects in School" in December 2009 to fund schools to carry out basic conversion works and install necessary facilities so as to avoid the use of disposable lunch boxes and cutlery and to reduce food waste. In parallel, eligible organizations may formulate their proposals designed to achieve environment and conservation objectives and each application will be assessed on its own merits. Quite a number of non-government organizations, including schools, welfare institutions, and charity bodies have applied and received funding support on food waste reduction programmes and installation of appropriate equipment such as on-site composters.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG**

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 16 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB121

Question Serial No.

1514

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In 2011-12, the Administration will continue to raise public awareness and strengthen community participation in waste separation, recovery and recycling. Please provide details such as specific initiatives, manpower arrangements and the required expenditure, etc.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) plans to spend about \$24.30 million in 2011-12 to further promote the Programme on Source Separation of Waste and encourage community participation in waste separation, recovery and recycling. A total of 35 officers will be engaged in this work.

The EPD will work with government departments, the property management sector, schools, green groups, social service groups and public organizations to promote community awareness on waste reduction, separation and recycling. Additional efforts will be made to encourage the public to reduce waste and separate waste at source for recycling. There will be enhanced publicity and education including media advertisements and broadcasts, workshops, forums, exhibitions, posting of posters and banners at housing estates and public places together with promotional activities.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB122

Question Serial No.

0106

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Please list the average total cost for treating one tonne of Municipal Solid Waste in 2010-11, including the cost for transferring waste and disposal of waste in a landfill.

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

A breakdown of the average costs for transfer and disposal of municipal solid waste at landfills in 2010-11 is provided below :

	2010-11 (\$/tonne)
Transfer	190
Disposal at landfill	147
Total cost per tonne	337

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB123

Question Serial No.

0109

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (4) Water

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : What are the updated progress of the statutory procedures and the expenditure involved in rezoning a site at Stonecutters Island for the underground biological treatment works under the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme (HATS) Stage 2B?

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

In September 2009, the Environmental Protection Department submitted an application under the Town Planning Ordinance for amendments to an approved Stonecutters Island Outline Zoning Plan (OZP) to facilitate rezoning of land for the development of a proposed underground biological treatment plant under Stage 2B of HATS. In February 2011, the Town Planning Board agreed that the amended OZP was suitable for submission to the Chief Executive-in-Council for approval. The rezoning procedures are expected to complete in 2011-12. We have engaged a consultant to carry out planning and land use study of the site to facilitate the rezoning application. The estimated expenditure in 2011-12 for hiring consultants' services is \$165,000.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB124

Question Serial No.

1459

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The amount of special wastes treated by the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre in 2010 was 18 700 tonnes, which was substantially lower than the 39 100 tonnes treated in 2009. What are the reasons for the reduction in the amount of special wastes treated and what are their financial implications?

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

Chemical waste received at the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre (CWTC) comes from two sources. They are land based chemical waste produced from local commercial and industrial activities and marine based chemical waste (commonly known as MARPOL waste (Note)) which is mainly oily waste from ocean going vessels. According to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships 1973 as modified by the Protocol of 1978 (MARPOL Convention), the port authority should provide proper reception service for MARPOL waste and the CWTC is the only facility in Hong Kong providing such service.

As shown in the table below, the amount of chemical waste received at the CWTC fluctuated over the years. There was a general trend of decrease in land based chemical waste which might be due to relocation of industries since the 1990s. With respect to MARPOL waste, the vessels are free to decide which port to unload their MARPOL waste. There was no clear trend and no particular relation, for instance, to the number of vessels visiting Hong Kong.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Land based chemical waste (tonnes)	17 038	15 799	14 749	11 500	10 000	9 550
Marine based MARPOL waste (tonnes)	20 386	31 431	30 950	30 500	29 100	9 150
Number of ocean going vessels visiting Hong Kong	39 140	39 020	37 150	35 850	33 157	32 632 #

: provisional figure

In 2010-11, the operating cost for treating chemical waste at CWTC is estimated to be about \$160 million whereas the operating cost for 2009-10 was \$289 million.

Note: "MARPOL" means International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB125

Question Serial No.

1460

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The number of days with air pollution index (API) not exceeding 100 for 2010 was 223, which was 33 days fewer than 256 such days for 2009. Please advise the reason for the decrease in the number of days with relatively clean air and the estimated expenditure for improving air quality to increase the number of days with API not exceeding 100 in 2011-12.

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

While the ambient and roadside levels of sulphur dioxide (SO₂) and respirable suspended particulates (RSP) reduced in 2010 as compared with 2009, the roadside nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) concentration increased, resulting in more incidents of the roadside API exceeding 100 and hence fewer days with API not exceeding 100.

To tackle the roadside NO₂ pollution problem, we need to reduce the emissions from the franchised bus fleet by retrofitting their Euro II and III buses with selective catalytic reduction devices, deploy low emission buses as far as practicable to routes cutting through busy corridors, strengthen the emission control of petrol and LPG vehicles, phase out aged diesel commercial vehicles, encourage the wider use of hybrid and electric vehicles and continue working together with the Mainland to reduce the ozone level in the whole Pearl River Delta Region. These measures are part and parcel of the Air Programme and the related expenditure in 2011-12 will be covered by the provision for the Programme.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB126

Question Serial No.

1461

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Please inform this Committee about the number of light pollution complaints handled by the Department in 2009 and 2010 respectively and what is the expenditure reserved for handling light pollution complaints in 2011-12?

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) handled 213 and 226 complaints of light pollution in 2009 and 2010 respectively. Handling of environmental-related complaints forms part of the EPD's regular duties and we do not breakdown EPD's expense specifically on tackling light pollution complaints.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB127

Question Serial No.

2458

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12, it is mentioned that the Department will “engage the public in discussion on possible options for municipal solid waste charging”. Would the Administration inform this Committee of the details and scope of the above consultation/discussion; proposed feasible charging scheme to be initiated; when the consultation/discussion will begin; resources and manpower staffing earmarked for the consultation/discussion?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

Municipal Solid Waste charging creates direct economic incentive to promote waste reduction and recovery. The principles, pros and cons of various charging options as well as these implications when implemented in Hong Kong will be presented for public engagement later this year. The public engagement exercise will be undertaken by staff of Environmental Protection Department as part of their normal duties and expenditures for the public consultation will be absorbed by the provisions for 2011-12.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB128

Question Serial No.

2764

Head : 44 Environmental Protection
 Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In regard to the implementation of the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation (the Framework Agreement) and growing co-operation between Hong Kong and the Mainland in recent years, please provide relevant information on Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes in which the Environment Bureau and departments under its purview are or have been involved.

(a) For Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes from 2008-09 to 2010-11, please provide information in the following format:

Project/ programme title	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement	Expenditure involved	Name of Mainland department/ organisation involved	Progress (% completed, start date, anticipated completion date)	Have the details, objective, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology been released to the public? If yes, through which channels and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?

(b) For Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes in 2011-12, please provide information in the following format:

Project/ programme title	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement	Expenditure involved	Name of Mainland department/ organisation involved	Progress (% completed, start date, anticipated completion date)	Will the details, objective, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology be released to the public? If yes, through which channels and what will be the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?

(c) Apart from the projects or programmes listed above, are there any other modes of cross-boundary co-operation? If yes, what are they? What were the manpower and expenditure involved in the past 3 years, and how much financial and manpower resources are earmarked in the 2011-12 estimates?

Asked by : Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply :

(a) Details please refer to the attachment.

(b) For 2011-12, we will continue to take forward those work as listed under (a) above.

(c) The Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection was set up in 2000 to strengthen the cooperation between Hong Kong and Guangdong on matters relating to the environment and sustainable development. Expert groups and special panels have been set up under the Working Group for both sides to collaborate on issues of mutual concern, including improving regional air quality, promoting cleaner production, protecting water environment, and promoting forestry and marine resources management, etc. In addition, both sides organize and participate in visits and exchanges, as well as in environmental related exhibitions and discussion fora. We have also actively taken part in Pan-Pearl River Delta meetings and exchanges on environmental co-operation.

Environmental co-operation with Guangdong authorities is mainly coordinated by the Cross-boundary and International Division of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD). Between 2008-09 and 2010-11, a total of 25 -28 staff at various levels were involved, and \$15.1 million, \$22.4 million and \$18.1 million under Head 44 - EPD were provided respectively to cover the personal emoluments, associated general departmental expenses, as well as expenses necessary for taking forward various cross boundary environmental co-operation initiatives with the Mainland. In 2011-12, a financial provision of some \$20 million has been earmarked for this purpose. Moreover, staff from other divisions with the Department are also involved to different extent in pursuing co-operation with the Mainland in different aspects. The necessary resources are being met by funding provided under Head 44.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director
of Environmental Protection _____

Date _____ 14 March 2011 _____

Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects / programmes from 2008-09 to 2010-11

Project/ programme title	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement (FA)	Expenditure involved	Name of Mainland department/ organisation involved	Progress (% completed, start date, anticipated completion date)	Have the details, objective, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology been released to the public? If yes, through which channels and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?
The Pearl River Delta (PRD) Regional Air Quality Management Plan (the Plan)	The Plan contains emission reduction and control measures targeting at major emission sources. It is related to the FA.	The Cross-boundary and International Division of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is responsible for coordinating the work under the Plan. Please refer to part (c) of the reply for the relevant expenses.	The EPD of Guangdong Province (GDEPD)	The Plan was drawn up in December 2003 and is an on-going cooperation item with Guangdong side.	EPD reports the progress to Legislative Council (LegCo's) Panel on Environmental Affairs biannually. The work progress is also published on EPD's website. It was also mentioned in the paper "Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation - Environmental Protection and Ecology Conservation" to LegCo's Panel on Environmental Affairs on 24 May 2010.
Study on the post-2010 air emission reduction arrangements for the PRD Region.	The study reviews the pollutant emission situation in the region; project future emission levels; consider possible additional emission reduction measures; and will make suggestions on post-2010 emission reduction targets and initiatives. It is related to the FA.	The study is being conducted using in-house resources of EPD and will not incur additional expenses.	GDEPD	We commenced the study in October 2009 and aim to complete it as soon as possible	Progress of the study was publicized in the press releases of meetings of the Hong Kong-Guangdong Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection in 2009 and 2010, and reported to LegCo's Panel on Environmental Affairs in 2010 and 2011. It was also mentioned in the paper "Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation - Environmental Protection and Ecology Conservation" to LegCo's Panel on Environmental Affairs on 24 May 2010.

Project/ programme title	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement (FA)	Expenditure involved	Name of Mainland department/ organisation involved	Progress (% completed, start date, anticipated completion date)	Have the details, objective, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology been released to the public? If yes, through which channels and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?
The Regional Co-operation Plan on Building a Quality Living Area (the Plan)	The Plan aims to study the long-term direction of cooperation in the Greater PRD Region, and focuses on five areas of co-operation in respect of improving environmental and ecological quality, low-carbon development, enhancing regional land-use planning, green transportation, as well as culture and social living. It is related to the FA.	HK\$6 million	Guangdong Province Housing and Urban-Rural Construction Department	Hong Kong, Guangdong and Macao jointly commenced the compilation of the Plan in October 2009. The drafting of the Plan is in progress and we expect the compilation of the Plan will be completed within 2011.	In 2010, the study team has organized separate expert forums in Guangzhou, Hong Kong and Macao to collect views from relevant experts and academics on the three sides. The associated staffing and expenditure have been absorbed under the operating expenses of the EPD. Progress of the compilation of the Plan was also publicized in the press releases of meetings of the Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation Joint Conference in 2009 and 2010. It was also mentioned in the paper “ Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/ Guangdong Co-operation - Environmental Protection and Ecology Conservation” to LegCo’s Panel on Environmental Affairs on 24 May 2010.
Cleaner Production Partnership Programme (the Programme)	The Programme provides technical and funding support for Hong Kong -owned factories in the PRD Region to adopt cleaner production technologies and practices. It is related to the FA.	HK\$ 93 million	Economic and Information Commission of Guangdong Province and GDEPD	Commenced in April 2008 and will last till March 2013	The trades and LegCo were consulted before launching of the Programme. In addition, EPD submits progress report annually to LegCo’s Panel on Environmental Affairs. It was also mentioned in the paper “ Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/ Guangdong Co-operation - Environmental Protection and Ecology Conservation” to LegCo’s Panel on Environmental Affairs on 24 May 2010.

Project/ programme title	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement (FA)	Expenditure involved	Name of Mainland department/ organisation involved	Progress (% completed, start date, anticipated completion date)	Have the details, objective, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology been released to the public? If yes, through which channels and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?
The first Review of the Regional Water Quality Control Strategy for Mirs Bay	The objective of the Review is to recommend necessary additional measures for protecting the Mirs Bay water environment and meeting the sustainable development objectives. It is related to the FA.	HK\$ 3.5million	Habitation and Environment Commission of Shenzhen Municipality	Commenced in Oct 2008 and expected to be completed by end 2011	The work progress of the study was publicized in the press releases of the Hong Kong-Guangdong Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection meetings between 2008 and 2010. It was also mentioned in the paper “ Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/ Guangdong Co-operation - Environmental Protection and Ecology Conservation” to LegCo’s Panel on Environmental Affairs on 24 May 2010.
Study on regional water quality management plan for the Pearl River Estuary	The objective is to study the pollution load carrying capacity of the Pearl River Estuary region with different functional zones and water quality targets. It is related to the FA.	HK\$10 million	GDEPD	Commenced in February 2010 and expected to complete by end 2013	The work progress of the study was publicized in the press release of the Hong Kong-Guangdong Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection meeting held in 2010. It was also mentioned in the paper “ Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/ Guangdong Co-operation - Environmental Protection and Ecology Conservation” to LegCo’s Panel on Environmental Affairs on 24 May 2010.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB129

Question Serial No.

1813

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In 2011-12, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will continue to promote the Source Separation of Waste Programme in Hong Kong. Please list in detail the figures of various materials recovered through the Source Separation of Waste Programme and the percentages of recovered materials in the total consumption of such materials in Hong Kong over the past three years. What are the economic incentives offered by the Administration for the Source Separation of Waste Programme? What are the financial commitments involved?

Asked by : Hon. IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina

Reply :

In 2007-2009*, the recovery rates of Municipal Solid Waste are 46%, 49% and 49% respectively, and the quantities of waste generated by material type and respective recovery rate are given in the table at Annex.

Financial support under the Environment and Conservation Fund is provided to encourage housing estates and buildings to join the Source Separation of Waste Programme. Under the Programme, building owners or management companies are provided with funding support to install waste separation facilities on each floor as well as free recycle bins from the Environmental Campaign Committee. So far, \$4.79 million and \$9.9 million have been granted respectively in these two areas. Apart from these financial incentives, EPD conducts promotional activities such as annual commendation schemes to honour participants with good achievements in waste recovery and to encourage more domestic and commercial and industrial establishments to implement source separation of waste. More promotional activities would be organized by EPD in the coming years to encourage the community to reduce, reuse and recycle their waste.

Remark

* 2010 data are not available yet.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

11 March 2011

Annex: Recovery Rates and Waste Generation Quantities of Recyclable Materials by Type in 2007-2009

Material type	2007		2008		2009	
	Total Waste Generated (thousand tonnes)	Recovered for Recycling %	Total Waste Generated (thousand tonnes)	Recovered for Recycling %	Total Waste Generated (thousand tonnes)	Recovered for Recycling %
Paper*	1,898	58%	1,816	60%	1,697	61%
Plastics*	1,356	61%	1,537	67%	1,718	70%
Ferrous metals	646	92%	851	93%	781	94%
Non-ferrous metals	204	91%	162	87%	115	88%
Glass	134	1%	142	1%	120	2%
Rubber tyres	18	75%	10	70%	12	78%
Textiles*	85	17%	96	10%	88	19%
Wood	146	14%	161	11%	127	13%
Electrical and Electronic Equipment	70	84%	71	82%	72	89%
Others	1,607	N/A	1,599	N/A	1,724	N/A
Total	6,163	46%	6,444	49%	6,453	49%

Remarks:

1. Figures for recyclable materials with * denote quantities and percentages by dry weight.
2. Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.
3. 2010 data are not available yet.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB130

Question Serial No.

1814

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : During 2011-12, Environmental Protection Department will commence tendering for developing the first phase of the organic waste treatment facilities for the treatment of source-separated food waste from the commercial and industrial sectors. Please list the total amount of food waste per year over the past 3 years. What percentage of solid waste in the territory does it constitute? Please also state the total amount of food waste expected to be treated by the said facilities per day.

Asked by : Hon. IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina

Reply :

The total amount of food waste disposed of in the past three years and the percentage of solid waste it constitutes are given as follows:

Year	Food Waste (million tonnes per Year)	Total Solid Waste (million tonnes per Year)	Municipal Solid Waste (million tonnes per year)	Percentage of Food Waste in Municipal Solid Waste
2007	1.19	5.07	3.35	35.5%
2008	1.10	4.94	3.30	33.3%
2009	1.20	4.86	3.27	36.7%

(Note: The statistics of food waste in 2010 are not yet available. All waste statistics quoted are those disposed of at landfills. Total solid waste = municipal solid waste + overall construction waste + special waste)

The Organic Waste Treatment Facilities Phase 1 is designed to treat 200 tonnes of organic waste per day.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB131

Question Serial No.

0286

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : According to the Indicators, the strategic landfills received an additional waste of some 170 000 tonnes in 2010, which represents an increase of about 3.55%. Would the Department inform this Committee on:

- (1) The specific amounts of industrial/commercial waste, construction waste and domestic refuse in the total waste received? Their respective treatment costs as percentages of the total cost?
- (2) While the Department is now promoting waste reduction at source, waste received by landfills kept increasing in 2010. What are the reasons?
- (3) Should the Department lower the projected amount of waste for 2011 and strengthen its policies for recycling instead?
- (4) Has the Department considered any plan to significantly cut the amount of waste received by landfills? For example, to launch the landfill disposal bans mentioned in the 2005 Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste? If so, what are the implementation details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

- (1) In 2010, the quantities of domestic waste, commercial and industrial waste and construction waste received at the strategic landfills were 2.239 million tonnes, 1.087 million tonnes and 1.308 million tonnes respectively. The cost of waste disposal at strategic landfills in 2010-11 is \$147 per tonne.
- (2) The increase in total waste disposal in 2010 of some 179 000 tonnes might be attributed to the strong economic rebound, with GDP increase by 6.8% and population growth by 0.9% in 2010 as compared to 2009, etc. It is noted that the amount of construction waste disposed of at landfills increased by about 15% in 2010 as the overall level of construction activities rose with the commencement of some large infrastructure projects during this period.
- (3) The Administration has committed to raise the target of municipal solid waste recovery rate to 55% by 2015. To achieve this target, the Administration is strengthening a series of measures involving government departments, property management trade, restaurant operators, public organizations, green groups and social services groups to enhance the community's participation in waste reduction and recycling. However, it would be prudent to adopt a waste disposal projection similar to last year's level in the coming year.

- (4) As stated in "A Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste (2005-2014)", landfill disposal ban should focus on products that can easily be separated from the main waste stream and have a recycling value or proper treatment outlets. They should also complement Producer Responsibility Schemes (PRS) to ensure that certain waste types are recovered. The Product Eco-Responsibility Ordinance enacted in 2008 has provided the legal basis for, inter alia, restriction on the disposal of certain products at designated waste disposal facilities. We are examining the feasibility of landfill disposal ban in our development of PRSs.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection _____

Date _____ 10 March 2011 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB132

Question Serial No.

0287

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In Programme (1), the Administration is intended to continue promoting policy measures for waste separation, recovery and recycling. Would the Department inform this Committee:

- (a) What are the details of expenditure for promoting policy measures for waste separation, recovery and recycling in the whole 2010? What is the distribution of such expenditure?
- (b) Has the Administration any plan for full recovery of items like glass bottles, plastic bottles and single use batteries in Hong Kong so as to reduce the quantity of waste for incineration and toxic emissions during incineration? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons? If the Administration implements relevant plans, what is the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

- (a) The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has spent about \$21.99 million in 2010-11 to promote the Programme on Source Separation of Waste and encourage community participation in waste reduction, separation, recovery and recycling. A breakdown of the key expenditures is as follows.

	Expenditure Categories	Amount HK\$ million
1	Implementing education and promotion programmes such as holding workshops, forums, publicity events and related activities.	8.82
2	Production of publicity materials, e.g. videos, computer programmes, leaflets, brochures, banners, souvenirs, etc.	6.18
3	Media advertisement, e.g. newspapers, radio, internet, public video walls, MTR stations, bus TV, bus bodies, etc.	4.55
4	Provision of recycle bins and other necessary technical support.	2.44

- (b) The EPD has been promoting source separation of recyclable materials including glass bottles, waste plastics and rechargeable batteries. For instance, we have encouraged the trade and non-profit making organizations to organize programmes and activities to recover glass bottles for recycling. Recently, the EPD and Hong Kong Housing Authority have collaborated in launching a pilot programme to recover glass bottles. The recovery of plastic bottles has been included as part of the collection of waste plastics in the Programme on Source Separation of Waste. For batteries, we encourage the public to use rechargeable batteries which can be recycled and create less waste than single use batteries. Since 2005, the trade has been implementing a voluntary programme to recover rechargeable batteries in the community for recycling. EPD will continue to provide support and advice to the implementation of these programmes from our current resources and no additional expenditure is expected in 2011-12.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date 10 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB133

Question Serial No.

0288

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under Programme (1), the Administration intends to develop organic waste treatment facilities, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the details of treatment facilities for source-separated food waste from the commercial and industrial sectors (C&I) in last year (i.e. 2010-11)? What is the expenditure to cope with such treatment facilities? How many posts can be created?
- (b) Has the Administration any plan to expand the above facilities to include source-separated domestic food waste? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons? If the Administration is to develop source-separated domestic food waste work, what is the expenditure to cope with relevant facilities?

Asked by : Hon. Ip Wai-ming

Reply :

- (a) (a) We plan to develop the Organic Waste Treatment Facilities (OWTF) in two phases for treating source-separated food waste from the commercial and industrial (C&I) sectors. The estimated cost of the engineering and environmental impact assessment studies for developing the first phase of OWTF is \$13.624 million while the estimated expenditure of these studies in 2010-11 is \$0.996 million. The first phase of OWTF would be built at Siu Ho Wan of Lantau Island at an estimated capital cost of about \$490 million and would be commissioned in 2014. The second phase of OWTF would be built at Shaling of the North District and would be commissioned in 2016-17. The two phases of OWTF together could treat about 500 tonnes of source-separated food waste generated by the C&I sectors each day. We estimate that the construction and operation for the first phase of the OWTF would create about 90 jobs and 35 permanent jobs respectively.
- (b) Collection of food waste from domestic households for treatment is difficult at this stage because the majority of households in Hong Kong are in multi-storey and multi-tenant buildings. Most of these buildings do not have space available for dedicated food waste containers at both the household and building levels. This difficulty is aggravated by the hot and humid weather of Hong Kong, which could easily cause potential hygiene and odour problems. The OWTF Phases 1 and 2 therefore aim at source-separated food waste from the C&I establishments first as their food waste is more easily separated. This notwithstanding, we would work closely with the relevant stakeholders, including the property management companies and green groups, to encourage households to generate less food waste. We plan to launch a pilot scheme through the financial assistance under the Environment and Conservation Fund for private housing estates in collecting and recycling source-separated food waste for on-site treatment facilities. We are also working with relevant government departments on a pilot project to collect source-separated food waste for recycling at on-site treatment facilities in public housing estates and government quarters.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB134

Question Serial No.

1435

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Now the Government is leasing out land in EcoPark in Tuen Mun Area 38, please provide information on:

- (1) The latest operation of EcoPark? How many recyclers have moved in and started recycling and treating waste there? Their investments, types of recyclables and amount of waste treated? The numbers and positions of workers employed?
- (2) The total amount of recycled waste that EcoPark had handled since its construction and up to last year. What is the percentage of such amount of waste in Hong Kong's total recycled waste?
- (3) When will EcoPark be expected to operate in full swing? What are the details of administrative expenditure after it starts operating in full swing? How many job opportunities will be created for professionals, technicians and workers by that time?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

- 1) The EcoPark is developed in two phases. All six lots in Phase 1 of EcoPark have been leased and five tenants have commenced their operation since April 2010. The plant for recycling waste batteries is under construction and the tenant intends to commence commissioning in 2011. Details of the Phase 1 tenants are summarized below:

Tenants	Recycled Materials/ Products	No. of Staff *
Hong Kong Hung Wai Wooden Board Company	Shredded wood chips	11
Li Tong Group	Dismantled electronic components	21
Champway Technology Ltd	Biodiesel	30
Hong Kong Telford Envirotech Group Ltd	Plastic flakes, chips and pellets	8
Shiu Wing Metal Ltd	Sorted and sheared scrap metals	12
Cosmos Star Holdings Company Ltd	Dismantled battery components	3

**More staff would be employed upon full commissioning of the above recycling operations.*

As at the end of February 2011, the total capital investment reported by the six tenants is about \$130 million. Upon full commissioning of the recycling plants, the targeted annual amount of waste processed is about 60 000 tonnes.

In Phase 2, two waste recycling centres, one for waste plastics and one for waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) have been set up to promote local processing of waste plastics and WEEE. These two centres are operated by non-profit making organisations for 3 years with a subsidy of \$10 million each from the Environment and Conservation Fund. The plastic recycling centre aims to process about 20 tonnes per day of locally collected waste plastics and the WEEE recycling centre is targeted to process about 200 tonnes per year of WEEE. The two centers employed 60 workers at present.

- 2) Most of the tenants in EcoPark are still in the commissioning or initial operation stage and a total of about 14 500 tonnes of recyclable wastes were processed in 2010. This quantity is relatively small when compared with the total amount of over 3 million tonnes of waste recovered for recycling.
- 3) All six lots in Phase 1 have been leased and tenders were invited for leases of Phase 2 lots on 4 March 2011. It is expected that the EcoPark would be fully commissioned after 2012. Upon full commissioning, the Administration would spend about \$15.6 million annually in managing EcoPark and its facilities, maintaining the facilities, facilitating EcoPark tenants to develop their recycling business, implementing promotional activities on EcoPark and waste recycling, and operating the Visitor Centre and a dedicated website. A total of about 750 jobs, including 590 labourers and 160 management and technical posts, would be created.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection _____

Date _____ 16 March 2011 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB135

Question Serial No.

1436

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : As the Department will review the effectiveness of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags (the Levy Scheme), please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the details of expenditure and manpower involved in implementing the Levy Scheme in the past year (2010-11)? When will the report of the review be completed and published?
- (b) How will the Administration use the levy income from the Levy Scheme? Are there any plans to use the levy income on waste recycling facilities?
- (c) For the second phase of the Levy Scheme, will the Administration make a detailed and comprehensive assessment of the impact of the levy on people's livelihood, on retailers and manufacturers?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

- (a) A ten-member dedicated team in Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is responsible for the enforcement work on the Levy Scheme. Other works involving the Levy Scheme has been undertaken by the staff of the EPD as part of their normal duties and do not incur additional expenditure in 2010-11. We will publish a consultation document for consulting the public on the way forward of the Levy Scheme within the first half of 2011.
- (b) The levy income has been deposited to the General Revenue. At the same time, the Government funds waste reduction, waste treatment and other related programmes through the standing resource allocation mechanism. For this reason, we are unable to advise on the use of the levy income specifically on waste recycling facilities.
- (c) In developing proposals for the way forward of the Levy Scheme, relevant assessments on the implications of the proposals and views from the public as well as different stakeholders (including consumers, retailers and manufacturers) will be duly considered and taken account of. In this respect, we are planning to launch a public consultation on the way forward of the Levy Scheme in the first half of 2011.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB136

Question Serial No.

1437

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : With regard to the Administration's plan to implement voluntary Producer Responsibility Schemes (PRS) and draw up detailed proposals for a mandatory PRS for waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE):

- (a) What was the amount of electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) handled by the Department in 2010? What had been done with the waste concerned? What was the expenditure involved?
- (b) Among the existing retailers and producers of EEE, how many of them are providing WEEE recycling service? Please specify the recycling procedure involved. What was the amount of WEEE recycled through this channel in 2010? What was the expenditure involved?
- (c) Does the Administration have any plan to encourage producers and retailers to provide WEEE recycling service? If yes, what are the details and progress of implementation? If no, what are the reasons?
- (d) When will the Administration conduct public consultation on voluntary PRSs? What are the expenditure and manpower involved in this regard?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

- (a) The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has since 2005 engaged two charitable organisations, namely St James' Settlement and Caritas Hong Kong, in running two recycling programmes for WEEE and computer products respectively. With the support of the Environment and Conservation Fund, a new WEEE Recycling Centre at EcoPark has been commissioned and operated by St James' Settlement since October 2010.

In general, discarded items collected will be repaired for reuse as far as practicable, or dismantled for recovery. In 2010, a total of 73 400 WEEE items were collected for handling under the two recycling programmes commissioned by the EPD, and they have incurred an estimated expenditure of some \$4 million in 2010-11.

- (b) The Government does not maintain information about the provision of recycling services in the relevant trades. On the other hand, EPD provided support and advice to the trade-led recycling programme for computer products launched since January 2008. Under this programme, some 21 100 items of computer products were collected in 2010 and they were handled in a manner similar to the two recycling programmes mentioned in (a).
- (c) The mandatory PRS on WEEE is being developed with the intention to engage different stakeholders (including but not limited to manufacturers and retailers) in sharing the eco-responsibility so as to ensure that WEEE is collected for proper treatment. We will engage the trade in further discussion on details of the implementation plan within 2011.

- (d) EPD has been supporting and promoting voluntary PRSs on fluorescent lamps, computers, rechargeable batteries and glass bottles that are operated and funded by the relevant trades. In 2010-11, the Department has incurred some \$1.6 million in the publicity and promotion etc. of these programmes. Five staff are involved in overseeing the above work. We will monitor the situation and consider introducing new schemes for other products as well as the relevant resource requirements as necessary.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date 11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB137

Question Serial No.

1438

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under this Programme, the original provision in 2010-11 was \$458.0 million, but it was revised to \$565.4 million, an increase of 23.4%. Why was the revised estimate with such an increase? The estimated provision for 2011-12 is \$558.6 million, which is still \$100.6 million more than the original provision for 2010-11. Why are such increases in provision for two consecutive years? Apart from creation of posts, on which areas will the increased expenditure be incurred?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

We have revised the provision in 2010-11 from \$458.0 million to \$565.4 million (i.e. an increase of \$107.4 million) mainly because of the following:

- (a) a higher turnout than estimated for the one-off grant to encourage early replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I vehicles, which has increased the expenditure from \$110 million to \$133.0 million (i.e. an increase of \$23.0 million);
- (b) an additional provision of \$80.0 million for launching the one-off grant scheme to encourage early replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles; and
- (c) an additional provision of around \$4.0 million for acquiring equipment for air quality measurement and analysis.

As for 2011-12, the increased provision is mainly due to our estimated increase in the number of applications for the one-off grant for replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles, thereby increasing the expenditure for the grant from \$80 million in 2010-11 to \$183.5 million in 2011-12 (i.e. an increase of \$103.5 million).

None of the above increase in expenditure is related to the creation of posts.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB138

Question Serial No.

1439

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : As mentioned in this Programme, the Administration will continue to look into the air pollutant emission reduction arrangements for the Pearl River Delta Region in co-operation with the Guangdong Province. What is the current progress of the study? What are the expenditure and manpower involved? Would it affect the allocation of resources on relevant studies conducted in Hong Kong?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

Hong Kong and Guangdong are undertaking a study to look into the post-2010 air emission reduction arrangements for the Pearl River Delta Region. We aim to complete the study as soon as possible. The study is being conducted using in-house resources of the Environmental Protection Department and will not incur additional expenses.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB139

Question Serial No.

1440

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Please provide the following information under this Programme to the Committee:

- 1) What is the progress of the scheme in encouraging vehicles owners to switch to cleaner vehicles launched by the Administration? Would the government earmark provision to assist the general public and public transport operators in switching to electric vehicles in the coming year? What is the expenditure involved?
- 2) Since the Administration is planning to update the air quality objectives (AQOs), would the Administration consider incorporating the air quality guidelines recommended by the World Health Organisation (WHO) into the local AQOs? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

- 1) The incentive schemes for promoting the use of environment-friendly vehicles were launched in April 2007 for petrol private cars and in April 2008 for commercial vehicles. As at end February 2011, we approved 18 320 applications for the incentives for petrol private cars and 2 496 applications for commercial vehicles. These environment-friendly vehicles made up about 13% of the newly registered petrol private cars and about 17% of the newly registered commercial vehicles. The resulting total first registration tax forgone was \$555 million.

To promote the use of electric vehicles, we have extended the waiver of First Registration Tax on electric vehicles for five years till March 2014. We also provide tax incentives for the business sector to introduce electric vehicles into their fleets by accelerating tax deduction for capital expenditure on electric vehicles so that enterprises can enjoy a 100% profits tax deduction in the first year of their procurement.

We are working to set up a \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund before the end of March 2011 for public transport operators and goods vehicle owners to apply for testing out green and low-carbon transport technology (including electric vehicles). \$60 million will be earmarked for the Fund in 2011-12.

In addition, while making preparation to seek funding approval from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council in this April to fully fund franchised bus companies to procure six hybrid buses for testing along busy corridors, the Administration has also proposed to provide them with the same financial support should they be interested in testing other greener buses such as electric buses.

- 2) We have made reference to the air quality guidelines of the World Health Organisation (WHO) when drawing up our proposed new AQOs. On the recognition of the stringency of the ultimate objectives, WHO has put forward interim targets, the attainment of which would “result in significantly reduced rates of adverse health effects”. The WHO further suggests that “the standards set in each country will vary according to specific approaches to balancing risks to health, technological feasibility, economic considerations and other political and social factors.” To date, no country has adopted fully the ultimate objectives. The proposed new AQOs are a combination of the ultimate objectives and interim targets of the WHO, and are largely on a par with those adopted by the European Union and USA.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection _____

Date _____ 11 March 2011 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB140

Question Serial No.

1911

Head : 44 Environmental Protection
Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In Matters Requiring Special Attention under the said programme, it is mentioned that the Administration will “oversee the implementation of the new nature conservation policy, in particular the pilot scheme for public-private partnership (PPP) and management agreement (MA)”. Please provide the following information:

- (a) the number, locations, and subject matters of “the pilot scheme for PPP and MA projects” in the past year; and whether projects on real property are involved in the scheme;
- (b) the ways in which the Administration monitors the measures’ effectiveness, and whether consideration will be given to include non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and green groups for joint monitoring. If not, what are the reasons?
- (c) the expenditure and manpower involved for “overseeing the implementation of the new nature conservation policy” in the coming year.

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

- (a) Fung Yuen and Long Valley have continued to be managed under the MA. scheme being funded by the Environment and Conservation Fund since 2005.

There has been progress made in respect of projects under the PPP Pilot Scheme. The development proposal for Sha Lo Tung (SLT) has been taken forward after consultation with the Advisory Council on the Environment in 2008. The proponent for the SLT development has completed an environmental impact assessment (EIA) study and has submitted an EIA report under the EIA Ordinance. At present, the proponent for the SLT development is making arrangement for public inspection of the EIA report in accordance with the procedures under the EIA Ordinance. Separately, a development proposal for Fung Lok Wai, which comprises sites in the Ramsar Site and Deep Bay Wetland outside Ramsar Site, has been taken forward by the proponent. The EIA report for the Fung Lok Wai development has been approved under the EIA Ordinance. At present, the town planning and land matters for the development are being considered. Real property will be involved in the Fund Lok Wai project.

- (b) Under the New Nature Conservation Policy, we have involved the NGOs in enhancing conservation and monitoring of the Priority Sites. For instance, the MA project at Long Valley is jointly carried out by the Conservancy Association and Hong Kong Bird Watching Society; while that at Fung Yuen is carried out by the Tai Po Environmental Association. As for the PPP pilot project at Sha Lo Tung, Green Power has been identified by the project proponent to undertake the long-term monitoring and management responsibility of the Ecological Reserve.
- (c) We will closely monitor the implementation of the two MA projects and the proposed PPP pilot projects. The resources to be incurred by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will be absorbed under Programme (2)(“Nature Conservation and Country Parks Programme”) under Head 22 – AFCD. The Environment Protection Department (EPD) will continue to oversee AFCD’s works in this aspect and relevant resources are absorbed under Programme (6) (“Nature Conservation”) under Head 44 - EPD.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director
of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB141

Question Serial No.

1912

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : On ecology conservation policy, 12 priority sites have been identified by the Administration for enhanced conservation, please advise this Committee:

- (1) The locations of the 12 priority sites for enhanced conservation, items of conservation and the details of the conservation plans. And the manpower and expenditures involved in the relevant plans.
- (2) Does the Administration have a set of guidelines in deciding which areas are for priority conservation? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (3) Will the Administration invite green groups to participate in planning the above enhanced conservation items? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

1. The 12 Priority Sites for Enhanced Conservation identified under the New Nature Conservation Policy (NNCP) include the Ramsar Site, Sha Lo Tung (SLT), Tai Ho, Fung Yuen, Luk Keng Marsh, Mui Tsz Lam and Mau Ping, Wu Kau Tang, Long Valley and Ho Sheung Heung, Deep Bay Wetland outside Ramsar Site, Cheung Sheung, Yung Shue O, and Sham Chung. These 12 Priority Sites have been regularly monitored by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) to keep in view their ecological and conservation conditions. Based on the monitoring results, the Priority Sites are generally in good conditions.

Fung Yuen and Long Valley have continued to be managed under the Management Agreement (MA) scheme being funded by the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) since 2005. The bird species recorded at Long Valley and the butterfly species at Fung Yuen have increased by over 20% since the launching of MA projects. A total of 259 bird species (over half of those recorded in Hong Kong) and 201 butterfly species (over 80% of those recorded in Hong Kong) have been recorded in Long Valley and Fung Yuen respectively. The figures have shown that management measures are effective in enhancing the conservation value of these sites. The ECF has granted a total of \$21 million for the projects since 2005, and the current projects are up to the period of 2012-2013.

There has been progress made in respect of projects under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Pilot Scheme. The development proposal for Sha Lo Tung (SLT) has been taken forward after consultation with the Advisory Council on the Environment in 2008. The proponent for the SLT development has completed an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) study and has submitted an EIA report under the EIA Ordinance. At present, the proponent for the SLT development is making arrangement for public inspection of the EIA report in accordance with the procedures under the EIA Ordinance. Separately, a development proposal for Fung Lok

Wai, which comprises sites in the Ramsar Site and Deep Bay Wetland outside Ramsar Site, has been taken forward by the proponent. The EIA report for the Fung Lok Wai development has been approved under the EIA Ordinance. At present, the town planning and land matters for the development are being considered.

We will closely monitor the implementation of the two MA projects and the proposed PPP pilot projects. The resources to be incurred by the AFCD will be absorbed under Programme (2) (“Nature Conservation and Country Parks Programme”) under Head 22 – AFCD. The Environment Protection Department (EPD) will continue to oversee AFCD’s works in this aspect and relevant resources are absorbed under Programme (6) (“Nature Conservation”) under Head 44 – EPD.

2. The 12 Priority Sites were identified using a scoring system drawn up by an expert group which comprised key academics with expertise in ecology, major green groups and other professionals. The criteria used in the scoring system include naturalness, habitat diversity, non-recreatability, species diversity and richness and species rarity/endemism.
3. Under the NNCP, we have involved the non-governmental organisations in enhancing conservation of the Priority Sites. For instance, the MA project at Long Valley has been jointly carried out by the Conservancy Association and Hong Kong Bird Watching Society; while that at Fung Yuen has been undertaken by the Tai Po Environmental Association.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB142

Question Serial No.

1913

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The Administration has indicated that they will oversee the implementation of the measures to better protect country park enclaves. In this regard, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) What measures had been implemented to better protect country park enclaves over the past year? What are the expenditure and manpower involved for implementing such measures?
- (2) At present, many ecologically important sites adjacent to the country parks are under private ownership. Are there any plans to undertake land resumption regarding all these sites for conservation purpose? If yes, what are the details, expenditure and manpower involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

- (1) There are currently 77 country park enclaves, of which 23 have already been covered by Outline Zoning Plan (OZP) under the Town Planning Ordinance (TPO). Since August 2010, seven enclaves out of the 54 remaining enclaves have been covered by draft Development Permission Area (DPA) plan gazetted under TPO. For the 47 enclaves not covered by any statutory plan, consideration is being given to incorporate them either as part of the Country Parks or DPA plans to be followed by OZP under TPO.

In 2011-12, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department will allocate \$2.5 million for the strengthening of patrol and enforcement relating to the country park enclaves.

- (2) We do not have any plan to undertake land resumption for conservation purpose as we will continue to pursue nature conservation under the New Nature Conservation Policy promulgated in 2004.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB143

Question Serial No.

1914

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In the aspect of enhancing education and publicity on nature conservation, would the Administration advise this Committee:

- 1) The expenditure and manpower spent on this aspect in the previous year.
- 2) The expenditure and manpower planned to be spent on this aspect in the coming year.

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

In 2010-11, about \$27 million was spent by Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) on enhancing education and publicity on nature conservation and the manpower involved was about 230. In 2011-12, \$27 million will be earmarked for such purposes and the manpower involved will be about 230.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB144

Question Serial No.

0369

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In respect of the problem of waste treatment in Hong Kong, please advise:

- (a) On continuing to raise public awareness and enhance community participation in waste separation, recovery and recycling, what are the Administration's work plans and expenditures annually in the past five years (i.e. 2006-07 to 2010-11)?
- (b) Has the Administration worked out the statistics on work which has not been completed as originally scheduled every year? If yes, what are the details?
- (c) Has the Administration studied an overall plan for the source reduction of waste? If yes, what are the details and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

- (a) The expenditures of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) in the past 5 years in promoting and encouraging community participation in waste separation, recovery and recycling are provided below :

Year	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Expenditure (HK\$ million)	12.0	13.24	11.21	8.89	21.99

When the Programme on Source Separation of Domestic Waste was launched in 2005, yearly targets on the number of housing estates to join the Programme were set as follows :

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Target (number of housing estates on a cumulative basis)	180	470	700	920	1140	Over 1360

- (b) The outcome in recruiting housing estates to join the abovementioned Programme is encouraging.

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Actual enrolment (number of housing estates on a cumulative basis)	225	497	766	996	1256	1637

Compared with the targets set, the enrollment targets have all been achieved.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB145

Question Serial No.

0370

Head : 44 Environmental
 Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In respect of Air matters, please advise:

- (a) In the past five years (i.e. 2006-07 to 2010-11), has the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) worked out the statistics on air pollutants emitted by various types of vehicles (including private car, minibus, taxi and bus) in Hong Kong every year? If yes, please list the details and expenditures incurred annually.
- (b) In respect of co-ordination of the Administration's efforts in combating climate change, what are the Administration's annual work plans and expenditures incurred annually in the past five years (i.e. 2006-07 to 2010-11)? Moreover, has the Administration worked out the statistics on work which has not been completed as originally scheduled every year? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

- (a) We have been compiling an emission inventory for local vehicles on an annual basis. To support the compilation, we have been gathering traffic and vehicle data from the Transport Department and meteorological data from the Hong Kong Observatory. We have also been conducting emission measurements as necessary to gather information on the emissions of local vehicles. The work is part and parcel of the Air Programme. We will absorb the resulting workload by the existing provision.

Presented in the tables below are the inventories for the years 2006-2008, which list out various air pollutants emitted by ten vehicle classes. Inventories for 2009 are being compiled.

Respirable Suspended Particulates (RSP) (tonne)

Vehicle Categories	2006	2007	2008
Motor Cycles	10	10	10
Petrol Private Cars (incl. Petrol Light Goods Vehicles)	10	10	10
Taxi	60	60	60
Public Light Buses	90	90	80
Private Light Buses	10	10	10
Diesel Light Goods Vehicles (incl. Diesel Private Cars)	410	400	370
Heavy Goods Vehicles	990	870	830
Public Non-franchised & Private Buses	120	110	100
Franchised Buses (Single Decker)	100	100	100
Franchised Buses (Double Decker)			
Total	1 800	1 660	1 570

Nitrogen dioxide (NO_x) (tonne)

Vehicle Categories	2006	2007	2008
Motor Cycles	220	230	220
Petrol Private Cars (incl. Petrol Light Goods Vehicles)	1 090	1 010	920
Taxi	1 270	1 330	1 380
Public Light Buses	140	140	110
Private Light Buses	70	60	50
Diesel Light Goods Vehicles (incl. Diesel Private Cars)	3 310	3 170	2 970
Heavy Goods Vehicles	12 200	11 440	10 830
Public Non-franchised & Private Buses	1 420	1 360	1 280
Franchised Buses (Single Decker)	2 120	2 170	2 170
Franchised Buses (Double Decker)			
Total	21 840	20 910	19 930

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) (tonne)

Vehicle Categories	2006	2007	2008
Motor Cycles	840	870	830
Petrol Private Cars (incl. Petrol Light Goods Vehicles)	1 760	1 540	1 310
Taxi	1 710	1 790	1 900
Public Light Buses	110	120	120
Private Light Buses	40	30	30
Diesel Light Goods Vehicles (incl. Diesel Private Cars)	520	490	440
Heavy Goods Vehicles	890	810	770
Public Non-franchised & Private Buses	140	130	110
Franchised Buses (Single Decker)	100	100	90
Franchised Buses (Double Decker)			
Total	6 110	5 880	5 600

Carbon Monoxide (CO) (tonne)

Vehicle Categories	2006	2007	2008
Motor Cycles	7 930	8 230	7 240
Petrol Private Cars (incl. Petrol Light Goods Vehicles)	28 380	25 520	22 420
Taxi	16 720	16 200	15 870
Public Light Buses	3 480	3 890	3 960
Private Light Buses	670	550	470
Diesel Light Goods Vehicles (incl. Diesel Private Cars)	1 250	1 200	1 110
Heavy Goods Vehicles	3 100	2 870	2 820
Public Non-franchised & Private Buses	380	360	330
Franchised Buses (Single Decker)	350	350	320
Franchised Buses (Double Decker)			
Total	62 260	59 170	54 540

Sulphur dioxide (SO₂) (tonne)

Vehicle Categories	2006	2007	2008
Motor Cycles	<5	<5	<5
Petrol Private Cars (incl. Petrol Light Goods Vehicles)	30	20	20
Taxi	20	20	20
Public Light Buses	10	10	10
Private Light Buses	<5	<5	<5
Diesel Light Goods Vehicles (incl. Diesel Private Cars)	20	20	10
Heavy Goods Vehicles	820	40	30
Public Non-franchised & Private Buses	50	10	10
Franchised Buses (Single Decker)	20	10	10
Franchised Buses (Double Decker)			
Total	970	130	110

- (b) The Climate Change Policy Co-ordination Team was set under the EPD in 2008-09 to co-ordinate government efforts in combating climate change. The team is responsible for collecting data and compiling the annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emission inventory for Hong Kong, drawing up the building-based Carbon Audit Guidelines, taking forward the "Green HK • Carbon Audit" campaign, overseeing the consultancy study on climate change in Hong Kong, engaging the community in carbon reduction efforts, facilitating Hong Kong companies to develop Clean Development Mechanism projects, preparing Hong Kong's contribution to the second national level communications under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, participating in related international conferences, as well as supporting the work of the Inter-departmental Working Group on Climate Change. We also carried out a public consultation exercise on "Hong Kong's Climate Change Strategy and Action Agenda" from September to December 2010. We are at present analysing the views received.

The team incurred an annual expenditure of \$10.8 million, \$11.9 million and \$19.3 million for 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 respectively, which included staff cost and related departmental expenses, as well as resources required for carrying out the consultancy study.

The department regularly reviews the progress of its work and the various tasks above had been carried out largely as planned. We have taken a longer time to complete the consultancy study on climate change in Hong Kong, since it was the first time for Hong Kong to carry out a study of this kind on the GHG inventories, adaptation and mitigation issues in accordance with the latest international guidelines. We have also asked the consultants to carry out additional modelling work in the light of the voluntary national target announced in November 2009.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection _____

Date _____ 16 March 2011 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB147

Question Serial No.

0372

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : As regards overseeing the implementation of the measures to better protect country park "enclaves", what are the Administration's specific work plan, timetable, manpower and expenditure so involved?

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

There are currently 77 country park enclaves, of which 23 have already been covered by Outline Zoning Plan (OZP) under the Town Planning Ordinance (TPO). Since August 2010, seven enclaves out of the 54 remaining enclaves have been covered by draft Development Permission Area (DPA) plan gazetted under TPO. For the 47 enclaves not covered by any statutory plan, consideration is being given to incorporate them either as part of the Country Parks or DPA plans to be followed by OZP under TPO. We will consult the Country & Marine Parks Board in the coming months on the implementation strategy and timetable. In 2011-12, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department will allocate \$2.5 million for the strengthening of patrol and enforcement relating to the country park enclaves.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB148

Question Serial No.

0383

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : On supporting the implementation of the scheme to encourage early replacement of older/more polluting diesel commercial vehicles and purchase of environment-friendly vehicles, please advise:

- (a) the work progress, expenditure and manpower involved, and the effectiveness of the scheme annually over the past three years (i.e. from 2008-09 to 2010-11) ;
- (b) whether the Administration has reviewed the scheme; if yes, what are the details, expenditure and manpower involved? If no, what are the reasons?
- (c) the future work plans, expenditure and manpower involved.

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

- (a) The 36-month incentive scheme to encourage early replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles with new ones complying with the prevailing statutory emission standard ended in March 2010. We have made a special arrangement to allow those eligible vehicle owners who had ordered new replacement vehicles before the grant scheme's deadline but the new vehicles could not arrive on time to complete the application to retain their eligibility to apply for the grant until end-March 2011. A similar 36-month incentive scheme to encourage early replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles was launched in July 2010. The numbers of applications received and expenditure under these two schemes over the past three fiscal years are tabulated below:

	The Number of Applications received (One-off grant payment)		
	Apr 2008 – Mar 2009	Apr 2009 – Mar 2010	Apr 2010 – Feb 2011
Incentive Scheme for Replacing pre-Euro and Euro I Diesel Commercial Vehicles by New Commercial Vehicles (commenced from 1 April 2007)	6 241 (\$283 million)	4 741 (\$158 million)	1 075 [#] (\$132 million)
Incentive Scheme for Replacing Euro II Diesel Commercial Vehicles by New Commercial Vehicles (commenced from 1 July 2010)	N. A	N. A	1 164 (\$80 million)

No. of applications received under the special arrangement for the incentive scheme for pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles.

The numbers of applications received for the tax incentive schemes for environment-friendly vehicles in the past three fiscal years are as follows:

	The Number of Applications received		
	Apr 2008 – Mar 2009	Apr 2009 – Mar 2010	Apr 2010 – Feb 2011
Incentive Scheme for Environment-friendly Petrol Private Cars (commenced from 1 April 2007)	3 454	4 609	6 370
Incentive Scheme for Environment-friendly Commercial vehicles (commenced from 1 April 2008)	246	426	1 847

The manpower and expenditure involved in the processing of the applications under the above incentive schemes are undertaken and absorbed by existing provisions of the Transport Department.

(b) & (c)

We reviewed the effectiveness of the grant scheme for encouraging the early replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles and reported the review findings to the Subcommittee on Improving Air Quality of the Legislative Council at its meeting on 10 March 2010. In gist, the review finds it necessary to introduce disincentives to provide extra impetus for vehicle owners to replace their aged commercial vehicles. We have thus proposed to the Subcommittee to revisit the option of increasing the vehicle licence fees of aged commercial vehicles. For the sake of securing better roadside air quality at the soonest, we also consider it appropriate to channel resources to encourage early replacement of other types of old vehicles not covered by the pre-Euro and Euro I scheme such as Euro II diesel commercial vehicles. The grant scheme for the early replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles was launched since July 2010. We will review the scheme at an appropriate time.

The incentive schemes for environment-friendly petrol private cars and environment-friendly commercial vehicles are effective in encouraging vehicle owners to purchase environment-friendly vehicles. The approved environment-friendly vehicles represented about 13% of the newly registered petrol private cars and about 17% of the newly registered commercial vehicles since the launch of the schemes. Moreover, there are 51 and 227 environment-friendly private car and commercial vehicle models available in the market, which have been increased substantially since the launch of the schemes. We will review the qualifying standards for environment-friendly vehicles from time to time to ensure that the tax concession will be restricted to vehicles of outstanding emission and fuel efficiency performance.

We will absorb the workload arising from the above reviews by the existing provisions.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection _____

Date _____ 11 March 2011 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB149

Question Serial No.

1942

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In respect of using environment-friendly buses, has the Administration discussed with franchised bus companies in the past three years? If yes, what are the details and the expenditure and manpower involved? What are the expenditure and manpower involved for the future plan? Moreover, has the Administration conducted public consultation on this matter? If yes, what are the details and the expenditure and manpower involved? And what are the expenditure and manpower involved for the future plan in this regard? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

In the past three years, the Administration discussed with franchised bus companies the following initiatives in respect of using environmentally friendly buses:

- (i) to deploy more environment-friendly buses to serve the busy corridors. As at end 2010, all the franchised buses running on Yee Wo Street, 94% on Nathan Road and 92% on Des Voeux Road Central are of Euro II or above emission standards;
- (ii) to retrofit appropriate emission reduction devices (ERDs) on serving buses. The franchised bus companies have completed the retrofit of ERDs on their pre-Euro IV buses to reduce particulate emissions at their own cost;
- (iii) to test out more advanced ERDs to further reduce bus emissions. We are making the necessary preparation to conduct a trial to retrofit selective catalytic reduction (SCR) devices to Euro II and Euro III buses to reduce their nitrogen oxides emissions;
- (iv) to evaluate the feasibility of setting up pilot low emission zones (LEZs) at the busy corridors in Causeway Bay, Central and Mongkok to restrict old franchised buses from entering LEZs; and
- (v) to encourage the testing of greener buses such as hybrid buses.

To cope with the above transport-related environmental initiatives among others, a time-limited post of Senior Transport Officer (STO) at the Transport Department (TD) has been created in October 2009 for 3 years to support the timely delivery of these initiatives. Moreover, the additional workload was also absorbed by the existing provisions of TD and the Environmental Protection Department (EPD).

As for the future plan, the Administration will fund the full cost of procuring six hybrid buses for use by the franchised bus companies along busy corridors to test the operational efficiency and performance of these buses under Hong Kong operating conditions. The total cost of the six hybrid buses is estimated to be about \$33 million. We will also provide similar funding support to franchised bus companies should they be interested in testing other more environment-friendly buses such as electric buses. Two time-limited posts will be allocated to EPD in 2011-12,

namely, one Environmental Protection Officer for 3 years and 9 months, and one Senior Environmental Protection Inspector for 3 years, to oversee the programme.

Moreover, subject to satisfactory trial results, the Administration will fully fund the retrofit of SCR devices on all Euro II and Euro III buses. The expenditure involved will depend on the trial results. Additional staff resources will be allocated to oversee the programme subject to the trial results.

Wider use of environment-friendly vehicles is one of the proposed initiatives for achieving the proposed new Air Quality Objectives (AQOs) proposed under the AQOs Review. The public consultation on the AQOs Review conducted in 2009 showed general community support for the proposal. The Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs has also been consulted on the proposal. The workload related to the AQOs Review is being absorbed by the existing provisions.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date 14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB150

Question Serial No.

0223

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12, it is mentioned that the Department will engage the public in discussion on possible options for Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) charging. Would the Administration inform this Committee about the specific plan, time table and estimated expenditure in this regard?

Asked by : Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

Reply :

Municipal Solid Waste charging creates direct economic incentive to promote waste reduction and recovery. The principles, pros and cons of various charging options as well as these implications when implemented in Hong Kong will be presented for public engagement later this year. The public engagement exercise will be undertaken by staff of Environmental Protection Department as part of their normal duties and expenditures for the public consultation will be absorbed by the provisions for 2011-12.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB151

Question Serial No.

0224

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : It is mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12 that the Administration would commence tender preparation for developing the first phase of the large scale waste treatment facilities. Would the Administration inform members of the Council that, apart from planning to set up an incinerator in Shek Kwu Chau, would resources be allocated to examine the needs for site selection work and construction of larger scale waste treatment facilities, so as to meet the target of achieving continued reduction of Municipal Solid Waste and to reduce the pressure on landfills?

Asked by : Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

Reply :

We plan to commence tender preparation for developing the first phase of the Integrated Waste Management Facilities (IWMF) in 2011-12 with a view to commissioning the first IWMF by 2018. In order to cater for the long-term needs of Hong Kong, we will take account of progress and effectiveness in waste reduction measures as well as other possible options on waste treatment to consider plans for further development of IWMF.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB152

Question Serial No.

0225

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the Brief Description of the Programme, please inform this Committee of the details of the Administration's collaboration with authorities in Guangdong to carry out the Cleaner Production Partnership Programme and implement measures to improve the regional environment over the past year (2010-11), and whether there will be any resources reserved for the collaboration with Guangdong to carry out new studies or implement new measures to improve the air quality of both places.

Asked by : Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

Reply :

On co-operation with Guangdong authorities in improving the regional air quality, both sides made substantial efforts in the past year to implement and strengthen the air pollutant emission reduction and control measures set out in the Pearl River Delta Regional Air Quality Management Plan (Management Plan). These measures were targeted at major emission sources including power companies, vehicles and industries. Measures that had been undertaken in Hong Kong include, inter alia, continuing to encourage local power companies to install desulphurisation and denitrification systems; tightening the statutory specifications for motor vehicle fuels to the Euro V standards; and providing financial subsidy to encourage early replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles.

Both sides have also taken efforts in improving regional water quality by commissioning a three-year joint study on regional water quality management plan for the Pearl River Estuary in February 2010 year to evaluate the environmental capacity of the Estuary under various functional uses zoning and water quality targets. Both sides are conducting a review of the regional water quality control strategy for Mirs Bay.

The two governments have also continued to carry out exchanges and co-operation in the areas of forestry development, nature and marine resources conservation.

We launched the five-year Cleaner Production Partnership Programme in conjunction with the Economic and Trade Commission of Guangdong Province in 2008 to provide technical and funding support for Hong Kong-owned factories to adopt cleaner production technologies and practices. The Programme provides funding support to participating factories to carry out on-site improvement assessments, implement demonstration projects and engage third party verification services to help verify the effectiveness of improvement projects. It also organizes extensive awareness promotion and publicity activities on cleaner production such as seminars, workshops, briefings, factory visits.

In response to the needs of the industries, the Cleaner Production Partnership Programme expanded its scope in January 2010 to provide professional advice and technical support in the treatment and reduction of effluent discharges. The Programme has achieved satisfactory progress. As at end February 2011, a total of 1 062 funding applications were approved under the Programme. Furthermore, both sides jointly presented the "Hong Kong - Guangdong Cleaner Production Partner" commendation to 115 Hong Kong-owned enterprises in November 2010 to recognise their efforts in pursuing and promoting cleaner production.

Key areas of HK-Guangdong co-operation in 2011 include the following, and the necessary resources have been budgeted:

- Implement and strengthen the emission reduction and control measures under the PRD Regional Air Quality Management Plan to further improve regional air quality; embark upon a final assessment on the achievement of the 2010 emission reduction targets at both sides, and strive to complete the study on the post- 2010 arrangements for emission reduction in the PRD region as soon as possible;
- Continue to carry out the Cleaner Production Partnership Programme and the Hong Kong – Guangdong Cleaner Production Partners Recognition Scheme to promote energy efficiency and emission reduction;
- Take forward the joint study on regional water quality management plan for the Pearl River Estuary;
- Implement the water pollution abatement actions for Shenzhen Bay, and take forward the review of the regional water quality control strategy for Mirs Bay;
- Explore co-operation opportunities on recycling and reuse of detoxified reusable materials with a view to fostering co-operation and development of recovery and recycling industries, e.g. glass containers of the both sides;
- Continue exchanges and training on afforestation, urban greening, forest pest control as well as the protection of endangered animal and plant species; and
- Undertake Pearl River Estuary ecological restoration, continue to enhance co-operation and exchanges on fishery resources enhancement and sustainable development of fishery, conservation and research work on Chinese white dolphins, coral reefs and sea turtles.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date 9 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB153

Question Serial No.

1462

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Please inform the Committee of the following:

- (a) the specific details about the existing policy regarding education and publicity of nature conservation;
- (b) the expenditure on enhancing the education and publicity of nature conservation in the past two years (i.e. 2009-10 and 2010-11); and
- (c) whether provision will be earmarked for enhancing the education and publicity of nature conservation at primary and secondary schools.

Asked by : Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

Reply :

- (a) We will continue to promote public education and publicity on nature conservation. The nature conservation education and publicity programme includes (a) the production and distribution of educational and publicity materials, and the organization of talks, outreach programmes and exhibitions; (b) the dissemination of nature conservation information through the websites of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (AFCD); (c) educational activities and guided tours; and (d) the training of volunteers, local escorts and tour operators engaged in nature based tourism businesses. We will collaborate with District Councils, non-governmental organizations and the tourism industry in the educational and publicity efforts.
- (b) According to the information from AFCD, the expenditure on the education and publicity of nature conservation in last two financial years (i.e. 2009-10 and 2010-11) are around \$18 million and \$27 million respectively.
- (c) As an integral part of the education and publicity programme, AFCD will continue to provide conservation education programmes to schools in relation to the country parks, marine parks, Hong Kong Wetland Park and Hong Kong National Geopark.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB154

Question Serial No.

2952

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The Environmental Protection Department conducted a feasibility trial in 2010 to encourage the use of ultra low sulphur diesel by Hong Kong ferries. Please advise this Committee of the trial results, including the views of the ferry operators, and of the details such as the future roadmap for promoting the use of ultra low sulphur diesel by local ferries.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-yee, Miriam

Reply :

Together with ferry operators, we completed in 2010 a trial of powering local ferries by ultra low sulphur diesel (ULSD) and are analyzing the trial data. According to the preliminary findings (including the feedback of the participating ferry operators), the use of ULSD could reduce environmental nuisances but would incur additional fuel costs. We will map out how best the emissions from ferries could be reduced in the light of the trial findings.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB155

Question Serial No.

2953

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : To improve air quality, taxis and mini buses have switched from petrol to Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) models successively. However, the Environmental Protection Department will strengthen the control of emissions from petrol and LPG vehicles in 2011-12 and plans to use roadside remote sensing equipment and dynamometers for emission testing. What are the progress of the plan, the estimated work target and expenditure involved in this year?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply :

If not properly maintained, petrol vehicles and LPG vehicles will emit excessive emissions of carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides and hydrocarbons. To improve roadside air quality, we are drawing up a proposal to strengthen the control of emissions from petrol and liquefied petroleum gas vehicles, including the use of roadside remote sensing equipment and dynamometers for emission testing. The proposal will cover the procedures and emission limits of the dynamometer emission test, the remedial actions of the owners of vehicles found emitting excessively and measures to assist vehicle owners and the vehicle repair trade to comply with this new control initiative.

We will finalize the implementation details and estimate the required expenditure after the consultation. Any required additional resource for implementing the proposal will be sought through the normal process.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB156

Question Serial No.

2954

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : On encouraging the use of cleaner vehicles, fuels and technologies that can help reduce air pollution, please inform this Committee of the work plans and targets, as well as the resources involved in 2011.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-yee, Miriam

Reply :

On encouraging the use of cleaner vehicles, fuels and technologies that can help reduce air pollution, our work plans and targets in 2011 are as follows:

- (i) to provide first registration tax (FRT) concessions for environment-friendly petrol private cars and environment-friendly commercial vehicles since April 2007 and April 2008, respectively;
- (ii) to provide for the business sector to enjoy a 100% profits tax deduction for the capital expenditure on environment-friendly vehicles (including electric vehicles, hybrid vehicles and environment-friendly commercial vehicles and environment-friendly petrol private cars) in the first year of their acquisition;
- (iii) to set up a \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund before the end of March 2011 for public transport operators and goods vehicle owners to apply for testing out green and low-carbon transport technology. \$60 million will be earmarked for the Fund in 2011-12; and
- (iv) to fully fund the franchised bus companies to procure six hybrid buses for use along busy corridors to test the operational efficiency and performance of these buses under Hong Kong conditions; and to provide them with the same financial support should they be interested in testing other greener buses such as electric buses. The total cost of the six hybrid buses is estimated to be about \$33 million, in which about \$3.3 million will be required for 2011-12.
- (v) to continue promoting the use of electric vehicles (EVs), we have extended the waiver of FRT on EVs for five years till March 2014 to provide incentives for car buyers to take out EVs. In 2011-12 and 2012-13, we expect to have an intake of close to 200 EVs of various types into the Government fleet. While the exact capital cost can only be confirmed at a later stage, for estimates purposes approximately \$15 million has been earmarked for procuring EVs in 2011-12.

For expansion of charging network for EV, we have been appealing to various sectors including the power companies, property developers, property management companies and car park operators for support in establishing charging facilities for EVs at their premises. There are now about 300 standard charging points in the territory for public use. We plan to install more charging facilities for EVs in government car parks, and will encourage the private and non-governmental sectors to join hands in expanding the charging network across the territory. The provision earmarked for EV initiatives relating to promotion and expansion of charging network amounts to \$15.4 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB157

Question Serial No.

2955

Head : 44 Environmental Protection
Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will continue to co-ordinate inter-departmental efforts to reduce emissions from vehicles in 2011-12. What are the details of work and the resources so involved?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply :

We will continue to co-ordinate in 2011-12 inter-departmental efforts to reduce emissions from vehicles, the details of which are as follows:

- (i) to set up a \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund before the end of March 2011 for public transport operators and goods vehicle owners to apply for testing out green and low-carbon transport technology. \$60 million has been earmarked for the Fund in 2011-12;
- (ii) to implement the \$540 million one-off grant scheme to encourage the early replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles. \$184 million has been earmarked for the scheme in 2011-12;
- (iii) to fund the full cost of procuring six hybrid buses for use by the franchised bus companies along busy corridors to test the operational efficiency and performance of these buses under Hong Kong conditions. The total cost of the six hybrid buses is estimated to be about \$33 million. We will provide similar funding support to franchised bus companies should they be interested in testing other more environment-friendly buses such as electric buses;
- (iv) to conduct a trial to retrofit Euro II and Euro III buses with selective catalytic reduction devices to reduce their nitrogen oxides emissions to the level of a Euro IV bus. Subject to satisfactory trial results, the Government will fund the full cost of retrofitting Euro II and III buses with these devices. We will estimate the expenditure of the retrofit based on the trial results;
- (v) to continue providing first registration tax concessions to environment-friendly petrol private cars and environment-friendly commercial vehicles;
- (vi) to continue offering to enterprises an accelerated tax deduction for the capital expenditure on environment-friendly vehicles (including electric vehicles, hybrid vehicles and other environment-friendly commercial vehicles) such that they can enjoy a 100 percent profits tax deduction in the first year so as to encourage the business sector to purchase more of them; and
- (vii) to work with the Police to implement the engine idling prohibition legislation. We are mapping out the implementation plan and will shortly seek the Legislative Council's approval of the necessary subsidiary legislation. To cope with the increase in workload arising from the implementation of the prohibition, 19 and four (two of which are time-limited from 2010-11 to 2011-12) staff are provided to Police and EPD respectively.
- (viii) To continue implement the smoky vehicle control programme including deploying staff to spot smoky vehicles and conduct joint roadside operations with Police to test smoky vehicles. The resource is already covered in EPD's baseline provision.
- (ix) To draw up a proposal to strengthen the control of poorly maintained petrol and Liquefied Petroleum Gas vehicles that emit excessive pollutants by using roadside remote sensing equipment and dynamometer emission testing. The required resources will be worked out after the consultation.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director
of Environmental Protection

Date _____

17 March 2011

(c) The EPD will continue to work with government departments, the property management sector, schools, green groups, social service groups and public organizations to promote community awareness on waste reduction, separation and recycling. Additional efforts will be made to encourage the public to reduce waste and separate waste at source for recycling. The EPD plans to spend around \$24.30 million in 2011-12 to enhance the Programme on Source Separation of Waste. There will be enhanced publicity and community-based campaigns at district level to promote collection of reusable and recyclable materials.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date 14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB158

Question Serial No.

0314

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The Environment Bureau will work with authorities in Guangdong to carry out the Cleaner Production Partnership Programme and implement measures to improve the regional environment in the coming year. What are the staffing and expenditure so involved? Has the Administration reserved any funds for the consultation work?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply :

A total commitment of \$93.06 million was approved by the Finance Committee in January 2008 for implementation of the five-year Cleaner Production Partnership Programme. In 2011-12, \$19.7 million has been earmarked under Subhead 700 for taking forward the Programme. Environmental co-operation with Guangdong authorities, including the Cleaner Production Partnership Programme, is mainly coordinated by the Cross-boundary and International Division of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD), within which a total of 26 staff at various levels are involved. In 2011-12, a financial provision of some \$20 million under Head 44 - EPD has been earmarked to cover the personal emoluments and associated general departmental expenses for this purpose. Staff from other divisions within the Department are also involved to different extent in pursuing co-operation with Guangdong in respect of regional air quality, water quality, nature conservation as well as waste management, etc. The necessary resources are being met by funding provided under Head 44 - EPD. Resources required for undertaking consultation work in respect of Hong Kong-Guangdong environmental cooperation will be met from the existing provision.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB159

Question Serial No.

0321

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (4) Water

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : What are the Environmental Protection Department's expenditure and staffing involved in the coming year for monitoring sewers across the territory to check if they are worn and torn, causing seepage and pollution?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply :

Regarding the provision of public sewerage, the Environmental Protection Department is responsible for the planning whereas the Drainage Services Department (DSD) is responsible for the implementation, operation and maintenance of the sewerage system. Where defective public sewers are identified, the DSD will carry out the rectification works. In case of defective private sewers, they will be rectified by the private owners.

The estimated expenditure by the DSD in maintaining public sewers is about \$193 million in 2011-12. The number of staff involved will be 242.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG**

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB160

Question Serial No.

1200

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12, the Administration will launch the Pilot Green Transport Fund for the transport trades to try out innovative green transport technologies, please provide information on:

- (a) the details and time table of the project and the resources and staffing involved?
- (b) the expected numbers of participants of the project? Have any targets been set for the project? If yes, what are the details? If no, will the Administration consider setting the targets?
- (c) how and when will its effectiveness be assessed?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply :

- (a) We plan to set up the \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund before the end of March 2011 for public transport operators and goods vehicle owners to apply for testing out green and low-carbon transport technology. To cope with the increase in workload, we will deploy existing resources as far as possible and will create four additional 2-year time-limited posts (including one Senior Environmental Protection Officer, one Environmental Protection Officer, one Environmental Protection Inspector and one Assistant Clerical Officer), starting from 1 April 2011.
- (b) The number of applications for the Fund will depend on the availability of suitable innovative green transport technologies on the local market and the interests of the trades to test them. While we will endeavour to promote the Fund to the relevant transport sectors for testing innovative green transport technologies, we have no plan to set targets on the number of applications.
- (c) We would set up a Steering Committee to advise the government on the acceptance of the applications and any conditions that should be imposed if acceptance is recommended. When approving an application for the Fund, the Steering Committee will stipulate specific requirements for the applicant to gather the relevant operational data such as fuel/energy consumption, maintenance cost within a certain period. Should it be necessary, we will also engage a third-party to ascertain the emission performance of the innovative green transport technologies under trial. These trial data will help us assess the effectiveness of the technologies and the assessment findings will be shared with other members of the relevant transport trade.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB161

Question Serial No.

3666

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The target number of days with air pollution index not exceeding 100 is 365/366, but that of the annual average air pollution index is 50 only. Is it too low? Would the Administration consider increasing the number? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply :

An Air Pollution Index (API) exceeding 100 represents a very high level of air pollution. We have thus been setting the target in respect of the number of days with API not exceeding 100 at 365/366 (i.e. not experiencing very high air pollution level throughout the year). When the API is at 50 or below, our air pollution level is at such a level that the air pollutant concentrations do not exceed the relevant annual averaged limits in our Air Quality Objectives (AQOs). We have thus been setting the annual average API target at 50. We would keep it under review in the light of the progress and effectiveness of the air quality improvement measures such as expediting the replacement of aged diesel commercial vehicles, setting up pilot low emission zones in busy districts that restrict the access to low-emission franchised buses, etc.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB162

Question Serial No.

0353

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the review of the effectiveness of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags (the Levy Scheme), please advise:

- (a) Since the implementation of the Levy Scheme, what is the total amount of levy income collected by the Government so far? Please give a breakdown of the levy income collected by year, the amount of such income used for environmental protection or waste management work, and the percentage of such income amount in the total levy income; and
- (b) The Government's timetable for consulting the public on the future development of the scheme, the expenditure and manpower so involved.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply :

- (a) Since the implementation of the Levy Scheme in July 2009, the total levy income collected by the Government up to December 2010 amounts to \$38.0 million, of which \$13.1 million were collected in 2009 and \$24.9 million were collected in 2010. The levy income has been deposited to the General Revenue Account. The Government's initiatives and programmes on environmental protection or waste management are funded through the resource allocation mechanism. In 2011-12, the overall Government expenditure under Head 44 Programme (1) on Waste amounts to \$1,441.5 million.
- (b) We will consult the public on the way forward of the Levy Scheme within the first half of 2011. The consultation exercise will be conducted by the existing staff of the Environmental Protection Department as part of their normal duties.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG**

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 16 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB163

Question Serial No.

0354

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In respect of the review on the green procurement list and to develop green specifications for more products commonly used by government departments, please provide information on:

- (a) the progress, effectiveness, and manpower and expenditure involved for the above work in each of the past three years (2008-09 to 2010-2011).
- (b) What are the plan, schedule, and manpower and expenditure involved for the above work in future?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat.

Reply :

- (a) The study to update the existing green specifications and develop new specifications for more items commonly procured by the Administration has been completed. The number of products on the Government procurement list with green specifications has now been expanded to 103 items. The updated list has been made available on the government web sites and bureaux and departments have made reference to the findings of the study when conducting their procurement. The expenditure involved for the study was about \$0.23 million each year from 2008 to early 2011. The manpower required was absorbed into the current team in the Environmental Protection Department with responsibility on promoting green procurement.
- (b) We will continue to promote green procurement. In January 2011, the government promulgated a circular to encourage the use of recycled and other green materials in public work projects. We will continue to promote the adoption of green specifications in public works projects and government procurement. Such work is ongoing and would be absorbed into the programmes of individual bureaux and departments.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB164

Question Serial No.

0355

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the Indicators of Air, please advise:

- (a) the reasons for the estimated number of legal notices issued for 2011 being lower than the actual numbers of those for 2009 and 2010;
- (b) the progress and effectiveness of work as well as the expenditure and manpower involved in each of the past 3 years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2010-11) regarding the smoky vehicle reports processed; the future work plan as well as the manpower and expenditure so involved;
- (c) will the Administration consider including the numbers of death or seeking medical consultation caused by air pollution in the Indicators; if yes, what are the details and work schedule? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply :

- (a) Most of the legal notices issued under the Air programme are related to clearance of asbestos-containing unauthorised building structures and they are issued at the same time with Building Department's clearance orders. The number of clearance orders dropped significantly from 2009 to 2010. Hence, it is estimated that the number of legal notices issued under the Air programme will reduce further to 600 in 2011 in line with the dropping trend in the past two years.
- (b) As compared with its peak, the number of smoky vehicle reports dropped by 80% from 1999 to 2010. In the past 3 years, the number of smoky vehicle reports reduced very slightly as shown in the table below :

	2008	2009	2010	2011 (estimate)
Smoky Vehicle Reports Processed	10 347	8 906	8 976	9 000
Smoky Vehicles Tested	9 126	7 786	7 911	7 900
Handling of smoky vehicle related enquiry and complaints	9 766	8 092	8 354	8 400

We will continue to run the smoky vehicle control programme and monitor its effectiveness. The resources deployed for the programme are part and parcel of the Air Programme and have all along been absorbed by existing provisions.

- (c) The public are informed of the air pollution situation through the Air Pollution Index and information on the concentration levels of different air pollutants, which we release daily to the community alongside with appropriate health advice. This arrangement is consistent with international practices on the release of air quality data. Findings of the researches on correlation between air pollution and health impacts may be arranged by the concerned organizations as and when appropriate and necessary.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection _____

Date _____ 16 March 2011 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB165

Question Serial No.

0356

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the tightening of the motor vehicle emission standards to Euro V, please inform this Committee of whether the Government knows there are serious defects in the braking, exhaust and fuel systems of the Euro IV and Euro V public light buses, causing them to stop frequently for 20 to 45 minutes to perform a "carbon-burning" process while travelling. If yes, whether studies have been undertaken and solutions have been worked out in this respect? If yes, what are the details, and manpower and expenditure so involved? If not, what are the reasons? Does the Government have any more effective solutions to solve this problem? What are the details?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply :

The prevailing motor vehicle emission standard is at Euro IV level. When Euro IV diesel public light buses were introduced to Hong Kong, some of them encountered excessive seepage of diesel into lubricating oil and the problem of frequent regeneration of the diesel particulate filters (DPFs). The problems were firstly brought to our attention in April 2008. We immediately followed up on the issue with the public light bus trade and local sales agents of the vehicles. Subsequently, the vehicle manufacturers have improved the engine control units (ECUs) of the public light buses; and the local sales agents have received no further complaints of the above problems against their Euro IV diesel public light buses.

Since January 2010, the major diesel public light bus supplier in Hong Kong has put on the local market Euro V diesel public light buses, which has incorporated the improved ECUs. Thereafter, all newly registered diesel public light buses are Euro V vehicles and they have been in operation for up to 14 months. The local agent has received no complaints of the above problems against its Euro V diesel light buses.

We have absorbed the workload arising from the above follow-up work by the existing provision.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB166

Question Serial No.

1384

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Noise

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In promoting good practices to prevent or minimize road traffic noise problems at the planning stage, please advise:

- (a) The progress and effectiveness of work as well as the expenditure and manpower involved in each of the past three years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2010-11).
- (b) The future work plan and the expenditure and manpower so involved.
- (c) Regarding the promotion of good practices, are there any specific guidelines or criteria? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons? Moreover, are there any guidelines or criteria in judging whether good practices have been implemented by the trades? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

To prevent or minimize road traffic noise problems, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) provides advice to zoning proposals during the town planning process. The EPD further promotes good practices in minimizing traffic noise problem by means of active participation in providing advice to development proposals referred from Planning Department and Lands Department. Criteria and guidelines for planning against road traffic noise impact are laid down in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines, which also include specific and practicable mitigation measures which can be incorporated into the design of residential developments. The EPD also promulgated a set of guidelines and reference materials including practice note, booklet on housing design and mitigation measures to abate traffic noise, etc. for further guidance of the trades. For new road projects that are governed by the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance, project proponents are required to carry out environmental impact assessment study to identify and incorporate appropriate mitigation measures for mitigating road traffic noise impacts. The EPD will continue with active participation in town planning process and ensuring usefulness of environmental impact assessment. This work form part of the on-going routine work of EPD. There is therefore no separate account on the resources involved regarding prevention or minimization of road traffic noise problems.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB167

Question Serial No.

1385

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (5) Environmental Assessment and Planning

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : As regards "miscellaneous district planning or housing proposals reviewed and technical environmental advice given", the estimated figure for 2011 is higher than both the 2009 and 2010 actual figures. What are the reasons, details, estimated manpower and expenditure involved in this regard?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply :

The actual figures of 2009 and 2010 were 891 and 1 171. The increase was due to improved economic conditions resulting in increased number of development proposals which carried with them environmental considerations. The estimated figure of 1 200 for 2011 on reviewing and giving technical environmental advice on district planning or housing proposals is based on the actual figure of 2010. Environmental Protection Department will deploy within existing available manpower and resources to provide environmental inputs to the miscellaneous district planning and housing proposals.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB168

Question Serial No.

1386

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : As regards implementing projects on management agreements with landowners and examining the implementation details of the pilot scheme for public-private partnership as well as overseeing the implementation of the new nature conservation policy, please advise:

- (1) The details, progress and effectiveness of work as well as the manpower and expenditure involved annually in the above two areas over the past 5 years (i.e. from 2006-07 to 2010-11)?
- (2) The future plan, timetable, expenditure and manpower so involved?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply :

- (1) Fung Yuen and Long Valley have continued to be managed under the Management Agreement (MA) scheme being funded by the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) since 2005. The bird species recorded at Long Valley and the butterfly species at Fung Yuen have increased by over 20% since the launching of MA projects. A total of 259 bird species (over half of those recorded in Hong Kong) and 201 butterfly species (over 80% of those recorded in Hong Kong) have been recorded in Long Valley and Fung Yuen respectively. The figures have shown that management measures are effective in enhancing the conservation value of these sites. The ECF has granted a total of \$21 million for the projects since 2005, which will last until 2012-13.

There has been progress made in respect of projects under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Pilot Scheme. The development proposal for Sha Lo Tung (SLT) has been taken forward after consultation with the Advisory Council on the Environment in 2008. The proponent for the SLT development has completed an environmental impact assessment (EIA) study and has submitted an EIA report under the EIA Ordinance. At present, the proponent for the SLT development is making arrangement for public inspection of the EIA report in accordance with the procedures under the EIA Ordinance. Separately, a development proposal for Fung Lok Wai, which comprises sites in the Ramsar Site and Deep Bay Wetland outside Ramsar Site, has been taken forward by the proponent. The EIA report for the Fung Lok Wai development has been approved under the EIA Ordinance. At present, the town planning and land matters for the development are being considered.

In the past five years, the resources incurred by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) was absorbed under Programme (2) (“Nature Conservation and Country Parks Programme”) under Head 22 – AFCD. The Environment Protection Department (EPD) oversaw AFCD’s works in this aspect and relevant resources was absorbed under Programme (6) (“Nature Conservation”) under Head 44 – EPD. The breakdown of financial provisions in individual years are as below:

Programme (2) under Head 22 - AFCD

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Financial Provision (\$ million)	400.6	405.1	431.2	458.1	491.9

Programme (6) under Head 44 - EPD

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Financial Provision (\$ million)	7.0	5.9	7.4	9.2	6.3

- (2) We will closely monitor the implementation of the two MA projects and the proposed PPP pilot projects. The resources to be incurred will be adsorbed by the AFCD and the EPD.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection _____

Date _____ 14 March 2011 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB169

Question Serial No.

1387

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : With regard to the implementation of the new nature conservation policy, please advise:

- (a) The details, progress, manpower and expenditure involved annually over the past five years (2006-07 to 2010-11), as well as the work plan, time table, manpower and expenditure anticipated in future for conservation work conducted at sites recommended for special conservation under the new nature conservation policy; and
- (b) Whether study will be conducted to include areas of high ecological value which have not been selected as sites for special conservation under the new nature conservation policy? If yes, please advise of details and the manpower and expenditure involved. If no, what are the reasons, and if there are more effective means to conserve these areas?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply :

- (a) Fung Yuen and Long Valley have continued to be managed under the Management Agreement (MA) scheme being funded by the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) since 2005. The bird species recorded at Long Valley and the butterfly species at Fung Yuen have increased by over 20% since the launching of MA projects. A total of 259 bird species (over half of those recorded in Hong Kong) and 201 butterfly species (over 80% of those recorded in Hong Kong) have been recorded in Long Valley and Fung Yuen respectively. The figures have shown that management measures are effective in enhancing the conservation value of these sites. The ECF has granted a total of \$21 million for the projects since 2005, which will last until 2012-2013.

There has been progress made in respect of projects under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Pilot Scheme. The development proposal for Sha Lo Tung (SLT) has been taken forward after consultation with the Advisory Council on the Environment in 2008. The proponent for the SLT development has completed an environmental impact assessment (EIA) study and has submitted an EIA report under the EIA Ordinance. At present, the proponent for the SLT development is making arrangement for public inspection of the EIA report in accordance with the procedures under the EIA Ordinance. Separately, a development proposal for Fung Lok Wai, which comprises sites in the Ramsar Site and Deep Bay Wetland outside Ramsar Site, has been taken forward by the proponent. The EIA report for the Fung Lok Wai development has been approved under the EIA Ordinance. At present, the town planning and land matters for the development are being considered.

- (b) In the past five years, the resources incurred by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) was absorbed under Programme (2) (“Nature Conservation and Country Parks Programme”) under Head 22 – AFCD. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) oversaw AFCD’s works in this aspect and relevant resources was absorbed under Programme (6) (“Nature Conservation”) under Head 44 – EPD. The breakdown of financial provisions in individual years are as below:

Programme (2) under Head 22 – AFCD

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Financial Provision	400.6	405.7	431.2	458.1	491.9
(\$ million)					

Programme (6) under Head 44 - EPD

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Financial Provision	7.0	5.9	7.4	9.2	6.3
(\$ million)					

- (c) From time to time, the AFCD has been conducting territory-wide biodiversity surveys in Hong Kong. Results from the surveys provide useful information to identify sites with high conservation importance and the appropriate measures to protect them. Such constant surveys are integrated into the overall nature conservation effort. The resources for the above tasks have been absorbed under Programme (2) “Nature Conservation and Country Parks Programme” under Head 22-AFCD.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date 14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB170

Question Serial No.

1734

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : On drawing up a legislative proposal for controlling the emissions of non-road mobile sources, please advise:

(a) Over the past three years, has the Administration conducted studies on controlling the emissions of non-road mobile sources? If yes, what were the details and progress of work, manpower and expenditure involved annually? If no, what are the reasons?

(b) Future work plans, timetable, expenditure and manpower so involved.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply :

- (a) We commissioned the Hong Kong Productivity Council in 2007 to undertake a study on emissions from non-road vehicles and equipment in Hong Kong at a cost of \$500,000. The study is to collect information, including the types and number, of non-road vehicles and equipment from local equipment suppliers and users. The study would be completed in 2011. The interim findings of the study have helped us draw up a proposal for controlling the emissions of non-road vehicles and equipment for consultation with the relevant trades in 2010. We have absorbed the workload arising from the management of the study by the existing provision of the Air Programme,
- (b) We are now studying the views collected from the consultation for fine-tuning the proposal. Our plan is to finalize the control scheme and initiate the necessary legislative procedures in 2011. We will absorb the expenditure and manpower requirements under the existing provision of the Air Programme.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB171

Question Serial No.

3694

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : On drawing up a legislative proposal for controlling the emissions of non-road mobile sources, please advise the definition, details and examples of the emissions of non-road mobile sources; the percentage of such pollution sources in Hong Kong's air pollution sources.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply :

Non-road mobile sources are "non-road mobile machinery" includes mobile machines, transportable industrial equipment and non-road vehicles powered by an internal combustion engine used primarily off the roads. Most of them are used in the airport, container terminals and construction sites. Typical examples include the ground service equipment used in the airport; mobile cargo handling equipment used in container terminals; and mobile construction equipment like loaders and excavators used in construction works.

The emissions from non-road mobile machinery contribute to about 7% and 11% of the local emissions of nitrogen oxides and respirable suspended particulates respectively.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB172

Question Serial No.

1063

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (4) Water

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding measures to improve the water quality of the Victoria Harbour, please advise this Committee:

- (a) What was the respective expenditure on Stage 2 of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme (HATS) in the past 3 years (i.e. 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11)?
- (b) What will be respective expenditure on the above scheme in the next 3 years (i.e. 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14)?
- (c) After HATS Stage 2A comes into full operation in 2014, how long will it take to improve the water quality of the Victoria Harbour so that the Cross-Harbour Swimming Race can be held again?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla

Reply :

- (a) Respective expenditures on Stage 2 of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme (HATS) for the past 3 years (in \$million) are:

2008-09 (actual)	2009-10 (actual)	2010-11 (estimated)
101	1,235	2,113

- (b) Respective estimated expenditures for the next 3 years (in \$million) are:

2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
2,272	3,323	3,340

- (c) Upon completion of HATS Stage 2A in 2014, the water quality of the Victoria Harbour is expected to substantially improve to the extent that it would be more suitable for organizing cross harbour swim.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB173

Question Serial No.

1064

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (4) Water

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The Administration has said that it would allocate more resources in the next few years to expedite improvement of water quality in New Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter in Kowloon West, including dredging the sediments in the navigational channel and culvert outlet. What is the provision earmarked for the above purpose in this year's Budget? What will be the extent of increase in provision in the next 3 years (2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14)?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla

Reply :

In order to improve the water quality and to mitigate the odour problem of the New Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter (NYMTTS), the Drainage Services Department (DSD) will increase the frequency of desilting works at the Cherry Street box culvert outlet from two to three times per year at an estimated annual cost of \$400,000 for the next three years (2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14). Other DSD's annual expenditure includes \$3.1 million for routine storm drain maintenance and \$12,000 for the operation and maintenance of the six dry weather flow interceptors.

The Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) is responsible for implementation of dredging sediments in the navigational channel. The CEDD has started the maintenance dredging works at the north-eastern end of the typhoon shelter, and around \$1.5 million has been reserved in the financial year 2011-12 for the dredging works.

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) would take joint enforcement action with other concerned government departments to rectify misconnections from buildings and illegal discharges identified in the catchment area. As the action forms part of the EPD's routine integrated enforcement practices that cover a wide range of enforcement activities against different aspects of environmental pollution, it is not possible to provide a breakdown of EPD's expense specifically on tackling misconnections or illegal discharges.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB174

Question Serial No.

1078

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In 2010, about five million tonnes of solid waste were disposed in the three strategic landfills. Please list the amount of different types of solid waste disposed in the landfills in 2010. Why does the Administration plan that the actual amount of solid waste received in 2011 will be 220 tonnes more than that of 2010?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

The quantities of different types of waste received at the strategic landfills in 2010 are summarized as follows:

Domestic Waste (tonnes)	Commercial & Industrial Waste (tonnes)	Construction Waste (tonnes)	Others (tonnes)	Total Waste (tonnes)
2 239 369	1 087 323	1 308 177	408 351	5 043 220

In the Controlling Officer's Report, the estimated total quantity of waste received at the strategic landfills in 2011 is similar to the level in 2010 rounded up to the nearest thousand (i.e. 5 043 000 tonnes).

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

9 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB175

Question Serial No.

1079

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under this Programme, it is mentioned that the Source Separation of Waste Programme has been extended to cover 80 per cent of the population. The Administration also anticipates that the recovery rate of domestic waste will be increased from 10% to 14% in the past to 26% in the future. In respect of the drastic increase in the recovery rate of domestic waste, please provide information on the details of various items, expenditures and manpower involved as well as the time table for implementation.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) plans to spend about \$24.30 million in 2011-12 to further promote the Programme on Source Separation of Waste and encourage community participation in waste separation, recovery and recycling. A total of 35 officers will be engaged in this work.

The EPD will work with government departments, the property management sector, schools, green groups, social service groups and public organizations to promote community awareness on waste reduction, separation and recycling. Additional efforts will be made to encourage the public to reduce waste and separate waste at source for recycling. There will be enhanced publicity and education including media advertisements and broadcasts, workshops, forums, exhibitions, posting of posters and banners at housing estates and public places together with promotional activities.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB176

Question Serial No.

2792

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title): 000
Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In 2011-12, the Department will create 26 posts. Regarding the posts created, please advise:

- a) the distribution of the posts created in terms of ranks, duties and departmental offices;
- b) whether manpower requirement arising from the passage of the Motor Vehicle Idling (Fixed Penalty) Bill has been taken into account when creating the posts?

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply :

(a) The details of the 26 non-directorate posts are:

Division	No. of Post / Rank	Duties
Central Prosecution Unit	1 SEPO	To strengthen the staffing support of the Central Prosecution Unit.
Waste Management Policy Division	1 EPO	To strengthen staffing support of the Voluntary Producer Responsibility Schemes.
Environmental Compliance Division	1 SEPO, 2 EPO, 2 SEPI, 1 EPI (6 posts)	To strengthen staffing support on enforcement of environmental legislation, including the implementation of the new statutory Clinical Waste Control Scheme.
Nature Conservation and Infrastructure Planning Division	1 SEPO*, 1 EPO* (2 posts)	To implement the development of Integrated Waste Management Facilities and Organic Waste Treatment Facilities. *time-limited from 2011-12 to 2012-13
Community Relations Unit	1 EPO, 1 CEO (2 posts)	To cope with increase in activities under the Environment and Conservation Fund.
Air Policy Division	2 EPOs	To strengthen the specialist capacity in vehicle emission modeling.
	1 SEPO*, 1EPO* (2 posts)	To implement a programme of retrofitting selective catalytic reduction devices to Euro II and Euro III franchised buses. *SEPO (time-limited from 1.1.2012 to 31.12.2014) *EPO (time-limited from 1.4.2011 to 31.12.2014)

Division	No. of Post / Rank	Duties
Air Policy Division	1 SEPO*, 1 EPO*, 1 EPO, 1 EPI*, 1 ACO* (5 posts)	To implement new emission control measures for achieving the proposed new Air Quality Objectives, including the setting up of the pilot Green Transport Fund, pilot low emission zones and a programme to control the emissions from non-road mobile machinery. The staffing resources are also required to strengthen the provision of alert to the community on high air pollution. *time-limited from 2011-12 to 2012-13
	1 SEPI*	To implement a programme of subsidizing franchised bus companies to acquire six double deck hybrid buses for trial. * time-limited from 2011-12 to 2013-14
Environmental Assessment Division	1 EPO	To provide the necessary staffing support for implementing noise barrier retrofitting projects.
Water Policy Division	1 EPO	To provide the necessary staffing support for planning and management of sewerage infrastructure projects.
Environmental Compliance Division	1 EPO, 1 EPI (2 posts)	To provide the necessary staffing support for the enactment of the Hazardous Chemical Control Ordinance.

Abbreviations

SEPO	Senior Environmental Protection Officer
EPO	Environmental Protection Officer
SEPI	Senior Environmental Protection Inspector
EPI	Environmental Protection Inspector
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
ACO	Assistant Clerical Officer

- (b) The 26 new posts to be created in 2011-12 do not include manpower requirement arising from the passage of the Motor Vehicle Idling (Fixed Penalty) Bill.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 16 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB177

Question Serial No.

2793

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Noise

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the "retrofitting programme for existing roads" mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12,

- (a) Which locations exposed to traffic noise are covered by the programme? What are the number of noise complaints received and the highest noise recorded in decibel in such locations?
- (b) Please describe the targets of the programme in mitigating traffic noise and the specific effectiveness.

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply :

In 2011-12, the Environmental Protection Department will continue to tackle noise impact of existing roads on neighbouring residents through the retrofitting of noise barriers programme. Locations of the 15 road sections to be covered in the year, number of traffic noise complaints received in the past 3 years, and the highest noise levels at the concerned receivers of respective road section are shown in the table below. Upon completion, about 16 000 neighbouring dwellings would experience noise reduction up to as much as 19 dB(A).

Location of road sections covered by the programme (2011-2012)

Ref.	Road Section	No. of Noise Complaints received (2008-2011)	Max. Noise Level, dB(A)	Remarks
1	Cheung Pei Shan Road	1	80	Substantially completed
2	Tseung Kwan O Road (near Hing Tin Estate)	0	83	Substantially completed
3	Tseung Kwan O Road (near Tsui Ping (South) Estate)	3	83	Substantially completed
4	Yuen Shin Road (near Kwong Fuk Estate)	1	73	Substantially completed
5	Tsing Tsuen Bridge (Tsuen Wan and Tsing Yi)	25	79	Substantially completed
6	Kwun Tong Bypass	2	77	Substantially completed
7	Tuen Mun Road (Tsuen Wan)	0	82	Construction in progress

8	Tuen Mun Road (Yau Kom Tau)	2	76	Construction in progress
9	Tuen Mun Road (Anglers' Beach)	4	85	Construction in progress
10	Tuen Mun Road (Sham Tseng)	1	82	Construction in progress
11	Tuen Mun Road (Tsing Lung Tau)	1	77	Construction in progress
12	Tuen Mun Road (Castle Peak Bay)	0	82	Construction in progress
13	Fanling Highway (Po Shek Wu Road to MTR Fanling Station)	3	79	Construction in progress
14	Fanling Highway (MTR Fanling Station to Wo Hing Road)	2	78	Construction in progress
15	Tai Po Tai Wo Road (near Po Nga Court)	3	77	Construction to commence in 2011

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date 11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB178

Question Serial No.

2795

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : There were 21 prosecutions for chemical waste control offences in 2010. Please list the number of complaints about treatment, disposal and dumping of chemical waste in different districts in the past 3 years (i.e. from 2008 to 2010). Please also list the types of waste involved and details of the prosecutions.

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply :

The Environmental Protection Department received about 720 complaints related to chemical waste from 2008 to 2010. Most of these complaints involved waste mineral oils (295 cases); asbestos waste (119 cases); and hazardous electronic waste (34 cases). In these 3 years, 42 prosecutions were initiated and the penalties imposed on convicted cases ranged from \$1,500 to \$10,000 in fines and imprisonment from 2 to 5 months. Out of the 42 prosecutions, 19 of them had arisen from investigation following pollution complaints. A breakdown of the complaints and prosecution cases in each district is shown in the annex.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

11 March 2011

Annex

District	No. of Complaints			No. of Prosecutions
	2008	2009	2010	2008~2010
Central & Western	8	5	6	0
Wan Chai	4	1	3	0
Eastern	7	10	7	7
Southern	4	5	4	0
Yau Tsim Mong	8	7	12	2
Sham Shui Po	14	23	18	0
Kowloon City	17	10	10	0
Wong Tai Sin	2	15	3	0
Kwun Tong	18	3	6	3
Tsuen Wan	11	18	13	0
Tuen Mun	14	14	22	0
Yuen Long	55	52	54	9
North	16	13	22	0
Tai Po	11	7	3	0
Sai Kung	12	11	9	13
Sha Tin	12	21	10	6
Kwai Tsing	14	30	9	1
Islands	12	10	10	1
Mobile Source	9	0	0	0
Total	248	255	221	42

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB179

Question Serial No.

2796

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : On the issue of illegal deposit of waste, please list the number of complaints and prosecutions as well as types of waste involved in different districts (according to the demarcation of DC constituencies) in the past 3 years (i.e. from 2008 to 2010).

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply :

The Environmental Protection Department received about 9 700 complaints related to illegal deposit of waste from 2008 to 2010. Of these, about 8 500 complaints were related to construction and demolition (C&D) waste, while the remaining 1 200 complaints were mainly related to littering involving waste items such as furniture, wooden boards, packaging materials. In these 3 years, 115 prosecutions were initiated under the Waste Disposal Ordinance and 292 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN) were issued. A breakdown of the complaints on the waste types, prosecution cases, FPN issued in each district is shown in the Annex.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

11 March 2011

DISTRICT	2008				2009				2010			
	No. of complaint on construction & demolition (C&D) waste	No. of complaint on non-C&D waste	No. of prosecution cases under Waste Disposal Ordinance (WDO)	No. of Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) issued	No. of complaint on C&D waste	No. of complaint on non-C&D waste	No. of prosecution cases under WDO	No. of FPN issued	No. of complaint on C&D waste	No. of complaint on non-C&D waste	No. of prosecution cases under WDO	No. of FPN issued
Central & Western	78	7	0	0	103	5	2	0	128	3	0	2
Wan Chai	138	1	0	0	211	1	0	0	203	5	0	1
Eastern	136	1	1	0	175	3	0	0	172	1	1	0
Southern	139	2	0	1	173	1	3		160	28	0	0
Yau Tsim Mong	214	2	8	30	207	1	0	21	199	3	4	23
Sham Shui Po	714	3	0	1	930	5	0	2	218	31	0	12
Kowloon City	133	2	0	7	81	12	1	5	139	27	0	6
Wong Tai Sin	18	3	1	0	17	1	0	2	27	2	1	0
Kwun Tong	34	5	0	1	29	1	0	3	81	8	0	4
Tsuen Wan	69	23	0	0	93	7	1	0	66	5	2	0
Tuen Mun	56	47	1	0	45	47	1	0	48	67	9	2
Yuen Long	127	136	0	2	219	70	5	1	337	34	5	0
North	100	2	7	7	128	1	1	12	137	16	7	21
Tai Po	113	57	3	2	108	105	4	0	86	134	0	0
Sai Kung	80	46	3	1	93	11	13	1	134	26	22	2
Sha Tin	27	34	0	4	77	18	2	23	78	20	0	73
Kwai Tsing	490	11	4	1	394	4	3	6	299	7	0	12
Islands	66	53	0	0	90	33	0	1	117	33	0	0
Total	2732	435	28	57	3173	326	36	77	2629	450	51	158

Note:

- (1) Non-C&D waste refers to littering involving waste furniture, wooden boards, packaging materials, papers etc
- (2) Fixed Penalty Notice is issued under the Fixed Penalty (Public Cleanliness Offences) Ordinance, which covers common public cleanliness offences such as littering, spitting, display of bills or posters without permission.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB180

Question Serial No.

0340

Head : 44 Environmental Protection Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In paragraph 8 under Brief Description, it is mentioned that the Department will collaborate with authorities in Guangdong to carry out the Cleaner Production Partnership Programme and implement measures to improve the regional environment. Would the Department inform this Committee:

- (a) How was the Programme provision of \$93 million spent; how much funding has been approved; how many applications have been received up to the present moment; what are the percentages of approved and rejected applications;
- (b) Has the Administration reviewed the effectiveness of the Programme? If yes, what are the details; if no, what are the reasons; and
- (c) Following Hong Kong owned enterprises moving out, will the Programme be extended to other regions outside Pearl River Delta (PRD) region in Guangdong? If yes, what are the details; if no, what are the reasons.

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply :

- (a) As at end February 2011, a total of 1 285 funding applications (excluding 27 cases which withdrew their applications) were received under the Cleaner Production Partnership Programme. Of these, 1 062 (82.6%) were approved, 177 (13.8%) are being processed and the remaining 46 (3.6%) were rejected. The total funding committed thus far is around \$52 million.
- (b) In the light of feedback collected from the trades, the coverage of the Programme has been widened since 2010 to also provide professional advice and technical support in the treatment and reduction of effluent discharges to Hong Kong-owned factories in the PRD region. The Project Management Committee of the Programme also conducted a mid-term review in 2010 to evaluate the Programme management, outreaching strategies and resource deployment with a view to better utilizing the resources available and encouraging more Hong Kong-owned factories to take part in the Programme.
- (c) The majority of Hong Kong-owned factories in Guangdong remain clustered in the PRD region. Given the resources available, the Programme will continue to focus on providing support to Hong Kong-owned factories in the PRD region.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB181

Question Serial No.

1647

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In 2011-12, the Environmental Protection Department will increase 26 non-directorate posts. What are the justifications for such an increase? What is the actual expenditure involved? Please also provide a breakdown for the 26 posts including their ranks and salaries, and the distribution of these posts.

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply :

The details of the 26 non-directorate posts are:

Programme Area: Waste

	No. of Post / Rank	Justification	Salary 2011-12
(a)	1 SEPO	To strengthen the staffing support of the Central Prosecution Unit.	\$0.996m
(b)	1 EPO	To strengthen staffing support of the Voluntary Producer Responsibility Schemes.	\$0.487m
(c)	1 SEPO, 2 EPO, 2 SEPI, 1 EPI (6 posts)	To strengthen staffing support on enforcement of environmental legislation, including the implementation of the new statutory Clinical Waste Control Scheme.	# \$1.515m
(d)	1 SEPO*, 1 EPO* (2 posts)	To implement the development of Integrated Waste Management Facilities and Organic Waste Treatment Facilities. *time-limited from 2011-12 to 2012-13	\$1.483m
(e)	1 EPO, 1 CEO (2 posts)	To cope with increase in activities under the Environment and Conservation Fund.	\$1.483m

Programme Area: Air

	No. of Post / Rank	Justification	Salary 2011-12
(a)	2 EPOs	To strengthen the specialist capacity in vehicle emission modeling.	\$0.973m
(b)	1 SEPO*, 1EPO* (2 posts)	To implement a programme of retrofitting selective catalytic reduction devices to Euro II and Euro III franchised buses. *SEPO (time-limited from 1.1.2012 to 31.12.2014) *EPO (time-limited from 1.4.2011 to 31.12.2014)	\$0.736m

half year provision

Programme Area: Air

	No. of Post / Rank	Justification	Salary 2011-12
(c)	1 SEPO*, 1 EPO*, 1 EPO, 1 EPI*, 1 ACO* (5 posts)	To implement new emission control measures for achieving the proposed new Air Quality Objectives, including the setting up of the pilot Green Transport Fund, pilot low emission zones and a programme to control the emissions from non-road mobile machinery. The staffing resources are also required to strengthen the provision of alert to the community on high air pollution. *time-limited from 2011-12 to 2012-13	\$2.411m
(d)	1 SEPI*	To implement a programme of subsidizing franchised bus companies to acquire six double deck hybrid buses for trial. * time-limited from 2011-12 to 2013-14	\$0.405m

Programme Area: Noise

	No. of Post / Rank	Justification	Salary 2011-12
(a)	1 EPO	To provide the necessary staffing support for implementing noise barrier retrofitting projects.	\$0.487m

Programme Area: Water

	No. of Post / Rank	Justification	Salary 2011-12
(a)	1 EPO	To provide the necessary staffing support for planning and management of sewerage infrastructure projects.	\$0.487m
(b)	1 EPO, 1 EPI (2 posts)	To provide the necessary staffing support for the enactment of the Hazardous Chemical Control Ordinance.	\$0.738m

Total: \$12.201 mAbbreviations

SEPO	Senior Environmental Protection Officer
EPO	Environmental Protection Officer
SEPI	Senior Environmental Protection Inspector
EPI	Environmental Protection Inspector
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
ACO	Assistant Clerical Officer

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONGPost Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental ProtectionDate 16 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB182

Question Serial No.

1766

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the work to “continue to develop, taking into account the views received during the consultation with the public and relevant stakeholders, the proposal to amend the Waste Disposal Ordinance (WDO) (Cap. 354) to enhance the regulation of depositing of abandoned construction and demolition materials on private land”, would the Department advise:

- (a) The time schedule for handling the above work:
- (b) In the past year (2010), amongst the cases involving depositing of abandoned construction and demolition materials on private land handled by the department, how many of them were reported complaints cases and how many were identified by the department through proactive patrols?
- (c) Will the Administration strengthen the handling of depositing of abandoned construction and demolition materials on private land under the existing legislation? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply :

- (a) & (c) We have developed proposals to amend the WDO (Cap. 354) to enhance the regulation against depositing of abandoned construction and demolition materials on private land. These include, inter alia, introduction of a notification system to enhance transparency and to facilitate verification of the properly authorized depositing activities under existing legislation. A public consultation exercise was conducted in 2010 to solicit views on the proposal. The public and relevant stakeholders were generally positive and supportive towards the proposal. We have taken into account views and comments received during the public consultation in preparing the legislative proposal on amendment to the WDO with the aim to submit it to the Legislative Council as soon as possible.
- (b) In year 2010, Environmental Protection Department (EPD) investigated 187 public complaint cases related to deposition of abandoned construction and demolition materials on private land. In addition, as part of Government departments' coordinated effort in tackling illegal land filling activities on private land, EPD carried out investigation on 52 cases.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

10 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB183

Question Serial No.

1767

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : As mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12, the Administration will “continue to look into the post-2010 air pollutant emission reduction arrangements for the Pearl River Delta (PRD) Region in co-operation with the Department of Environmental Protection of the Guangdong Province”, would the Administration inform this Committee of:

- (a) the subjects to be covered and the recommendations from Hong Kong side;
- (b) apart from the Department of Environmental Protection of Guangdong, would the Administration study specific subjects of air pollution jointly with municipal environmental protection authorities in the PRD Region? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (c) whether the Administration has reviewed and followed up on the implementation results of emission reduction arrangements for both sides each year. If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply :

- (a) Hong Kong and Guangdong are undertaking a study to look into the post-2010 air emission reduction arrangements for the Pearl River Delta (PRD) Region. The study will review the pollutant emission situation in the region; project future emission levels; consider possible additional emission reduction measures; and to make suggestions on post-2010 emission reduction targets and initiatives.
- (b) Apart from the Guangdong Environmental Protection Department, we have been working closely with the municipal authorities in other PRD cities to address environmental issues of common concern. The Hong Kong – Shenzhen Environmental Co-operation Forum was established in April 2006 with local Shenzhen authorities to formalize our co-operation mechanism, and jointly protect our environmental resources. To further enhance our co-operation, both sides signed the “Agreement on enhancing co-operation on environmental protection between Hong Kong and Shenzhen” in December 2007. In respect of improving air quality, both governments are joining hands in reducing emissions from the power plants and vehicles; using cleaner motor fuels, and promoting cleaner production.

In addition, we have been pursuing the various initiatives under the five-year Cleaner Production Partnership Programme in collaboration with the relevant authorities in the PRD cities.

- (c) To improve the regional air quality, both governments of Hong Kong and Guangdong have drawn up a Pearl River Delta Regional Air Quality Management Plan. The Plan contains emission reduction measures that focus on power plants, vehicles and the more polluting industrial processes. The Hong Kong-Guangdong Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection reviews regularly the progress of initiatives contained in the Management Plan, which have been reported to Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs biannually.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection _____

Date _____ 14 March 2011 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB184

Question Serial No.

3178

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the estimates of expenditure of the Information Technology Management Unit (ITMU) of the Department:

- (a) What is the estimated expenditure for 2011-12? What is the percentage change compared with the actual expenditure for 2010-11? What account for this percentage change in expenditure?
- (b) What specific initiatives are involved in the estimates of expenditure for 2011-12? Which of them are ongoing and new initiatives respectively? What are the staff number, cost and implementation timetable of each initiative? Among the staff involved, how many of them are civil servants, non-civil service contract staff and staff of outsourced services respectively?
- (c) Whether funds have been reserved for promoting electronic civic participation and public sector information access? If yes, what are the specific details, including the titles and particulars of the initiatives, the manpower and cost involved, and the implementation timetable? If not, what are the reasons and will consideration be given to introducing the initiatives in the future?
- (d) What are the permanent establishment and the number of existing staff and vacancies of the ITMU? Is manpower expected to increase in the coming year? If yes, how many additional posts will be created? What ranks will be involved? Will they be permanent posts? Will they be appointed on civil service terms? If there will be no increase in manpower, what are the reasons?
- (e) Has there been any comprehensive review of the effectiveness of the ITMU? If yes, what are the results and the specific improvement measures involved? If not, what are the reasons and will a review be conducted in the future?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Wai-ho, Samson

Reply :

- (a) The estimated expenditure including staff cost for the ITMU of Environmental Protection Department (EPD) in 2011-12 is \$38.5 million which is about the same as the actual expenditure in 2010-2011.

- (b) *The estimated 2011-12 expenditure for the ITMU of EPD is mainly for the following project areas:*

<i>Project Area</i>	<i>New/ Existing</i>	<i>Staff Involved</i>			<i>Anticipated Expenditure (\$ million)</i>	<i>Project Period</i>
		<i>Civil Service Staff</i>	<i>Non Civil Service Contract Staff</i>	<i>Agency Workers</i>		
<i>Support general departmental systems and infrastructure</i>	<i>Existing</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>15.8</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
<i>Support specific business application systems</i>	<i>Existing</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>14.1</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
<i>Support local user systems</i>	<i>Existing</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>7.2</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
<i>Support centralized Information Technology Helpdesk Service</i>	<i>Existing</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>1.4</i>	<i>Ongoing</i>
<i>Total</i>		<i>35</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>38.5</i>	

Note: In addition to the above, the ITMU is also responsible for the implementation of projects related to major infrastructure enhancement and business application funded under the Capital Works Reserve Fund Head 710 - Computerization Subhead A007GX. The estimated expenditure of these projects in 2011-12 is \$11.6 million which is about the same incurred in Computerization Subhead A007 GX in 2010-11.

- (c) The EPD has been promoting initiatives related to e-engagement and opening up of public sector information through many channels, including the traditional mass media and internet. Dedicated websites have been set up for the dissemination of information on environmental protection. The resources required in promoting these initiatives are covered in (b) above.
- (d) As shown in (b) above, there are 35 civil service staff working in the ITMU of EPD and no vacant post is available at the moment. As there is no plan to introduce significant changes to the operation of the ITMU in 2011-12, increase in staff resource is not expected.
- (e) The EPD has established an Information Technology Steering Committee to review the manpower resources as well as the development plan of ITMU to assure its effectiveness and enhance the services.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date 16 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB185

Question Serial No.

2503

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Waste

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under Programme (1) of the Brief Description, it is mentioned that the Department is considering the feasibility of two sites for the construction of large-scale waste treatment facilities. Please advise:

- (a) How much has the Administration spent on the assessment and study of relevant projects? What are the details?
- (b) When the Administration released the selected site earlier on, it did not concurrently release the construction cost and the expenditure for the compensation measures accordingly. When will the Administration release the relevant information? What are the details?
- (c) Apart from the plan to build an incinerator in Skek Kwu Chau, does the Administration have any plans to construct incinerators in other areas? How many incinerators are planned to be built in Hong Kong?
- (d) Has the Administration planned the total amount of expenses for constructing large-scale waste treatment facilities in the coming year? If yes, what is the percentage of such expenses in the total expenditure for treating solid waste?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (a) We have been carrying out engineering investigation and environmental impact assessment studies for developing the Integrated Waste Management Facilities (IWMF) at two potential sites. Up to now the total expenditure incurred for these studies is \$17.627 million.
- (b) The detailed engineering study for developing the first phase of IWMF is in progress and we are consulting stakeholders on the type of community facilities which could be provided in the IWMF. The estimated costs for building and operating the IWMF are being worked out and will be available when we seek funding approval from the LegCo in early 2012.
- (c) In order to cater for the long-term needs of Hong Kong, we will take account of the progress and effectiveness in waste reduction measures as well as other possible options on waste treatment to consider plans for further development of IWMF.
- (d) We plan to commence the tender preparation work in 2011-12 for developing the first phase of IWMF. The estimated expenditure is being finalized.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB186

Question Serial No.

2505

Head : 44 Environmental Protection
 Department

Subhead (No. & title): 000 Operational
 expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the employment of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff, please provide information in the following format:

	2011-12	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09
Number of NCSC staff	()	()	()	()
Particulars of NCSC staff posts				
Expenditure on the salaries of NCSC staff	()	()	()	()
Distribution of monthly salary level of NCSC staff				
• \$30,001 or above	()	()	()	()
• \$16,001 - \$30,000	()	()	()	()
• \$8,001 - \$16,000	()	()	()	()
• \$6,501 - \$8,000	()	()	()	()
• \$5,001 - \$6,500	()	()	()	()
• \$5,000 or below	()	()	()	()
• Number of staff with monthly salary lower than \$5,824	()	()	()	()
• Number of staff with monthly salary between \$5,824 and \$6,500	()	()	()	()
Length of employment of NCSC staff				
• 5 years or above	()	()	()	()
• 3 - 5 years	()	()	()	()
• 1 - 3 years	()	()	()	()
• less than 1 year	()	()	()	()
Number of NCSC staff successfully turning into civil servants	()	()	()	()
Number of NCSC staff failing to turn into civil servants	()	()	()	()
NCSC staff as a percentage of the total number of staff in the department	()	()	()	()
Staff costs on NCSC staff as a percentage of the total staff costs in the department	()	()	()	()
Number of NCSC staff with paid meal break	()	()	()	()
Number of NCSC staff without paid meal break	()	()	()	()
Number of NCSC staff working 5 days a week	()	()	()	()
Number of NCSC staff working 6 days a week	()	()	()	()

() denotes percentage of increase or decrease per year

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply : The figures on the employment of NCSC staff from 2008-09 to 2010-11 are as follows-

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09
Number of NCSC staff *	133 (+0.8%)	132 (-11.4%)	149 (+8.0%)
Particulars of NCSC staff posts			
• Comparable to ranks below Environmental Protection Inspector or equivalent	33	35	37
• Comparable to Environmental Protection Inspector or equivalent	26	22	46
• Comparable to Assistant Environmental Protection Officer or equivalent	42	44	40
• Comparable to Environmental Protection Officer or equivalent	32	31	26
Expenditure on the salaries of NCSC staff	\$34.3M (-1.7%)	\$34.9M (+9.1%)	\$32.0M (+16.4%)
Distribution of monthly salary level of NCSC staff			
• \$30,001 or above	17 (-15%)	20 (+33.3%)	15 (+87.5%)
• \$16,001 - \$30,000	57 (+3.6%)	55 (+7.8%)	51 (+13.3%)
• \$8,001 - \$16,000	59 (+3.5%)	57 (-31.3%)	83 (-2.4%)
Length of employment of NCSC staff			
• 5 years or above	8 (+14.3%)	7 (-22.2%)	9 (-18.2%)
• 3 - 5 years	17 (-10.5%)	19 (+72.7%)	11 (+37.5%)
• 1 - 3 years	48 (+11.6%)	43 (+7.5%)	40 (-46.7%)
• less than 1 year	60 (-4.8%)	63 (-29.2%)	89 (+102.3%)
Number of NCSC staff successfully turning into civil servants	7	7	6
Number of NCSC staff failing to turn into civil servants #	14	33	20
NCSC staff as a percentage of the total number of staff in the department	7.4%	7.5%	8.5%
Staff costs on NCSC staff as a percentage of the total staff costs in the department	4.0%	4.0%	3.7%
Number of NCSC staff with paid meal break	132	131	148
Number of NCSC staff without paid meal break	1	1	1
Number of NCSC staff working 5 days a week	133	132	149
Number of NCSC staff working 6 days a week	0	0	0

() denotes percentage of increase or decrease per year

* As at 31 December of the relevant year.

Figures refer to NCSC staff attended recruitment interviews in the year concerned but failed to turn into civil servant.

Note

The figures for 2011-12 cannot be provided because it is difficult to project the number of NCSC staff to be employed in the next financial year as the employment of NCSC staff will vary from time to time having regard to the service needs and operational requirements.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 14 March 2011

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB187

Head: 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title): 000 Operational
expenses

Question Serial No.

2977

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

On engaging agency workers, please provide the following information:

	2011-12	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09
Number of contracts of engaging employment agencies	()	()	()	()
Contract sum paid to each employment agency	()	()	()	()
Total amount of commission paid to each employment agency	()	()	()	()
Length of contract for each employment agency	()	()	()	()
Number of agency workers	()	()	()	()
Details of the positions held by agency workers				
Monthly salary range of agency workers				
● \$30,001 or above	()	()	()	()
● \$16,001 - \$30,000	()	()	()	()
● \$8,001 - \$16,000	()	()	()	()
● \$6,501 - \$8,000	()	()	()	()
● \$5,001 - \$6,500	()	()	()	()
● \$5,000 or below	()	()	()	()
● number of workers with salary below \$5,824	()	()	()	()
● number of workers with salary between \$5,824 and \$6,500	()	()	()	()
Length of service of agency workers				
● 5 years or longer	()	()	()	()
● 3 - 5 years	()	()	()	()
● 1 - 3 years	()	()	()	()
● less than 1 year	()	()	()	()
Percentage of agency workers in the total number of staff in the department	()	()	()	()
Percentage of amount paid to employment agencies in the total departmental staff cost	()	()	()	()
Number of workers with paid meal break	()	()	()	()
Number of workers without paid meal break	()	()	()	()
Number of workers on five-day week	()	()	()	()
Number of workers on six-day week	()	()	()	()

() denotes percentage of increase or decrease per year

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

	Type of Contract	2011-12	2010-11 (as at 30.9.2010)	2009-10 (as at 31.3.2010)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.2009)
(a) Number of contracts engaging employment agencies	Others	Do not expect major changes in number of contracts in 2011-12	6 (+20%)	5 (+25%)	4
	T-contract (Note 1)		1	1	1
(b) Contract sum paid to each employment agency (\$M)	Others	Do not expect major changes in contract sum in 2011-12	0.10 to 1.26 (+10%)	0.10 to 1.14 (-2%)	0.10 to 1.16
	T-contract		15.86 (+10%) (full year provision)	14.39 (+10%)	13.09
(c) Total amount of commission paid to each employment agency (\$M)		The contracts contain the total service fee payable to the employment agencies and do not normally provide a breakdown of total service fee into commission and wages of agency workers. The information is therefore not available.			
(d) Length of contract for each employment agency	Others	Do not expect major changes in length of contract in 2011-12	9 months to 12 months	11 months to 12 months	11 months to 12 months
	T-contract		12 months	12 months	12 months
(e) Number of agency workers	Others	Do not expect major changes in number of agency workers in 2011-12	25	25 (+14%)	22
	T-contract		41 (+3%)	40 (+3%)	39
(f) Details of the positions held by agency workers		Agency workers are deployed for a variety of duties; mostly meeting short-term manpower gap. Duties include general office support service, customer service, project monitoring and co-ordinating, etc..			
(g) Monthly salary range of agency workers	Others	Do not expect major changes in number under different salary range in 2011-12	1	1	1
	•\$16,001 - \$30,000		19	19 (+19%)	16
	•\$8,001 - \$16,000	5	5	5	
	•\$6,501 - \$8,000				
	T-contract (Note 2)				
	•\$30,001 or above	34	34 (+6%)	32	
	•\$16,001 - 30,000	7 (+17%)	6 (-14%)	7	

(h) Length of services of agency workers		The employment agencies may assign different agency workers during the contract period such that the service as pledged can be maintained. Hence, information on length of services of agency workers is not available.			
(i) Percentage of agency workers in the total number of staff in the department	Others	Do not expect major changes in the percentage in 2011-12	1.4%	1.4%	1.2%
	T-contract		2.3 %	2.2%	2.2%
(j) Percentage of amount paid to EA in the total departmental staff cost	Others	Do not expect major changes in the percentage in 2011-12	0.36%	0.36%	0.14%
	T-contract		1.8%	1.7%	1.5%
(k) Number of workers with paid meal break/without paid meal break		The information is not available as whether meal breaks are included as paid time is a matter for agreement between the employment agencies and the agency workers when the employment contract is signed.			
(l) Number of workers on five-day week/ six-day week	Others	Do not expect major changes in 2011-12	five-day week 25	five-day week 25	five-day week 22
	T-contract		five-day week 41	five-day week 40	five-day week 39

() denotes percentage of increase or decrease per year

Note 1 T-contract refers to term contract centrally administered by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer.

Note 2 The salary range quoted for T-contract includes both salaries and commissions

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment
/ Director of Environmental Protection _____

Date _____ 14 March 2011 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB188

Question Serial No.

2978

Head : 44 Environmental
 Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : On engaging "outsourced workers", please provide the following information:

	2011-12	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09
Number of outsourced service contracts	()	()	()	()
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	()	()	()	()
Length of contract for each outsourced service provider	()	()	()	()
Number of workers engaged through outsourced service providers	()	()	()	()
Details of the positions held by outsourced workers (e.g. customer service, property management, security, cleaning and information technology)				
Monthly salary range of outsourced workers				
• \$30,001 or above	()	()	()	()
• \$16,001 - \$30,000	()	()	()	()
• \$8,001 - \$16,000	()	()	()	()
• \$6,501 - \$8,000	()	()	()	()
• \$5,001 - \$6,500	()	()	()	()
• \$5,000 or below	()	()	()	()
• number of workers with salary below \$5,824	()	()	()	()
• number of workers with salary between \$5,824 and \$6,500	()	()	()	()
Length of service of outsourced workers				
• 5 years or longer	()	()	()	()
• 3 - 5 years	()	()	()	()
• 1 - 3 years	()	()	()	()
• less than 1 year	()	()	()	()
Percentage of outsourced workers in the total number of staff in the department	()	()	()	()
Percentage of amount paid to outsourced service providers in the total departmental staff cost	()	()	()	()
Number of workers with paid meal break	()	()	()	()
Number of workers without paid meal break	()	()	()	()
Number of workers on five-day week	()	()	()	()
Number of workers on six-day week	()	()	()	()

() denotes percentage of increase or decrease per year

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

	2011-12	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09
(a) Number of outsourced service contracts	The information requested is not available at this moment as the number of service contracts and workers vary over time depending on the need.	13 (+8%)	12 (+20%)	10
(b) Total amount paid to outsourced service providers (\$M)		6.9 (+13%)	6.1 (+69%)	3.6
(c) Length of contract for each outsourced service provider		12 to 24 months	12 to 24 months	12 to 24 months
(d) Number of workers engaged through outsourced service providers	For most of the outsourced service contracts, Environmental Protection Department (EPD) only specifies the types and level of services to be delivered by the service providers, rather than the number of staff to be employed for the services. The outsourced contracts mainly provide services including cleansing, information technology, sampling and laboratory testing. Information about the number of outsourced workers engaged and their positions is not available.			
(e) Details of positions held by outsourced workers				
(f) Monthly salary range of outsourced workers	The contracts of EPD entered into with the service providers specify the service level and fee to be charged by the latter in providing the services. EPD normally does not specify the number and salaries of the outsourced workers. As long as the procuring requirements (in terms of types and level of services) are satisfied, the service providers may arrange any of their employees to provide the service during the contract period. Information about the monthly salary and length of service of the outsourced works is not available.			
(g) Length of service of outsourced workers				
(h) Outsourced workers as a percentage of the total number of staff in the department				
(i) Amount paid to outsourced service providers as a percentage of the total staff cost of the department	The information requested is not available at this moment as the number of contracts and workers vary over time depending on the need.	0.79%	0.71%	0.42%

(j) Number of workers with/without paid meal break	The information requested is not available as we do not have access to employment information of the service providers and their workers.
(k) Number of workers on five-day/six-day week	

() denotes percentage of increase or decrease per year

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB189

Question Serial No.

2209

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : So far how many enterprises have participated in the Cleaner Production Partnership Programme? What was the amount of subsidy? Will the Programme be continued?

Asked by : Hon. Wong Ting-kwong

Reply:

The Cleaner Production Partnership Programme, launched in April 2008, provides funding and technical support to Pearl River Delta factories to carry out on-site improvement assessments, implement demonstration projects and engage third party verification services to help verify the effectiveness of improvement projects. As at end February 2011, a total of 1 062 funding applications were approved under the Programme. The Programme also organised over 200 awareness promotion and publicity activities, such as seminars, workshops, briefings, factory visits, attracting some 21 000 participants. The total funding committed thus far is around \$52 million.

The Programme will end in 2013. We will consider the subsequent arrangements nearer the time.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB190

Question Serial No.

2332

Head : 44 Environmental
Protection Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In 2011-12, the Transport Department will continue to support and promote the programme which encourages vehicle owners to replace their aged/more polluting diesel commercial vehicles with more environmental-friendly ones as soon as possible. What is the effectiveness of the plan up to the present moment? In his budget speech, the Financial Secretary mentioned that the First Registration Tax of vehicles will be increased. Has the Administration assessed whether this measure will discourage vehicle owners in replacing their aged/more polluting diesel commercial vehicles with more environmental-friendly ones?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Ting-kwong

Reply :

The one-off grant scheme to encourage early replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles with new ones complying with the prevailing statutory emission standard ended in March 2010. A special arrangement was made to allow vehicle owners who had ordered new commercial vehicles before the grant scheme's deadline to retain their eligibility to apply for the grant until end-March 2011. Including the applications under the special arrangement for retaining the eligibility for the one-off grant in replacing pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles, the Government received about 17 000 applications and approved about 16 900 of them as at end-February 2011, accounting for about 30% of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles at the time the scheme was launched.

The Administration has launched a similar one-off grant scheme for Euro II diesel commercial vehicles since July 2010. Up to end February 2011, we received 1 164 applications and approved 963 of them.

In his budget speech, the Financial Secretary has proposed to increase the first registration tax on private cars but not on commercial vehicles. The proposal will thus not affect the decision of commercial vehicle owners in replacing their old vehicles with more environment-friendly ones.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG**

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date _____ 11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB192

Question Serial No.

1917

Head : 100 Marine Department

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Port Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Marine

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

According to paragraph 11 under the above Programme, the Department will “review the reformed outsourcing arrangements for provision of marine cleansing services and fine-tune the arrangements as necessary”. In this connection, please provide information on the following:

- (1) the specific details of the arrangements;
- (2) the number of contracts awarded for provision of marine cleansing services, the contract sums and periods; and
- (3) the average monthly salary of staff engaged in the provision of the outsourced services.

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

- (1) The reformed outsourcing arrangements of marine cleansing services took place from July 2005. Since then, marine refuse collection and scavenging services have been provided entirely by private contractors which operate a fleet of about 70 scavenging vessels including six government vessels chartered to them. Through the reformed outsourcing arrangements, we have consolidated the fragmented contracts for marine refuse collection and scavenging services into two contracts. More stringent outcome-oriented performance standards, which include the minimum cleanliness level to be maintained and the response time to restore specific areas to the minimum standard, were also specified in these contracts.
- (2) Marine refuse collection and scavenging services are provided under two contracts covering the entire waters of Hong Kong. The total contract sum for the two contracts, for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2011, is about \$188.4 million.
- (3) The average monthly wage of the cleansing workers employed by the contractors for marine refuse collection and scavenging services is \$5,600 in 2010-11.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

ROGER TUPPER

Director of Marine

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB193

Question Serial No.

3502

Head : 100 Marine Department

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Port Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Marine

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question :

Regarding efforts to “provide marine cleansing services through outsourcing and enhance the arrangements with reference to findings from the post-implementation services review conducted jointly with the Efficiency Unit”, please advise this Committee of:

- a. the details of the review;
- b. the number of contracts awarded and the contract sums; and
- c. the enhancement measures.

Asked by : Hon. Wong Kwok-kin

Reply :

- (a) The reformed outsourcing arrangements of marine cleansing services took place from July 2005. Through the reformed outsourcing arrangements, we have consolidated the fragmented contracts for marine refuse collection and scavenging services into two contracts. More stringent outcome-oriented performance standards, which include the minimum cleanliness level to be maintained and the response time to restore specific areas to the minimum standard, were also specified in these contracts. In order to further improve the services, the Marine Department has carried out a review with the Efficiency Unit with a view to identifying areas for improvement and enhancing (i) administration of the outsourcing arrangements; (ii) efficient deployment of the cleansing resources; and (iii) monitoring of the contractors' performance.
- (b) Marine refuse collection and scavenging services are provided under two contracts covering the entire waters of Hong Kong. The total contract sum for the two contracts, for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2011, is about \$188.4 million.
- (c) Major enhancement measures that will be implemented at the next outsourcing contract upon expiry of the existing ones in 2011 are as follows :
 - (i) to combine the two existing marine refuse collection and cleansing services contracts for more efficient contract administration and deployment of resources; and
 - (ii) to introduce an indexation mechanism to link service charges to fuel price as in some other government contracts, with a view to obtaining the required services at a more stable and competitive price amidst volatile fuel cost.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

ROGER TUPPER

Director of Marine

15 March 2011

Annex

The Distribution of Existing Chargers Across 18 districts

Central & Western	10	Islands	5
Eastern	25	Kwai Tsing	6
Southern	3	North	13
Wan Chai	43	Sai Kung	3
Kowloon City	5	Sha Tin	28
Kwun Tong	25	Tai Po	15
Sham Shui Po	4	Tsuen Wan	10
Wong Tai Sin	11	Tuen Mun	18
Yau Tsim Mong	35	Yuen Long	39

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB196

Question Serial No.

0032

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In his Budget Speech (para. 123), the Financial Secretary mentioned that “subject to the availability of suitable models on the market and the operational needs of bureaux and departments, we will give priority to electric vehicles (EVs) when replacing government vehicles in the two financial years of 2011-12 and 2012-13. We expect to have an intake of close to 200 EVs of various types in these two years.” Please provide the following information:

- (a) Which departments will be allocated with these EVs? What are the vehicle models involved?
- (b) What are the estimated expenditure for such EVs and their recurrent expenditure in future?
- (c) Will the Administration consider giving priority to the EVs which are locally developed or produced with local participation? If yes, what are the reasons? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

(a) & (b)

Government departments which are due to replace their vehicles in 2011-12 and 2012-13 would give priority to procure EVs if there are suitable models on the market that meet their operational needs. The EVs to be procured may involve various makes such as cars and motorcycles. The exact capital cost and recurrent expenditure can only be confirmed at a later stage. For estimates purposes, about \$15 million has been earmarked for procuring EVs in 2011-12.

- (c) The Government's procurement policy generally is to encourage open and fair competition to obtain the best value for money. All suppliers that may provide products of the required specifications will be allowed to bid on an equal and fair basis.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

ANISSA WONG

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB197

Question Serial No.

0033

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the promotion of the Buildings Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes,

- (a) How many applications have been received since the launch of the Schemes? What is the number of the applications rejected? What are the reasons for refusal?
- (b) Of the successful applications for funding, please give in table form a breakdown of the numbers of cases of domestic buildings, commercial and industrial buildings, the ages of the buildings mentioned and the numbers of flats.
- (c) How much electricity consumed can be saved and how many carbon emissions can be reduced following the implementation of the energy efficiency projects in the above cases?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply : As at 28 February 2011, a total of 1 313 applications under the Buildings Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes have been received, among which 686 applications have been approved. A total of 319 applications have been rejected mainly because the applicants failed to meet the eligibility criteria or provide sufficient information for assessment. The other applications are being processed.

Breakdown on the building type of successful applications is tabulated below. We do not have information on the age of the buildings or the number of flats they provide.

Building Type	Number of successful applications		Number of buildings covered
	Energy-cum-carbon Audit	Energy Efficiency Projects	
Residential	83	431	4 837
Commercial	21	37	76
Industrial	5	53	70
Residential-cum-commercial	12	44	235
Total	121	565	5 218

We expect 125 million units of electricity to be saved per annum upon completion of the energy efficiency projects already approved. This is equivalent to an annual reduction of over 87 400 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date 16 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB198

Question Serial No.

0034

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : One aim of this Programme is to raise public awareness of and achieve energy efficiency and conservation. Please tabulate the administration's overall annual electricity consumption and electricity expenses in the past three years (2008-09 to 2010-2011). Does the Administration have any specific targets in reducing electricity consumption?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The Administration's overall annual electricity consumption and electricity expenses in 2008-09 and 2009-10 were:

Financial Year	Electricity consumption (kWh)	Electricity Expenses (as recorded under item 451 (Electricity) under departmental expenses of various bureaux and departments)
2008-09	2,537 million	\$2,166 million
2009-10	2,569 million	\$2,156 million

Consolidated data for 2010-11 is not yet available.

All bureaux and departments are obliged to save energy. Overall speaking, we aim to achieve a 5% saving on the total electricity consumption from 2009-10 to 2013-14 after discounting activity changes (using the electricity consumption in 2007-08 as the baseline).

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

16 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB199

Question Serial No.

1560

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12, it is mentioned that the Environment Bureau will consult the public on progressively restricting the sale of incandescent light bulbs. When is the consultation expected to launch? What is the form of consultation? Based on the Administration's assessment, is the supply of incandescent light bulb substitutes in the market enough for the public to choose from?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The Government is preparing the public consultation on the restriction of sale of energy-inefficient incandescent light bulbs. In considering viable replacement options for incandescent light bulbs (ILBs), due consideration is given to their service life, colour rendering, colour temperature, lamp base, efficacy, wattage range, lighting control, etc. We will make proposals to restrict the sale of a particular type of ILBs when we are satisfied that there is adequate supply of lighting devices to replace it. For instance, ILBs for general household use can now be replaced by compact fluorescent lamps.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

16 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB200

Question Serial No.

1561

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In respect of “raising the public awareness of the aim of achieving energy efficiency and conservation”, Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs passed a motion in November 2009, proposing to put forward a coupon scheme to encourage the public to purchase energy-saving products. Has the Administration earmarked provision in 2011-12 for the implementation of the above scheme? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

We have taken forward various measures to help promote the use of energy efficient lamps. The initial phase of the Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme has been fully implemented since November 2009. Energy labels are required to be shown on compact fluorescent lamps currently on sale in the market. To improve the energy efficiency of new and existing buildings (including lighting installations), the Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance was enacted in November 2010 to mandate the implementation of the Building Energy Codes. The Buildings Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes also provide funding to projects, including those to improve energy efficiency of lighting installations. These measures have helped promote the wider use of energy efficient lamps.

The Administration will continue to promote energy efficiency and conservation through various initiatives.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB201

Question Serial No.

1562

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12, it is mentioned that the Bureau will “engage stakeholder groups and take forward measures to address environmental concerns over external lighting”. What is the specific work to be done? When will these measures be implemented? Will the Government issue a consultation paper for this purpose?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

We have conducted a consultancy study on external lighting and will brief the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs on the study findings and our proposed way forward, including the plan to engage stakeholder groups in the development of technical standards and industry best practices to address concerns over light nuisance and promote energy efficiency.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

17 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB202

Question Serial No.

3569

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : It is mentioned that the Bureau will consult the public on progressively restricting the sale of incandescent light bulbs. What are the details and estimated expenditure of the public consultation? When does the Bureau expect to take follow-up actions at the earliest on the consultation results and the views collected?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

The Government is preparing the public consultation on the restriction of sale of energy-inefficient incandescent light bulbs. For estimates purpose, we have earmarked about \$3 million for this exercise.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

16 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB203

Question Serial No.

3570

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Has the Bureau planned to provide funding for support of commencing legislating work against light pollution in 2011-12 and/or earmark resources and manpower to carry out studies on such legislating work? What are the timetable and details of the work plans concerned? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

Following the Chief Executive's announcement in the 2008-09 Policy Address, the Environment Bureau commenced in 2009 a consultancy study on external lighting. The study covers the following three areas:

- (a) experience of metropolises that are similar to Hong Kong in handling external lighting;
- (b) survey on views of relevant stakeholders; and
- (c) research on the usage of external lighting in various representative areas in Hong Kong including residential area, commercial area, residential-cum-commercial area, new town, rural area, etc.

The study has incurred an expenditure of \$3.2 million.

We will release the study findings shortly and brief relevant panels of the Legislative Council.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB204

Question Serial No.

3571

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : (a) How many electric vehicles have been introduced into the government fleet in the past? What are the expenditures for maintenance in this regard since the introduction of such vehicles in 2009?

(b) The Environment Bureau has indicated that they will “continue to promote the use of electric vehicles, including the introduction of more electric vehicles into the government fleet where appropriate.” Does it mean that the procurement of all electric vehicles in the government fleet is handled by the Environment Bureau? How many electric vehicles are expected to be introduced into the government fleet in the coming year? What is the estimated cost?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

- (a) At present, there are 10 electric cars and 12 electric motorcycles in the Government fleet. Expenditure for the maintenance of these Electric Vehicles (EVs) has been absorbed by existing resources of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD). The maintenance work has been an integral part of the work of EMSD and there is no breakdown of the expenditure incurred.
- (b) Subject to the availability of suitable models on the market and the operational needs of bureaux and departments, we will give priority to EVs when replacing Government vehicles in the two financial years of 2011-12 and 2012-13. We expect to have an intake of close to 200 EVs of various types in these two years. The Environment Bureau will work with the Government Logistics Department (GLD) and EMSD to facilitate the procurement of suitable types of EVs for Government departments. For estimates purposes, about \$15 million has been earmarked in 2011-12 for GLD to procure EVs for the Government fleet.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB205

Question Serial No.

3572

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The Under Secretary and the Political Assistant for the Environment provide support to the Secretary for the Environment. Will the Bureau consider reviewing the salaries, benefits and other contract employment terms of the Under Secretary and the Political Assistant in 2011-12 in response to the criticism of the community against them? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply :

The HKSAR Government completed the mid-term review of the remuneration for Under Secretaries and Political Assistants in August last year. Having considered the appraisal and review reports, the Appointment Committee considered that the performance of individual Under Secretaries and Political Assistants generally met the requirements, and on that basis decided that their remuneration should remain unchanged.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB206

Question Serial No.

0521

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under Programme (2), the Government said that the provision for 2011-12 is 29.1% higher than the revised estimate for 2010-11. The additional provision is mainly allocated for promoting the use of electric vehicles in Hong Kong and installation of charging facilities at government car parks. Please inform this Committee of the names of government car parks which will carry out installation of charging facilities and the number of electric vehicles to be purchased during 2011-12.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

Regarding setting up of standard charging points at Government car parks for Electric Vehicles ("EVs"), we are now working with relevant departments on the car parks to be covered and the number of charging points to be set up, having regard to various factors including technical considerations and site constraints.

Subject to the availability of suitable models on the market and the operational needs of bureaux and departments, we will give priority to EVs when replacing Government vehicles in the two financial years of 2011-12 and 2012-13. We expect to have an intake of close to 200 EVs of various types in these two years.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB207

Question Serial No.

1762

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : By using incinerators for waste treatment, a lot of energy is produced every year. The Administration, however, has failed to arrange for the energy to be used for any special purpose so as to put it into good use. When exploring and looking into optimising the fuel mix for power generation, would the Administration discuss with the power companies on ways to optimise the uses of energy?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

Converting waste to energy is one of the initiatives as we proposed in the Consultation Document on Hong Kong's Climate Change and Action Agenda issued in September 2010.

We are planning for the construction of the first Integrated Waste Management Facilities (IWMF) in Hong Kong, with a view to commissioning by 2018. The IWMF will adopt advanced incineration as the core technology to convert waste to energy and generate electricity. Assuming a daily treatment capacity of 3 000 tonnes of waste, an IWMF may supply about 480 million units of surplus electricity to the power grid per year, which is sufficient for use by over 100 000 households. We have made initial contacts with the power companies to explore the technical feasibility of the arrangements to supply the electricity so generated to their power grid, and will continue the discussion with the companies as we take forward the project.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG**

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____ 15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB208

Question Serial No.

1764

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Please inform the Committee of the actual electricity consumption of the Environment Bureau and Environmental Protection Department, the percentage of their electricity cost in the operational expenses and the actual tariff amount in 2009-10 and 2010-11.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

The total electricity consumption of the Environment Bureau (ENB) and Environmental Protection Department (EPD) in 2009-10 was about 2.8 million kWh. As some of the electricity expenses of ENB/EPD are paid together with other users in Government buildings, we do not have separate breakdown of this expenditure. Assuming an average tariff at \$1 per kWh, the electricity cost incurred was about \$2.8 million which is about 0.1% of the operational expenses. The data for 2010-11 is not yet available.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB209

Question Serial No.

1765

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In recent years, the Environment Bureau and the Environmental Protection Department have taken measures to gradually install energy efficiency lighting systems and control the air-conditioned room temperature in summer. Has the Administration assessed whether there has been a significant reduction in the total electricity consumption after the implementation of such measures? If yes, what is the assessment result? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

Environment Bureau and Environmental Protection Department have implemented various energy saving measures in recent years and the electricity consumption in 2009-10 was reduced by about 2% as compared with that in 2008-09. Total electricity consumption in 2010-11 is not yet available.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB210

Question Serial No.

1458

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The provision for 2011-12 under Programme (2) of Environment Bureau is 29.1% higher than the revised estimate for 2010-11. The additional provision is mainly allocated for promoting the use of electric vehicles in Hong Kong and installation of charging facilities at government car parks. Please inform this Committee of the number of government car parks involved, the number of charging facilities to be provided and the breakdown of relevant expenditures.

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

In 2011-12, about \$10 million has been reserved for setting up charging points at Government car parks for use by electric vehicles. We are now working with relevant departments on the number of car parks to be covered and the number of charging points to be set up, having regard to various factors including technical considerations and site constraints.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB211

Question Serial No.

2459

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12, it is mentioned that the Bureau will “explore and study options for revamping the fuel mix for power generation taking into account views received during the public consultation on climate change”. Would the Administration advise this Committee when a final decision will be made on the 2020 fuel mix for power generation? On using nuclear power, if the proportion of nuclear power is to be increased, where will additional nuclear power generation units or plants be provided or built under preliminary planning?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

The Administration completed in December 2010 the public consultation on “Hong Kong’s Climate Change Strategy and Action Agenda”, which included the proposal to revamp the fuel mix for local power generation by 2020. We are now consolidating views received during the public consultation to chart the way forward. Detailed plans to implement various initiatives would be worked out at an appropriate time.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG** _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment _____

Date _____ 11 March 2011 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB212

Question Serial No.

2460

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In Matters Requiring Special Attention, it is mentioned that the Bureau will “implement the second phase of the Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme and monitor the full implementation of the first phase of the Scheme”. Would the Administration inform this Committee of the number of cases in which products were found not complying with the energy efficiency levels as shown in the labels ever since the implementation of the first phase of the Scheme? How would the Administration follow up on such cases? Has the Administration considered further upgrading the standards of energy efficiency levels so as to promote the production of more energy efficient products by the trade? If yes, what is the time table? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

Since the full implementation of the first phase of the Scheme from 9 November 2009, a total of 89 product models listed under the Scheme were found not complying with the energy efficiency levels as shown on the energy labels. These product models have been removed from the record of the Scheme and they are not allowed to be supplied in Hong Kong.

The Administration will review the effectiveness of the Scheme and consider the way forward taking into account latest development.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB213

Question Serial No.

0445

Head : 137 Government Secretariat:
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding consultancy studies commissioned by the Environment Bureau and its departments for the purposes of formulating and assessing policies (if any), please provide information in the following format:

- (a) For subsidised programmes for public policy studies and strategic public policy studies from 2008-09 to 2010-11, please provide information according to the table below:

Name of consultants	How to award (open bid/tender/ others(please specify)	Title, content and objectives of studies	Consultancy fees(\$)	Date commenced	Progress of studies (under planning/in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If the studies are completed, have they been released to the public? If yes, through which channels? If not, why?

- (b) In 2011-12, are there any projects of which provision have been reserved for commissioning consultancy studies? If yes, please provide the following information:

Name of consultants	How to award (open bid/tender/ others(please specify))	Title, content and objectives of studies	Consultancy fees(\$)	Date commenced	Progress of studies (under planning/in progress/ completed)	If the studies are expected to be completed in 2011-12, will they be released to the public? If yes, through which channels? If not, why?

- (c) What are the criteria considered for commissioning such research organisations to conduct the consultancy studies?

Asked by : Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply :

Please refer to the attachment.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG**

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____ 14 March 2011

(a) For subsidised programmes for public policy studies and strategic public policy studies from 2008-09 to 2010-11, please provide information according to the table below:

Name of consultants	How to award (open bid/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of studies	Consultancy fees(\$)	Date commenced	Progress of studies (under planning/in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If the studies are completed, have they been released to the public? If yes, through which channels? If not, why?
Mott MacDonald Hong Kong Limited	Tender	Feasibility Study: Electricity Market Development in Hong Kong - to look into options of a new market mechanism and the associated regulatory framework for the post-2018 electricity market, with due regard to the unique situation of Hong Kong	2,900,000	Jan 2009	Completed	The findings of the study are being analysed.	Relevant arrangements would be worked out upon the completion of the review of the study findings.
Hong Kong Productivity Council	Tender	Study on International Practice on Phasing Out Energy Inefficient Incandescent Lamps – to study the international practices on phasing out programme	210,000	Aug 2008	Completed	We will make reference to other countries' practices in developing a proposal for Hong Kong.	We shall consult the community and trade on a proposal of restricting the sales of energy inefficient incandescent light bulbs.
MVA Hong Kong Limited	Tender	Energy Consumption Survey on Lighting in Residential and Commercial Buildings – to survey the use of incandescent light bulbs in commercial and residential buildings	1,000,000	Apr 2008	Completed	We will make reference to the survey data collected in developing a proposal for Hong Kong.	We shall consult the community and trade on a proposal of restricting the sales of energy inefficient incandescent light bulbs.
Parsons Brinckerhoff (Asia) Ltd.	Tender	Studies on overseas practices in guiding and regulating external lighting – to identify experience of other cities/economies in handling external lighting issues	1,400,000	Jun 2009	Completed	We are considering the findings of the studies in mapping out the way forward.	Relevant arrangements will be announced.

Name of consultants	How to award (open bid/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of studies	Consultancy fees(\$)	Date commenced	Progress of studies (under planning/in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If the studies are completed, have they been released to the public? If yes, through which channels? If not, why?
Parsons Brinckerhoff (Asia) Ltd.	Tender	Survey on impacts of external lighting in Hong Kong – to survey external lighting conditions in representative areas in Hong Kong	1,150,000	May 2009	Completed	We are considering the findings of the studies in mapping out the way forward.	Relevant arrangements will be announced.
Policy 21 Limited	Tender	Opinion survey study on external lighting in Hong Kong – to collect views of relevant stakeholders on external lighting	597,500	Jun 2009	Completed	We are considering the findings of the studies in mapping out the way forward.	Relevant arrangements will be announced.
ERM-Hong Kong, Ltd.	Tender	Biennial habitat mapping study for the computer-aided sustainability evaluation tool	1,252,000	Sep 2008	Completed	The information gathered from the consultancy was used to update the habitat information in the computer-aided sustainability evaluation tool.	The final report of the habitat mapping study was released to the public through the Sustainable Development Division's website.
Public Policy Research Institute (PPRI) of the Polytechnic University of Hong Kong	Tender	Independent analysis of public views received during the Council for Sustainable Development (SDC)'s public engagement on Fostering a Quality and Sustainable Built Environment	1,062,000	Jan 2009	Completed	The SDC released a report on the public engagement in June 2010, which put forward recommendations on building design to foster a quality and sustainable environment for Hong Kong. The Administration subsequently released its response in October 2010, and accepted most of recommendations put forward by the SDC in the report. Relevant measures would be implemented in April 2011.	The reports of both the PPRI and the SDC have been uploaded on the SDC's website.

Name of consultants	How to award (open bid/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of studies	Consultancy fees(\$)	Date commenced	Progress of studies (under planning/in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If the studies are completed, have they been released to the public? If yes, through which channels? If not, why?
To be appointed	Tender	Independent analysis of public views to be received during the SDC's engagement process on climate change-related issues	Subject to tender	Mar 2011	Tender in progress	The SDC would take into account the report of the consultant when drawing up its recommendations for submission to the Administration for consideration.	The reports of both the consultant and the SDC will be uploaded on the SDC's website after completing the public engagement exercise.
ERM-Hong Kong Ltd	Tender	A Study on Climate Change in Hong Kong The study primarily reviewed and updated the inventories of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Hong Kong; projected local GHG emission trends under different scenarios; characterised the impacts of climate change on Hong Kong; and recommended additional policies and measures to reduce GHG emissions and facilitate adaptation to climate change.	8,798,949	Mar 2008	Completed	The major findings of the Study have been reflected as appropriate in the public consultation document on "Hong Kong's Climate Change Strategy and Action Agenda".	The consultancy report was released at Environmental Protection Department (EPD's) website.
CityU Professional Services Limited and Hyder Consulting Limited	Tender	Review and Development of Marine Water Quality Objectives	8,946,000	Oct 2008	In progress	The First Stage Public Engagement was conducted between September and December 2009; specific findings of the study will be completed by the end of 2011.	Report of the First Stage Public Engagement has been uploaded to dedicated website for public viewing

Name of consultants	How to award (open bid/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of studies	Consultancy fees(\$)	Date commenced	Progress of studies (under planning/in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If the studies are completed, have they been released to the public? If yes, through which channels? If not, why?
Deloitte Consulting Hong Kong Ltd	Tender	To conduct a Business Impact Assessment (BIA) Study on mandatory Producer Responsibility Scheme (PRS) for Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE)	1,425,600	Nov 2009	Completed	We are developing proposal on a mandatory PRS for WEEE and will discuss with the trades on detailed implementation plan within 2011.	We have reported the key findings to the Business Facilitation Advisory Committee and the Retail Task Force of the Committee.
Environmental Resources Management	Tender	To collect information on waste generation pattern and waste management practices among different types of commercial and industrial buildings	1,250,000	Nov 2008	Completed	A broad framework on the principles, pros and cons of Municipal Solid Waste charging options will be presented for public engagement in 2011	We have reported to the Waste Management Subcommittee of the Advisory Council on the Environment on the key findings of the study
Environmental Resources Management	Tender	To explore possible ways to recycle glass containers in Hong Kong	685,500	Jan 2008	In progress	Not applicable	Full final report is not yet available.
Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Ltd	Tender	To explore ways to reduce excessive packaging of consumer products in Hong Kong	648,000	Feb 2008	In progress	Not applicable	Full final report is not yet available.
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Tender	Study to evaluate the adverse impact of environmental noise on public health in Hong Kong	1,428,000	Dec 2008	In progress	Not applicable (not yet completed)	When completed, the study report will be uploaded on the EPD's website.
EDMS (HK) Limited	Tender	Study to evaluate the environmental implications on traffic management measures - to benchmark overseas approaches and evaluate their practicability in Hong Kong	388,000	Feb 2010	In progress	Not applicable (not yet completed)	When completed, the study report will be uploaded on the EPD's website.

Name of consultants	How to award (open bid/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of studies	Consultancy fees(\$)	Date commenced	Progress of studies (under planning/in progress/ completed)	Follow-up actions taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If the studies are completed, have they been released to the public? If yes, through which channels? If not, why?
EDMS (HK) Limited	Tender	Review the eligibility of road sections for retrofitting barriers	398,800	Apr 2009	In progress	Not Applicable (not yet completed)	When completed, the study report will be uploaded on the EPD's website.
Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Limited	Tender	Review of the Air Quality Objectives and Development of a Long Term Air Quality Strategy for Hong Kong – Feasibility Study	6,600,000	Jun 2007	Completed	Based on the findings, the Administration conducted a public consultation about a proposal to update the Air Quality Objectives (AQO) and reported the findings to the Legislative Council's Environmental Affairs Panel in June 2010. We are considering how best to take forward the AQO updating and the recommended air quality improvement measures.	Yes, through EPD's web site, public forum and structured public consultation
Hong Kong Productivity Council	Tender	Consultancy Study on Further Development of Environmental Specifications for Government Procurement Items	794,000	July 2008	Completed	Government bureaux and departments will be requested to adopt the findings and recommendations of the study	Recommended specifications have been uploaded on EPD's website and the government's intranet
Association for Geoconservation, Hong Kong	Single tender	Provision of Service for a Study Assessing the Viability of Establishing a Geological Park in Hong Kong	170,000	May 2008	Completed	The Government has taken forward the proposal to set up a Geopark in Hong Kong	We have made reference to the study findings in development our proposal to set up a Geopark in Hong Kong. Our proposal has been made public and reported to the Legislative Council

(b) In 2011-12, are there any projects of which provision have been reserved for commissioning consultancy studies? If yes, please provide the following information:

Name of consultants	How to award (open bid/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of studies	Consultancy fees(\$)	Date commenced	Progress of studies (under planning/in progress/ completed)	If the studies are expected to be completed in 2011-12, will they be released to the public? If yes, through which channels? If not, why?
Environmental Resources Management	Tender	To explore possible ways to recycle glass containers in Hong Kong	285,625	Jan 2008	In progress	We will duly consider the related arrangements in finalising the report of the consultancy study.
Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Ltd	Tender	To explore ways to reduce excessive packaging of consumer products in Hong Kong	378,000	Feb 2008	In progress	We will duly consider the related arrangements in finalising the report of the consultancy study.
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Tender	Study to evaluate the adverse impact of environmental noise on public health in Hong Kong	1,428,000	Dec 2008	In progress	When completed, the study report will be uploaded on the EPD's website.
EDMS (HK) Limited	Tender	Study to evaluate the environmental implications on traffic management measures - to benchmark overseas approaches and evaluate their practicability in Hong Kong	388,000	Feb 2010	In progress	When completed, the study report will be uploaded on the EPD's website.
EDMS (HK) Limited	Tender	Review the eligibility of road sections for retrofitting barriers	398,800	Apr 2009	In progress	When completed, the study report will be uploaded on the EPD's website.

(c) Tendering, selection and award of the studies are carried out according to the relevant procedures of the Stores and Procurement Regulations with due consideration of technical criteria including expertise and experience of consultants and resources to be committed for the study by the consultants.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB214

Question Serial No.

0569

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : It is mentioned in the said Programme that the Environment Bureau will promote environmental protection and energy conservation in government buildings. In this connection, please provide the following information:

- (1) What were the total expenditure and the breakdown of expenditures annually in respect of the Administration's promotion of environmental protection and energy conservation in government buildings over the past three years? What major environmental and energy efficient measures have been adopted in government buildings? Which types of government buildings have been retrofitted with environmental-friendly and energy-saving equipment?
- (2) In the coming year, what will be the total expenditure and the breakdown of expenditures for environmental protection and energy conservation in government buildings? What major environmental and energy efficient measures will be implemented in government buildings? Which types of government building will be first retrofitted with environmental-friendly and energy-saving equipment? When are all government buildings in Hong Kong expected to be installed with such equipment?
- (3) Does the Administration have a set of criteria in choosing the said environmental-friendly and energy-saving equipment? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

The expenditure for implementing energy-saving projects by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) in 2008-09 was \$43 million. In 2009-10 and 2010-11, the Government has been implementing a package of \$450 million minor works projects to improve the green performance of Government buildings. Of this amount, \$206 million was used for implementing energy-saving and water-saving projects in Government buildings and schools. Also, \$130 million was allocated in 2009-10 to carry out works to enhance energy efficiency of government buildings and public facilities, such as government offices, law court buildings, police stations, fire stations, hospitals, clinics, town halls, municipal services buildings, museums, schools and parks, etc. Energy saving projects included the replacement of air-cooled chillers by water-cooled chillers with fresh water cooling towers, upgrading of chiller control system, use of more energy-efficient lighting installations and light emitting diode (LED) exit signs.

In 2011-12, EMSD has budgeted \$59.5 million for implementing energy-saving projects. The projects to be implemented will involve retrofitting of energy efficient lighting and control systems, LED exit signs, and energy efficient air conditioning and control systems etc. The projects will be carried out for facilities under the management of the Hong Kong Police Force, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, the Judiciary, the Government Property Agency, the Customs and Excise Department, the Fire Services Department, and the Immigration Department, etc. Factors being considered include the age and condition of the premises involved, their regular maintenance cycles, as well as the payback potential of the energy-saving projects.

All existing government buildings will aim to achieve an energy performance in line with the prevailing energy performance in new government buildings wherever there are major retrofitting works for building services installations. In choosing environmental-friendly and energy-saving equipments, consideration will be given to energy efficiency and cost-effectiveness.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____ 16 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB215

Question Serial No.

1907

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The Administration plans to promote the use of electric vehicles in the future and provide funding for bus companies to carry out trial runs for large electric double-deck buses on busy corridors. Would the Administration advise this Committee:

- (1) The details of expenditure and manpower involved in the plan?
- (2) Has the Administration planned to include other transport means in the funding? If yes, what are the details? What are the expenditure and manpower involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

We are working to set up a \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund (PGTF) before the end of March 2011 for public transport operators and goods vehicle owners to apply for testing out green and low-carbon transport technology (including electric buses). To cope with the increase in workload, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will deploy existing resources as far as possible and will create four additional 2-year time-limited posts (including one Senior Environmental Protection Officer, one Environmental Protection Officer, one Environmental Protection Inspector and one Assistant Clerical Officer), starting from 1 April 2011.

In addition to the PGTF, the Administration has agreed to separately fund the full cost of procuring six hybrid buses by the franchised bus companies for trial. EPD has budgeted \$33 million for this purpose. We will provide similar funding support to the franchised bus companies should they be interested in testing other more environment-friendly buses such as electric buses. We are now considering a franchised bus company's proposals to try electric buses in Hong Kong.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

14 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB216

Question Serial No.

1908

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the follow up on the long term and stable supply of clean energy to Hong Kong, could the Administration inform this Committee of:

- (1) whether there is any plan to introduce nuclear generated electricity? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons? What are the expenditure and manpower so involved? Are there any ancillary measures to ensure the introduction of such electricity will not affect the lives and health of local residents?
- (2) whether there is any plan to introduce natural gas and environment friendly gases apart from nuclear power? If yes, what are the details? What are the expected expenditure and manpower so involved? Will the Administration consider giving priority to introducing natural gas and environment friendly gases as compared with nuclear power? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

To combat climate change, we have proposed for Hong Kong a target to reduce carbon intensity by 50%-60% by 2020 when compared with 2005 in the public consultation document on Hong Kong's Climate Change Strategy and Action Agenda. As power generation is the largest source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Hong Kong and coal assumes the highest carbon emission factor, we propose to reduce the use of coal to account for no more than 10% of the fuel mix in 2020. We propose to increase the share of natural gas in the fuel mix from 23% at present to around 40% in 2020. We also propose to substantially increase the share of non-fossil, low carbon fuel, such that renewable energy would make up about 3% to 4% of the fuel mix, and the balance of about 50% would be met by imported nuclear power.

In seeking to improve our fuel mix, we should avoid over-reliance on any particular fuel to maintain our energy security. Nuclear power does not cause air pollution or emit GHG during the power generation process, and provides reliable and stable power supply over a long period of time. With more nuclear power generation projects being developed in the Mainland, we may consider importing more nuclear power from the Mainland. The construction and operation of nuclear power stations in the Mainland as well as handling of nuclear wastes are regulated by relevant national safety regulations and are in line with the international standards.

We are now consolidating views received during the public consultation, with a view to mapping out the way forward including the future fuel mix. Detailed implementation plan on various initiatives would be worked out at a later stage. We acknowledge concerns on the safety of nuclear power arising from the Fukushima incident. We will take account of the impact of the incident, in particular on the future development of nuclear industry, in considering the way forward.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

16 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB217

Question Serial No.

1909

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : With regard to measures on external lighting, would the Administration inform members of this council:

- (a) If there are plans to further strengthen control on installations on external walls of buildings. If yes, please provide the details. If no, please give the reasons. What are the expenditure and manpower involved.
- (b) If there are plans to reduce the number of performance of A Symphony of Lights. If yes, please provide the details. If no, please give the reasons. What is nightly carbon emission reading of past performances of the shows, and electricity consumption of the shows over the past year.
- (c) The number of external lighting put up by government departments during the past year, the expenditure involved, and if the Administration has plans to reduce such lighting in the year to come. If yes, please provide the details. If no, please give the reasons.

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

The Environment Bureau has conducted a consultancy study on external lighting. The study covers the following areas:

- (a) experience of metropolises that are similar to Hong Kong in handling external lighting;
- (b) survey on views of relevant stakeholders; and
- (c) research on the usage of external lighting in various representative areas in Hong Kong including residential area, commercial area, residential-cum-commercial area, new town, rural area, etc.

The study has incurred a total of \$3.2 million. We will release the study findings shortly and brief relevant panels of the Legislative Council.

The Government has taken a number of measures as the light owner to address the environmental problems of external lighting. In particular, relevant Government departments have been reviewing their guidelines on external lighting regularly, to prevent any nuisance to the public caused by external lighting at Government venues. External lightings managed by Government departments for decorative and promotional purposes are now largely switched off by 11pm, except those under contractual obligations. There are however certain external lightings that need to be maintained for operational or security reasons.

On "A Symphony of Lights", it is a tourism initiative which capitalises on the night vista of the Victoria Harbour, with a view to enhancing its attractiveness to visitors. In implementing this initiative, due regard has been given to environmental protection and energy conservation. Lighting installations used by participating buildings in the show are generally energy efficient which can help reduce the overall power consumption on average by 30%, in comparison with traditional lighting installations. Also, the lighting control system used for the show can reduce energy consumption by 10% to 20%.

"A Symphony of Lights" is a project involving public and private participation. The Administration is responsible for the production of the show and the recurrent expenditure including electricity cost of government buildings taking part in the show. As an example, the average monthly electricity costs of lights used by the Queensway Government Offices and the Hong Kong City Hall for the show are about \$700 and \$150 respectively. The participating private buildings are responsible for their own lighting installations and related recurrent costs. We do not have any information on their electricity consumption level or costs.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment _____

Date _____ 15 March 2011 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB218

Question Serial No.

1910

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (3) Sustainable Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the "Sustainable Development Fund (the SD Fund)" promotion work, would the Administration advise this Committee:

- (1) In the past three years, how many applications for the SD Fund have been approved by the Administration? What are the funding amount involved and the details of items? For the approved items, how many of them are still in operation?
- (2) In the coming year, how many resources will be earmarked for the SD Fund? What are the funding amount involved and the details of the projects?
- (3) The Administration has provided training on sustainable development principles and sustainability assessment mechanism for various bureaux and departments. What are the details of the training? What are the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

- (1) The SD Fund had approved a total of 20 projects in the past three years, details of which are attached. Twelve of these projects are still on-going.
- (2) Payment of grants under the SD Fund is made on a reimbursement basis subject to submission of expenditure claims by fund recipients. An estimate of \$5 million has been provided in 2011-12 to meet the cash flow requirements for both existing projects and new ones to be approved in 2011-12.

The Sustainable Development Division (SDD) of Environment Bureau is responsible for organising and arranging relevant trainings for civil servants to understand the concepts and principles of sustainable development (SD) with a view to facilitating integration of sustainability considerations into public policy formulation and daily work. Furthermore, training is provided to civil servants on using a computer tool for conducting sustainability assessment for various policy initiatives. SDD staff and private training firms are involved in the training and the total expenditures incurred since 2006 is in the region of \$450,000.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

11 March 2011

Attachment to Reply Serial No. ENB218
Question Serial No. 1910

Financial Year	Projects Approved			Total Amount of Grants approved (\$)
	Project Name	Name of Grantee	Amount of Grant (\$)	
2008-09	Green Life Movement@South Kwai Chung	The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association	909,740	
	Education for Sustainable Development in Junior Secondary Education	Centre for University and School Partnership, Faculty of Education, The Chinese University of Hong Kong	571,210	
	WanChai College for Community Innovation	St. James' Settlement	885,260	
	When Villages Meet Cities: A Sustainable Journey	Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong	802,565	
	Green and Sustainable Community Project in the Rural Tsuen Wan (on-going)	Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Lady MacLehose Centre	1,510,850	
	Enhanced Urban Green Project (on-going)	Aberdeen Kai-fong Welfare Association Social Service Centre	1,500,000	
	Local Agenda 21 and SD Educational Programme and Activities in Tai Kok Tsui	Life Workshop	600,000	
	Dim It: A Project on the Best Use of Light Resources	Friends of the Earth	499,920	
				Total 7,279,545

Attachment to Reply Serial No. ENB218
Question Serial No. 1910

2009-10	Education for Sustainable Development in Tertiary Education (on-going)	Hong Kong Institute of Education	484,190	
	Sustainable Development Roundtable for Central and Western District: Creating the Infrastructure for Community Participation and Promoting Sustainable Development Concepts	Kadoorie Institute, The University of Hong Kong	491,735	
	Preparing Students to Embrace Corporate Sustainability, Bridging the Gap between High Schools and the Business Sector (on-going)	Business Environment Council	1,784,400	
	Public Participation in the Sustainable City Development: Starting from the Community	The Centre of Architectural Research for Education, Elderly, Environment and Excellence Limited	1,281,800	
	Sustainable Seafood School Catering Programme (on-going)	World Wide Fund for Nature Hong Kong	1,277,680	
	Striding Forward – A Tai Po Sustainable Community Project by Women (on-going)	Hong Kong Federation of Women's Centres	1,628,300	
	LOHAS Garden@Sai Kung Community (on-going)	Sai Kung District Community Centre	958,420	
				Total 7,906,525

Attachment to Reply Serial No. ENB218
Question Serial No. 1910

2010-11	Sustainable Development of Heritage and Cultural Project at Old District of Yau Ma Tei (on-going)	Hulu Culture Limited	1,160,200	
	CSR Guide for SMEs in Hong Kong (on-going)	CSR Asia	761,948	
	Guide to “Better Corporate Social Responsibility” for Apparel Industry – SME Version (on-going)	Clothing Industry Training Authority	670,000	
	Customised Sustainability Framework to Assist SMEs to Achieve Sustainability (on-going)	The Hong Kong Chamber of Small and Medium Business Limited	857,030	
	Low Carbon Manufacturing Programme Workshops: Sustaining Your Business in a Carbon-constrained Economy (on-going)	World Wide Fund for Nature Hong Kong	1,986,822	
				Total 5,436,000

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB219

Question Serial No.

0373

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : With regard to Director of Bureau's Office, please advise:

- (a) Work participation of the Under Secretary and Political Assistant (such as numbers and rates of attendance of meetings, activities and others) during the past year (2010-11), and the various expenditures involved;
- (b) If there are criteria to assess the work performance of the Under Secretary and Political Assistant. If yes, please provide the details. If no, please give the reasons and advise if consideration would be given to establishing a set of transparent criteria;
- (c) The number of media and district activities organised by the Environment Bureau during the past year (2010-11), and the expenditure involved. Please list the details according to the 18 district demarcation.

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

- (a) In the past year, the Under Secretary assisted the Secretary in undertaking political work; deputised for the Secretary as Acting Secretary during the Secretary's absence; and assisted the Secretary to deal with work under different policy portfolios. The Political Assistant provided support in the formulation of policy initiatives, public engagement and communication plans, as well as liaison with legislators and district councilors, think tanks, non-government organizations and other relevant stakeholders.

In the past year, the Under Secretary attended a total of 8 Legislative Council (LegCo) meetings and 22 LegCo panel, committee and subcommittee meetings. In addition, the Under Secretary also attended various activities, including public forums, seminars and consultation sessions, so as to enhance communication and liaison with LegCo members, stakeholders of relevant sectors and members of the community. The Political Assistant joined the Legislative Council and panel meetings in supporting role on a need basis. LegCo aside, the Political Assistant also attended various activities, including public fora, seminars, consultation sessions as well as liaison meetings with relevant stakeholders.

We do not have any statistics on the number of activities attended by the Under Secretary, and there is no separate breakdown of expenditure for the various duties performed by the Under Secretary and the Political Assistant.

- (b) The performance of the Under Secretary was assessed mainly on her effectiveness in promoting government policies and explaining government positions in the LegCo and to the media, community organisations and members of the public, and in assisting the Secretary in formulating and implementing policies.

The performance of the Political Assistant was appraised by the Secretary mainly on her effectiveness in providing political assessment and advice, and her performance and effectiveness in the political liaison work.

The Secretary's appraisal reports on the Under Secretary and Political Assistant were reviewed by the Director of the Chief Executive's Office. The appraisals and the review reports were then submitted to the Appointment Committee chaired by the Chief Executive for consideration.

- (c) In the past year, as part of its duties, the Director of the Bureau's Office planned, co-ordinated and implemented various media and community functions for the Secretary and the Under Secretary, so as to assist them in reaching out to the media and the public at large, as well as explaining government policies to them. There is no statistics or separate breakdown of expenditure for these functions.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment _____

Date _____ 16 March 2011 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB220

Question Serial No.

0374

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the study on the issue of energy wastage of external lighting, please advise:

- (a) the details and progress of the work plan, the expenditure and manpower involved each year over the past three years (i.e. from 2008-09 to 2010-11);
- (b) the details of the work plan, the estimated expenditure and manpower involved this year (i.e. 2011-12); and
- (c) whether the Administration has worked out any statistics on the degree of energy wastage caused by light pollution in the past three years (i.e. from 2008-09 to 2010-11). If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

Following the Chief Executive's announcement in the 2008-09 Policy Address, the Environment Bureau commenced in 2009 a consultancy study on external lighting. The study covers the following three areas:

- (a) experience of metropolises that are similar to Hong Kong in handling external lighting;
- (b) survey on views of relevant stakeholders; and
- (c) research on the usage of external lighting in various representative areas in Hong Kong including residential area, commercial area, residential-cum-commercial area, new town, rural area, etc.

The study has incurred a total of \$3.2 million.

We will release the study findings shortly and brief relevant panels of the Legislative Council.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB221

Question Serial No.

0375

Head : 137 Government Secretariat:
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Sustainable Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : With regard to sustainable development, please advise:

- (a) If annual statistics over the past three years (2008-09 to 2010-11) are kept on the number of meetings convened by the Council for Sustainable Development (the SDC), attendance of individual council members and their attendance rates. If yes, please provide the details. If no, please give the reasons.
- (b) What advice has the SDC provided over the past three years (2008-09 to 2010-11) on the formulation of sustainable development strategies for Hong Kong, and if reviews have been conducted on whether the advice has helped to promote public awareness of sustainable development. Also, what education and publicity programmes have the SDC launched annually over the past three years (2008-09 to 2010-11); please specify the expenditure and manpower involved.

Asked by : Hon KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

- (a) For the period between 2008-09 and 2010-11, the relevant statistics showing the number of meetings conducted by the SDC and the average attendance rate of SDC members at these meetings are appended below:

Financial Year	Number of meetings	Average attendance rate
2008-09	3	69%
2009-10	4	80%
2010-11	3	81%

- (b) The SDC collects public views on priority sustainable development issues through its public engagement processes. In the past three years, the SDC completed public engagement on "Better Air Quality" in 2008, and on "Building Design to Foster a Quality and Sustainable Built Environment" in 2010. These public engagement exercises involved the organisation of regional engagement forums, public seminars, briefings, talks, exhibitions, etc.

With the benefit of its public engagement process, the SDC promotes sustainable development by intensively engaging the general public and stakeholders in proactive discussions with a view to soliciting their views on the concerned priority sustainable development issue. Furthermore, the SDC maintains an ongoing education and publicity programme for promoting sustainable development. In the past three years, the SDC organised a wide range of activities, including school and community outreach programmes, sustainable development school awards, on-line resource centre, focus group studies, wall painting design competition and seminars, involving an expenditure of \$1.04 million, \$0.75 million and \$1.44 million respectively. On average, a team of seven staff in the SDC Secretariat (i.e. the Sustainable Development Division of the Environment Bureau) were involved in these activities.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____ 17 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB222

Question Serial No.

0376

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (3) Sustainable Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : With regard to the Sustainable Development (SD) Fund, please advise what are the expenditure items from the SD Fund used over the past three years (2008-09 to 2010-11) with particulars.

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

Disbursements from the SD Fund are used to provide funding support to projects which help develop a strong public awareness of the concept of SD and encourage sustainable practices in Hong Kong, details of which in the past three years are contained in the Attachment.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

11 March 2011

Financial Year	Projects Approved			Total Amount of Grants approved (\$)
	Project Name	Name of Grantee	Amount of Grant (\$)	
2008-09	Green Life Movement@South Kwai Chung	The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association	909,740	
	Education for Sustainable Development in Junior Secondary Education	Centre for University and School Partnership, Faculty of Education, The Chinese University of Hong Kong	571,210	
	WanChai College for Community Innovation	St. James' Settlement	885,260	
	When Villages Meet Cities: A Sustainable Journey	Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong	802,565	
	Green and Sustainable Community Project in the Rural Tsuen Wan	Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Lady MacLehose Centre	1,510,850	
	Enhanced Urban Green Project	Aberdeen Kai-fong Welfare Association Social Service Centre	1,500,000	
	Local Agenda 21 and SD Educational Programme and Activities in Tai Kok Tsui	Life Workshop	600,000	
	Dim It: A Project on the Best Use of Light Resources	Friends of the Earth	499,920	
				Total 7,279,545
2009-10	Education for Sustainable Development in Tertiary Education	Hong Kong Institute of Education	484,190	
	Sustainable Development Roundtable for Central and Western District: Creating the Infrastructure for Community Participation and Promoting Sustainable Development Concepts	Kadoorie Institute, The University of Hong Kong	491,735	
	Preparing Students to Embrace Corporate Sustainability,	Business Environment	1,784,400	

Financial Year	Projects Approved			Total Amount of Grants approved (\$)
	Project Name	Name of Grantee	Amount of Grant (\$)	
	Bridging the Gap between High Schools and the Business Sector	Council		
	Public Participation in the Sustainable City Development: Starting from the Community	The Centre of Architectural Research for Education, Elderly, Environment and Excellence Limited	1,281,800	
	Sustainable Seafood School Catering Programme	World Wide Fund for Nature Hong Kong	1,277,680	
	Striding Forward – A Tai Po Sustainable Community Project by Women	Hong Kong Federation of Women’s Centres	1,628,300	
	LOHAS Garden@Sai Kung Community	Sai Kung District Community Centre	958,420	
				Total 7,906,525
2010-11	Sustainable Development of Heritage and Cultural Project at Old District of Yau Ma Tei	Hulu Culture Limited	1,160,200	
	CSR Guide for SMEs in Hong Kong	CSR Asia	761,948	
	Guide to “Better Corporate Social Responsibility” for Apparel Industry – SME Version	Clothing Industry Training Authority	670,000	
	Customised Sustainability Framework to Assist SMEs to Achieve Sustainability	The Hong Kong Chamber of Small and Medium Business Limited	857,030	
	Low Carbon Manufacturing Programme Workshops: Sustaining Your Business in a Carbon-constrained Economy	World Wide Fund for Nature of Hong Kong	1,986,822	
				Total 5,436,000

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB223

Question Serial No.

2969

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Environment Bureau is committed to promoting the use of electric vehicles so as to reduce road traffic air pollution. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the progress of the Administration's work in promoting the use of electric vehicles in 2010, including that of setting up charging facilities, and of the work targets in 2011-12 in this regard. What are the expenditures involved respectively?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-yee, Miriam

Reply :

The Administration has been exploring with different Electric Vehicle (EV) manufacturers the supply of their EVs to Hong Kong. In 2010, two EV models, namely Mitsubishi "i-MiEV" and Tesla "Roadster", have already been launched in the Hong Kong retail market.

We have also been in close collaboration with the power companies as well as the property development, property management and car park operation sectors in setting up a charging network for EVs. By mid March 2011, power companies and relevant sectors have set up about 300 charging points for use by members of the public.

In 2011-12 and 2012-13, we expect to have an intake of close to 200 EVs of various types into the Government fleet. The exact amount of expenditure to be incurred can only be confirmed at a later stage. For estimates purposes, about \$15 million has been earmarked for procuring EVs in 2011-12.

In addition, we plan to install more charging facilities for EVs in government car parks, and will encourage the private and non-governmental sectors to join hands in expanding the charging network across the territory. In 2011-12, we have earmarked \$15.4 million for promoting wider use of EVs and expanding the charging network.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB224

Question Serial No.

1071

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In the Budget, the provision for 2011-12 is \$7.6 million (29.1%) higher than the revised estimate for 2010-11. This is mainly due to the additional provision for promoting the use of electric vehicles in Hong Kong and installation of charging facilities at government car parks. With the additional provision of 7.6 million, would the Administration please specify the number of government car parks that will be installed with charging facilities and the total number of charging facilities to be installed.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply :

About \$10 million has been reserved in 2011-12 for setting up charging points for electric vehicles at Government car parks. We are now working out with relevant departments the number of car parks to be covered and the number of charging points to be set up, having regard to various factors including technical considerations, site conditions and usage rates of the car parks.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG** _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment _____

Date _____ 14 March 2011 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB225

Question Serial No.

1072

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Are there any specific measures to promote the use of electric vehicles? What is the estimated number of vehicle owners that will switch to electric vehicles under such encouraging measures? Among which, are there any measures to encourage those public or private car parks to carry out installation of charging facilities? If yes, what are the details? How many public or private car parks are expected to be installed with charging facilities and how many charging facilities will be installed in total?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply :

The Hong Kong Government is committed to promoting the wider use of Electric Vehicles (EV) in Hong Kong and has taken the following measures for this cause –

- (i) setting up a steering committee under the leadership of the Financial Secretary;
- (ii) exploring collaboration with EV manufacturers on the introduction of more EVs into the Hong Kong market, and actively participating in the trials on EVs;
- (iii) promoting and facilitating the setting up of EV charging facilities; and
- (iv) providing financial incentives for using EVs (including waiver of First Registration Tax on EVs, profits tax reduction in the first year of purchase, Pilot Green Transport Fund, etc.).

To better facilitate the setting up of EV charging facilities, we have launched a hotline to provide information and professional guidance on the installation procedures and related technical requirements. The hotline is manned by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department and also provides general information regarding EV. A Working Group on Charging Facilities for EVs has also been set up to provide a platform for relevant Government departments and stakeholders to work together to facilitate the development of charging facilities.

We have also been in close collaboration with the power companies as well as the property development, property management and car park operation sectors in setting up a charging network for EVs. By mid March 2011, a total of about 300 charging points have been installed for use by members of the public.

In addition, we plan to install more charging facilities for EVs in government car parks in various districts subject to technical feasibility study, and will encourage the private and non-governmental sectors to join hands in expanding the charging network across the territory. In 2011-12, we have earmarked \$15.4 million for promoting the wider use of EVs and expanding the charging network.

Signature _____

Name in block letters ANISSA WONG

Post Title Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date 11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB226

Question Serial No.

1073

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : According to the demarcation of district councils, please list the total number of charging facilities provided by the government, public and private car parks respectively. Please provide the existing numbers of electric vehicles registered by private owners and the Government respectively. What is the estimated increase or decrease rate in the coming year? Has the Administration conducted any evaluation regarding the effect of the 15% increase in the first registration tax on the registration of electric vehicles? If yes, what are the details? In this regard, are there any measures to offset the effect of the 15% increase in the first registration tax with a view to promoting the use of electric vehicles?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply :

We have been appealing to various sectors including the power companies, property developers, property management companies and car park operators for support in establishing charging facilities for Electric Vehicles (EV) at their premises. There are now about 300 standard charging points in the territory for public use. A breakdown by district is provided below : -

District	Number of Charging Points
Central & Western	10
Eastern	28
Southern	3
Wan Chai	40
Kowloon City	5
Kwun Tong	25
Sham Shui Po	4
Wong Tai Sin	11
Yau Tsim Mong	35
Islands	5
Kwai Tsing	6
North	13
Sai Kung	3
Sha Tin	28
Tai Po	15
Tsuen Wan	10
Tuen Mun	18
Yuen Long	39

There are now about 100 EVs registered for road use, among which 22 is in the Government fleet. The figures will continue to increase in 2011 as more EVs are developed and put to commercial production, and seek to enter the local market. In 2011, we expect more EV models to be supplied to Hong Kong, including five-seater saloon EVs and commercial EVs.

As the First Registration Tax on EVs is currently waived, the change in tax rate will not be applicable to EVs.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment _____

Date _____ 11 March 2011 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB227

Question Serial No.

1196

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The provision for 2011–12 is \$7.6 million (29.1%) higher than the revised estimate for 2010–11. This is mainly due to the additional provision for promoting the use of electric vehicles in Hong Kong and installation of charging facilities at government car parks. Please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the number of charging facilities to be installed at government car parks and the expenditure required; and
- (b) the details of the programme for promoting the use of electric vehicles in Hong Kong with the additional provision and the expenditure required.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply :

- (a) About \$10 million has been reserved in 2011-12 for setting up Electric Vehicle (EV) charging points at Government car parks. We are now working out with relevant departments the number of car parks to be covered and the number of charging points to be set up, having regard to various factors including technical considerations and site constraints.
- (b) Separately, about \$5.4 million has been reserved in 2011-12 for promoting the use of EVs through various publicity campaigns, the setting up of an EV Support Team to provide general information on EVs and technical advice on the setting up of EV charging facilities, issue and promotion of technical guidelines on EV charging, as well as the setting up and maintenance of a website on EV.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG**

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____ 11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB228

Question Serial No.

1197

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12, it is mentioned that the Bureau will continue to promote the Buildings Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes. Would the Administration advise:

- (a) the number of applications received and approved respectively since the implementation of the funding schemes
- (b) the total amount granted under the schemes; and
- (c) the balance of the commitment, and for how long can the schemes continue to run?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply :

The Environment and Conservation Fund earmarked \$450 million to set up the Buildings Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes to subsidize building owners to carry out energy-cum-carbon audits and conduct energy efficiency projects.

As at 28 February 2011, 686 out of the 1 313 applications received have been approved, involving a grant of about \$270 million. The balance of the commitment is about \$180 million and the outstanding applications will continue to be processed.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB229

Question Serial No.

1198

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (3) Sustainable Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12, the Administration will process applications for the Sustainable Development Fund. Would the Administration provide information on:

- (a) In 2010-11, what are the numbers of applications and approved applications respectively and the total amount of approved funding up to the present moment?
- (b) What are the types of approved application items?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply :

- (a) In 2010-11, 66 applications for the Sustainable Development Fund were received. Five projects have been approved with a total grant of \$5,436,000.
- (b) The approved projects covered a wide range of sustainable development initiatives, including the development of a framework and guidebook on sustainability reporting for small-to-medium enterprises, promotion of low carbon practices, and heritage and culture conservation.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB230

Question Serial No.

1199

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (3) Sustainable Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The provision in 2011-12 is \$5.1 million (19%) more than the revised estimate in 2010-11. The increased provision is for launching a new public engagement process on climate change-related issues. What are the details of the work plan and its time table?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply :

The Council for Sustainable Development is actively preparing for the next round of public engagement on climate change-related issues with a view to launching the exercise for about one year from mid-2011. Its work plan includes:

- (a) preparation of an invitation for response document;
- (b) engagement of the public and stakeholders in proactive discussions and idea exchanges through regional fora and various engagement activities;
- (c) appointing an independent agency to compile and analyse the public views collected; and
- (d) compilation of a report with recommendations for consideration by the Administration.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB231

Question Serial No.

0345

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the public consultation on restricting the sale of incandescent light bulbs and addressing the light pollution issue, please advise:

- (a) whether the Government has compiled any statistics on the quantity and value of incandescent light bulbs sold annually, as well as their impact on the environment, in the past five years (i.e. from 2006-07 to 2010-11). If yes, please provide the details, the expenditure and manpower so involved;
- (b) regarding the public consultation on restricting the sale of incandescent light bulbs, what are the work plan and timetable in future? What are the expenditure and manpower involved?
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any studies and statistics annually on the environmental impact, energy wastage, social cost, etc. caused by light pollution in the past five years (i.e. from 2006-07 to 2010-11). If yes, what are the details respectively? If no, what are the reasons?
- (d) the number of complaints received by the Government annually regarding light pollution during the past five years (i.e. from 2006-07 to 2010-11). What are the methods and time required for handling such complaints and their effectiveness?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply :

- (a) The Government does not compile any statistics on the quantity and value of incandescent light bulbs sold annually in Hong Kong.
- (b) The Government is preparing the public consultation on the restriction of sale of energy-inefficient incandescent light bulbs and plans to conduct the consultation as soon as possible.

(c) & (d)

The number of light pollution complaints received by the Environment Protection Department (EPD) for the past five years is set out below –

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Number of complaints	35	40	82	213	226

Upon receipt of complaints on light pollution, EPD would in general reflect complainants' concerns and appeals to the responsible parties of the lighting installations. EPD would also offer advice as appropriate, such as lowering the lighting intensity where appropriate, adjusting the angle of spot lights to avoid nuisances from spill light, or switching off non-essential lights at an earlier time. We notice that improvement measures to abate the light nuisance have been adopted in many cases subsequent to our appeal and advice.

As regards studies and statistics on impacts of external lighting, the Government has conducted a consultancy study on external lighting in Hong Kong. One area of the study was on the usage of external lighting in various representative areas in Hong Kong. We will release the findings of the study shortly and brief relevant panels of the Legislative Council.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment _____

Date _____ 11 March 2011 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB232

Question Serial No.

0350

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : With regard to the development of nuclear power in Hong Kong, please advise:

- (a) The details, progress of work, manpower and expenditure involved annually over the past three years (2008-09 to 2010-11);
- (b) Future projects and the manpower and expenditure involved; the percentages of resources so involved in the estimated resources under this Programme and in the Department respectively;
- (c) Whether any study has been conducted on nuclear power safety over the past five years (2006-07 to 2010-11)? If yes, please provide the details, progress of work, manpower and expenditure involved annually. If no, what are the reasons? Also, if no study has been conducted, then what is the rationale behind the proposal to raise the share of nuclear power in the fuel mix to 50% as mentioned in the Public Consultation on Climate Change Strategy and Action Agenda?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply :

Hong Kong has been importing nuclear electricity from the Mainland since 1994. Nuclear power currently makes up around 23% of the fuel mix for power generation. The National Nuclear Safety Administration is the monitoring body overseeing nuclear power stations in the Mainland and their handling of nuclear wastes. The national regulations on the construction of nuclear power plants, the licensing arrangement for their operation, as well as the handling of nuclear waste are in line with the international standards. The Government has been monitoring the reliability of supply of nuclear power to Hong Kong as well as relevant safety issues such as monitoring of radiation level. The Hong Kong Observatory has set up ten field stations in the territory to monitor the ambient gamma radiation level and uploads regularly relevant information on its website.

To combat climate change, we have proposed for Hong Kong to reduce carbon intensity by 50% to 60% by 2020 when compared with 2005. Power generation is the largest source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Hong Kong. It accounted for about 67% of our total emissions in 2008. Our emission reduction strategy therefore emphasizes the wider use of cleaner and low-carbon energies and fuels in power generation. Specifically, we propose to reduce Hong Kong's reliance on fossil fuels, phasing out existing coal-fired generation units, and increasing the use of non-fossil, cleaner and low-carbon fuels, including renewable energy and imported nuclear energy. Nuclear power does not cause air pollution or emit GHG during the power generation process, and provides reliable and stable power supply. We acknowledge concerns on the safety of nuclear power arising from the Fukushima incident. We will take account of the impact of the incident, in particular on the future development of nuclear industry, in considering the way forward.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

17 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB233

Question Serial No.

0352

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : With regard to the handling of nuclear wastes in Hong Kong, please advise:

- (a) Future projects and the expenditure and manpower involved; the percentages of resources so involved in the estimated resources under this Programme and in the Department respectively;
- (b) Whether any study has been conducted on nuclear wastes over the past five years (2006-07 to 2010-11)? If yes, please provide the details, progress of work, manpower and expenditure involved annually. If no, what are the reasons? What are the percentages of resources so involved in the resources under this Programme and in the Department respectively? If no, what are the reasons?
- (c) If the Government has not conducted any study on the handling of nuclear wastes in the past, then what is the rationale behind the proposal to raise the share of nuclear power in the fuel mix to 50% as mentioned in the Public Consultation on Climate Change Strategy and Action Agenda?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply :

Hong Kong does not have any local nuclear power plant and there is no locally generated waste from nuclear electricity generation. Currently, the spent fuel and other nuclear wastes produced by the Daya Bay Nuclear Power Station are handled in the Mainland. The National Nuclear Safety Administration is the monitoring body overseeing nuclear power stations in the Mainland and their handling of nuclear wastes. The national regulations on the construction of nuclear power plants, the licensing arrangement for their operation, as well as the handling of nuclear waste are in line with the international standards.

To combat climate change, we have proposed for Hong Kong to reduce carbon intensity by 50% to 60% by 2020 when compared with 2005. Power generation is the largest source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Hong Kong. It accounted for about 67% of our total emissions in 2008. Our emission reduction strategy therefore emphasizes the wider use of cleaner and low-carbon energies and fuels in power generation. Specifically, we propose to reduce Hong Kong's reliance on fossil fuels, phasing out existing coal-fired generation units, and increasing the use of non-fossil, cleaner and low-carbon fuels, including renewable energy and imported nuclear energy. Nuclear power does not cause air pollution or emit GHG during the power generation process, and provides reliable and stable power supply. We acknowledge concerns on the safety of nuclear power arising from the Fukushima incident. We will take account of the impact of the incident, in particular on the future development of nuclear industry, in considering the way forward.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

17 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB234

Question Serial No.

0149

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under this Programme, the provision for 2011-12 is \$33.7 million, which is \$7.6 million (29.1%) higher than the revised estimate for 2010-11. This is mainly due to the additional provision for the promotion of Electric Vehicles (EVs) in Hong Kong and installation of charging facilities at government car parks. Would the Administration please list how much provision is used for:

- (a) promoting the use of electric vehicles, and please give details on the promotional programmes; and
- (b) installing electric vehicle charging facilities in this year (i.e. 2011-12). (Please list the number of charging facilities in each car park and their estimated usage.)

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Kwan-yuen, Andrew

Reply :

- (a) About \$5.4 million has been reserved in 2011-12 for promoting the use of EVs. Specifically, we are setting up an EV Support Team to provide general information on EVs and technical advice on the setting up of EV charging facilities and various publicity campaigns. We are also taking forward the issue and promotion of technical guidelines on EV charging, as well as the setting up and maintenance of a website on EV.
- (b) Separately, about \$10 million has been reserved in 2011-12 for setting up EV charging points at Government car parks. We are now working with relevant departments on the number of car parks to be covered and the number of charging points to be set up, having regard to various factors including technical considerations and site constraints.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB235

Question Serial No.

1080

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under this Programme, it is mentioned that the use of electric vehicles will be promoted in Hong Kong and that the Administration has earmarked \$3 million in 2010-11 for this purpose. Please advise: the latest implementation details of the plan; the preliminary assessment of its effectiveness; the details of funding for the publicity plans and details of work plan for promotion of the use of electric vehicles in Hong Kong in 2011-12?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

The Government has been exploring with different Electric Vehicle (EV) manufacturers the supply of their EVs to Hong Kong. In 2010, two EV models, namely Mitsubishi "i-MiEV" and Tesla "Roadster", have been launched in the Hong Kong retail market. We have been appealing to various sectors including the power companies, property developers, property management companies and car park operators for support in establishing charging facilities for EVs at their premises. There are now about 300 standard charging points in the territory for public use. To facilitate the setting up of EV charging facilities, we have launched a hotline to provide information and professional guidance on the installation procedures and related technical requirements. The hotline is manned by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department and also provides general information regarding EV.

In 2011-12 and 2012-13, we expect to have an intake of close to 200 EVs of various types into the Government fleet. In addition, we plan to install more charging facilities for EVs in government car parks, and will encourage the private and non-governmental sectors to join hands in expanding the charging network across the territory. In 2011-12, we have earmarked \$15.4 million for promotion of EV and expansion of charging network.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB236

Question Serial No.

2023

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Regarding the promotion work on the use of electric vehicles, what is the distribution of existing charging facilities for electric vehicles according to the electoral boundaries of District Councils? How many charging stations for electric vehicles will be provided during 2011-12?

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply :

The two power companies and the property development sector have set up a total of about 300 standard charging points for public use.

The geographical distribution of existing charging points by district is as follows:-

District	No. of Charging Points
Central & Western	10
Eastern	28
Southern	3
Wan Chai	40
Kowloon City	5
Kwun Tong	25
Sham Shui Po	4
Wong Tai Sin	11
Yau Tsim Mong	35
Islands	5
Kwai Tsing	6
North	13
Sai Kung	3
Sha Tin	28
Tai Po	15
Tsuen Wan	10
Tuen Mun	18
Yuen Long	39

In addition, \$10 million has been reserved in 2011-12 for setting up charging points at Government car parks. We are now working out with relevant departments the number of car parks to be covered and the number of charging points to be set up, having regard to various factors including technical considerations, site conditions and usage rates of the car parks.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment _____

Date _____ 15 March 2011 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB237

Question Serial No.

2024

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : The provision for 2011-12 under Programme (2) is \$7.6 million higher, which will be used for promoting the use of electric vehicles in Hong Kong and installation of charging facilities at government car parks. Please inform this Committee of the allocation of provision concerned and the number of government car parks in which charging facilities are expected to be installed.

Asked by : Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply :

In 2011-12, \$10 million has been reserved for setting up charging points at Government car parks. We are now working out with relevant departments the number of car parks to be covered and the number of charging points to be set up, having regard to various factors including technical considerations, site conditions and usage rates of the car parks.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

15 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB239

Question Serial No.

2640

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (3) Sustainable Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under "Matters Requiring special Attention in 2011-12", the Government will service the Council for Sustainable Development (SDC) in its preparation and launch of a public engagement process on climate change-related issues. In this connection, will the Government inform the Committee of the timetable for implementing the public engagement exercise? Under "Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision", the financial provision for Programme (3) for 2011-12 is \$5.1 million higher than the revised estimate for 2010-11, please provide details of the distribution of the provision, in terms of additional manpower and resources required?

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply :

The Council for Sustainable Development (SDC) is actively preparing for the next round of public engagement on climate change-related issues with a view to launching it around mid-2011. The whole engagement process will last for about a year.

The additional provision for 2011-12 is attributable to the following areas of work:

- (a) \$4 million for SDC's next public engagement process on climate change-related issues;
- (b) about \$0.5 million for additional reimbursements under the Sustainable Development Fund; and
- (c) about \$0.6 million for a new civil service post created in 2010-11 to implement the Government's internal sustainability assessment system.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **ANISSA WONG**

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____ 16 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB240

Question Serial No.

2641

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (3) Sustainable Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under "Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12", the Government will process applications for the Sustainable Development (SD) Fund and monitor the implementation of the approved projects. In this connection, will the Government inform the Committee of the types of applications eligible for the SD Fund and of details of the institutional arrangements in monitoring the implementation of the approved projects?

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply :

Applications eligible for the SD Fund are those for projects that will promote : –

- (a) public understanding of the importance of advancing the long-term economic, social and environmental interests of the community in a balanced and integrated manner;
- (b) everyday practices that are consistent with the principles of sustainability; and
- (c) public participation in the discussion and implementation of Hong Kong's long term sustainable development.

There are established measures to monitor the implementation of the approved projects, details of which are as follows : –

Budget and Expenditure

- (a) applicants are required to provide a budget for their proposed projects in the application forms;
- (b) payment of grants is made on reimbursement and quarterly basis throughout the project period. Grantees are requested to provide supporting document, such as provision of original receipt, to substantiate their claims for the project expenditure. The SD Fund Secretariat will vet the expenditure claims against the approved budget for reimbursement. Besides, grantees should ensure that the purchase of goods and services in relation to their projects are made on a competitive basis to ensure openness and value for money. Grantees are provided with clear procurement guidelines;
- (c) for projects with a grant of more than \$250,000, grantees are required to submit annual audited accounts audited by a certified public accountant. For other projects, grantees are required to submit an audited statement;

Progress

- (d) regarding project progress, grantees of the approved projects are required to submit quarterly schedules on planned activities, half-yearly progress reports and final evaluation report; and
- (e) we have project officers to monitor the progress of the projects to ensure that they are implemented in the manner and within the time frame as stipulated in their approved proposals. The project officers will also conduct on-site visits to project activities as appropriate.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____ 11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB241

Question Serial No.

2642

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under "Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12", the Government will continue to promote the use of electric vehicles, including the introduction of more electric vehicles into the Government fleet where appropriate. In this connection, will the Government provide details of the measures to promote the use of electric vehicles by the business and non-government sectors, and whether any financial incentives will be provided to encourage the business use of such vehicles? With reference to paragraph 123 of the 2011 Budget Speech, "more charging facilities for electric vehicles in government car parks will be installed", will the Government provide details of the number of charging facilities to be added in the coming year and of the additional costs involved in installing such facilities?

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply :

To promote the use of Electric Vehicles (EVs), we extended in 2009 the waiver of First Registration Tax on EVs up to March 2014. We also introduced in 2010 tax incentives for the business sector to introduce EVs into their fleets by accelerating tax deduction for capital expenditure on EVs so that enterprises can enjoy a 100% profits tax deduction in the first year of procurement. We are working to set up a \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund before the end of March 2011 for public transport operators and goods vehicle owners to test out green and low-carbon transport technology (including electric vehicles).

In 2011-12, about \$10 million has been reserved for setting up charging points at Government car parks for use by electric vehicles. We are now working out with relevant departments the number of car parks to be covered and the number of charging points to be set up, having regard to various factors including technical considerations and site constraints.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB242

Question Serial No.

2666

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under "Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12", the Government will engage stakeholder groups and take forward measures to address environment concerns over external lighting. In this connection, will the Government provide details of the measures it has taken to address such concerns? Please also provide details of when the consultancy report on regulating external lighting will be released and given no uniform standard regulating the emission intensity of external lighting has been established? Also, under what criteria will the Government take action against the complaints about external lightings and of the number of complaints about external lightings that the Government received last year?

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply :

We have conducted a consultancy study on external lighting and will brief the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs on the study findings and our proposed way forward.

In 2010, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) received 226 complaints against light pollution. Upon receipt of complaints, EPD would in general liaise with the responsible parties of the lighting installations and reflect to them the complainants' concerns. EPD would also offer advice on mitigation measures as appropriate, such as lowering the lighting intensity, adjusting the angle of spot lights to avoid nuisance from spill light, or switching off non-essential lights at an earlier time.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

11 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB243

Question Serial No.

0779

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
 Environment Bureau

Programme : (2) Power

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : Under "Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2011-12", the Government will explore and study options for revamping the fuel mix for power generation taking into account views received during the public consultation on climate change. In this connection, will the Government inform the Committee of the results of the views collected over the fuel mix arrangement for power generation? Will the Government provide details of the criteria considered in any proposed revamp of the fuel mix for power generation, and whether such criteria considered are in line with similar arrangements overseas, if so, of the details, if not, the reasons for that?

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply :

The Government completed in December 2010 the public consultation on "Hong Kong's Climate Change Strategy and Action Agenda", which included the proposal to revamp the fuel mix for local power generation by 2020. We are now consolidating views received during the public consultation to chart the way forward. Detailed plans to implement various initiatives would be worked out at an appropriate time. In seeking to improve the fuel mix, we will continue to uphold our energy policy objectives to ensure safe, reliable and efficient energy supplies at reasonable prices, while minimizing the environmental impact caused by the production and use of energy. We acknowledge concerns on the safety of nuclear power arising from the Fukushima incident. We will take account of the impact of the incident, in particular on the future development of nuclear industry, in considering the way forward.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

17 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

ENB244

Question Serial No.

2902

Head : 137 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):
Environment Bureau

Programme : (3) Sustainable Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Question : In the coming financial year 2011-12, which government departments (please list the names) will continue to publish printed copies of annual reports? What are these departments' estimated costs of their reports? How much paper will be used in all?

If instead the departments use compact diskettes or release their reports online, how much money will be saved from paper consumption? (If possible, please estimate how many trees will be spared too?)

Asked by : Hon TSE Wai-chun, Paul

Reply :

The Administration is committed to cutting paper consumption and increasing the use of recycled paper by bureaux and departments. Since 2003, bureaux and departments have been requested to review their list of publications including departmental reports and keep the number of paper publications to the absolute minimum. To achieve paper saving in daily office operation, the Environmental Protection Department has also issued guidelines on reducing paper use for bureaux and departments' reference.

In order to enhance transparency, bureaux and departments are required to cover green office practices in their annual environmental performance reports released on an annual basis. In particular, bureaux and departments are requested to provide, among other things, their paper consumption figures, efforts in saving paper, targets for future savings, and any special circumstances which affect their ability to make savings in such reports. We however do not have information on the number of Government departments publishing printed copies of annual reports.

Protecting the environment is one of the Government's top priority policies. We have been encouraging departments to use resources more effectively particularly on reducing paper usage. On the other hand, where there remains operational needs to provide printed copies of their annual reports, the Departments concerned would continue to review the need for paper annual reports and keep them to a minimum as far as possible.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

ANISSA WONG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date _____

15 March 2011