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Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2014-15

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment

Session No. : 7

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ENB328	5956	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	137	(2) Power
ENB329	6399	CHEUNG Kwok-che	137	-
ENB330	6461	CHEUNG Kwok-che	137	(3) Sustainable Development
ENB331	0322	CHUNG Kwok-pan	137	(2) Power
ENB332	3315	CHUNG Shu-kun, Christopher	137	(2) Power
ENB333	2316	FAN Kwok-wai, Gary	137	(2) Power
ENB334	0767	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	137	(1) Director of Bureau's Office
ENB335	2317	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	137	(2) Power
ENB336	5647	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	137	(3) Sustainable Development
ENB337	5648	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	137	(3) Sustainable Development
ENB338	1646	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	137	-
ENB339	4572	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	137	-
ENB340	4624	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	137	-
ENB341	1149	IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina	137	(2) Power
ENB342	2130	KWOK Ka-ki	137	(1) Director of Bureau's Office
ENB343	4893	KWOK Ka-ki	137	(1) Director of Bureau's Office
ENB344	4894	KWOK Ka-ki	137	(2) Power
ENB345	4895	KWOK Ka-ki	137	(2) Power
ENB346	4898	KWOK Ka-ki	137	(3) Sustainable Development
ENB347	4266	KWOK Wai-keung	137	(2) Power
ENB348	5441	LAM Tai-fai	137	(2) Power
ENB349	5443	LAM Tai-fai	137	-
ENB350	2053	LEUNG, Kenneth	137	(2) Power
ENB351	2054	LEUNG, Kenneth	137	(2) Power
ENB352	2509	LEUNG, Kenneth	137	(2) Power
ENB353	2466	LEUNG Kwok-hung	137	(3) Sustainable Development
ENB354	3253	LEUNG Kwok-hung	137	(1) Director of Bureau's Office
ENB355	0599	LIAO Cheung-kong, Martin	137	-
ENB356	2481	MO, Claudia	137	(1) Director of Bureau's Office
ENB357	2482	MO, Claudia	137	(2) Power
ENB358	6188	MOK, Charles Peter	137	-
ENB359	6206	MOK, Charles Peter	137	-
ENB360	6218	MOK, Charles Peter	137	-
ENB361	6536	MOK, Charles Peter	137	-
ENB362	6552	MOK, Charles Peter	137	-
ENB363	0717	TANG Ka-piu	137	(2) Power
ENB364	0718	TANG Ka-piu	137	(2) Power
ENB365	1183	TSE Wai-chuen, Tony	137	(2) Power
ENB366	0152	WONG Yuk-man	137	(1) Director of Bureau's Office

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
ENB367	5255	WONG Yuk-man	137	-
ENB368	5070	WU Chi-wai	137	(2) Power
ENB369	2263	FAN Kwok-wai, Gary	704	-
ENB370	5879	FAN Kwok-wai, Gary	704	-
ENB371	1131	KWOK Wai-keung	704	-
ENB372	2957	QUAT, Elizabeth	704	-
ENB373	2859	CHAN Chi-chuen	705	-
ENB374	2261	FAN Kwok-wai, Gary	705	-
ENB375	5834	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	44	(2) Air

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB001

(Question Serial No. 1700)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 5):

The Department advises that it will include selected country park enclaves into county parks in 2014-15. What are the locations and the total area of the enclaves involved, as well as the areas of private land involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department plans to incorporate three country park enclaves, namely Fan Kei Tok, Sai Lau Kong and the site near Nam Shan, into their respective country parks in 2014-15. They are assessed to be suitable based on the principles and criteria established by the Country and Marine Parks Board for designating new country parks or extending existing country parks. There is no private land in these country park enclaves. Their respective area and the country parks into which they will be incorporated are as follows:

Enclaves	Country parks into which the enclave will be incorporated	Area (hectares)
Fan Kei Tok	Plover Cove Country Park	4.6
Sai Lau Kong	Plover Cove Country Park	1.9
The site near Nam Shan	Lantau South Country Park	5.9
	Total	12.4

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB002****(Question Serial No. 1701)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 6):

What was the Department's total expenditure on producing and planting seedlings in 2013? As the Department will substantially reduce the numbers for the indicators "seedlings produced" and "seedlings planted" in 2014, how much can be saved in this regard? Moreover, apart from planting the self-produced seedlings in country parks and areas under its management, does the Department transfer them to other Government departments such as the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and the Highways Department for use in greening works? If not, what are the reasons? If yes, what was the total number of seedlings transferred to other Government departments in 2013?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

The total expenditure on production and planting of tree seedlings in country parks in 2013 is \$12.8 million.

In recent years, the planting strategy and focus in country parks have been shifted from soil erosion control to enhancement of the ecological value and biodiversity of woodlands. Therefore, the tree species used in afforestation have been changed from exotic species to native species. Apart from those commonly adopted in recent planting programmes in country parks, we produce and plant less common native species with conservation value to suit different habitats. Owing to the lower germination rate, higher mortality, slower growth and more stringent growth requirements of these native species as compared with exotic ones in general, additional efforts and resources are required to collect quality viable seeds, investigate optimum growth conditions for individual species, and take care of the seedlings after planting in country parks. Though the total number of native species to be produced and planted in 2014 will decrease, the estimated total expenditure on seedling production in 2014 will be similar to that in 2013.

Tree seedlings produced at the nursery of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department are all used in the planting programme to meet the specific objectives of afforestation, habitat enhancement and hill-fire rehabilitation in country parks. As such, we do not provide tree seedlings to other departments for their greening works which may have different objectives and requirements.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB003

(Question Serial No. 1724)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 29):

Regarding the Hong Kong Global Geopark of China (the "Geopark"), please advise on the following:

- (a) The number of visitors to the Geopark last year, as well as the usage and damage of the facilities in the Geopark;
- (b) Whether there were visitors to the Geopark being prosecuted for violating the code and safety guidelines; and
- (c) The expenditure involved in the management of the Geopark and the routine and unscheduled maintenance and repair of the Geopark facilities.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

- (a) The estimated number of visitors to the Hong Kong Global Geopark of China (the "Geopark") in 2013 is 1.4 million. Save minor wear and tear requiring minor maintenance, there has been no report of serious damage to the facilities.
- (b) The visitors are generally well behaved and there were no prosecution cases specifically related to the Geopark, apart from minor offences such as littering. The total number of prosecution cases on littering in 2013 at all country parks which encompass the Geopark areas is 167. There is no separate breakdown for cases occurring in the Geopark areas.
- (c) The overall expenditure involved in the management of the Geopark in 2013-14 is \$29.2 million. The Geopark is located within the existing country parks and special areas. Maintenance of the Geopark facilities have therefore been covered by the management and operation of country parks, which is carried out by the staff of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department. There is no separate breakdown on the expenditure for the maintenance of Geopark facilities.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB004****(Question Serial No. 1728)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 33):

- (a) **Over the past 2 years**, what were the species of seedlings produced and planted, and what was the expenditure involved?
- (b) **Over the past 2 years**, what was the plant species in the country parks that suffered the heaviest loss, and what was its distribution? What were the major causes for the loss?
- (c) **Over the past 2 years**, how many cases of illegal tree felling in country park areas were received? What were the plant species involved? What were the numbers of patrols and operations conducted to combat illegal felling? Were there any successful prosecutions? Was replanting carried out in places affected by illegal felling? If yes, what were the species involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

- (a) Over 100 tree species are planted in the afforestation of country parks. The 10 most common tree species produced and planted in the past two years are tabulated as follows:

Scientific Name	Chinese Name
<i>Schima superba</i>	木荷
<i>Polyspora axillaris</i>	大頭茶
<i>Liquidambar formosana</i>	楓香
<i>Syzygium hancei</i>	韓氏蒲桃
<i>Rhaphiolepis indica</i>	石斑木
<i>Machilus breviflora</i>	短序潤楠
<i>Lophostemon confertus</i>	紅膠木
<i>Viburnum odoratissimum</i>	珊瑚樹
<i>Castanopsis fissa</i>	鰲蒴錐
<i>Phyllanthus emblica</i>	餘甘子

The expenditure on tree planting in the past two years is tabulated as follows:

Year	Expenditure for tree planting (\$ million)
2012	12.0
2013	12.8

- (b) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has been carrying out tree planting work in country parks across the territory. According to our field observation, the survival rate of the tree seedlings planted is about 80%. The loss of the seedlings can be attributed to various environmental factors such as drought, poor soil conditions and competition from other plants, etc. Hardy and fast growing tree species such as *Schima superba* (木荷), *Polyspora axillaris* (大頭茶) and *Lophostemon confertus* (紅膠木) are generally of a higher survival rate. There is no obvious difference in the loss of tree seedlings among different country parks.
- (c) AFCD staff patrol various country parks regularly and carry out enforcement action against illegal activities, including unauthorized tree felling. The numbers of prosecution cases against unauthorized tree felling were 20 cases in 2012 and 16 cases in 2013. The species involved were common species such as *Schefflera heptaphylla* (鵝掌柴), *Zanthoxylum aricennae* (筍欖花椒), *Antidesma ghaesembilla* (方葉五月茶) and *Indocalamus sinicus* (水銀竹). As unauthorized tree felling activities often affect a very small number of trees, no compensation planting was carried out specifically at the affected places.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB005****(Question Serial No. 1729)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 34):

- (a) Please set out in tabular form the details of hill fires attended to as stated in the indicator **over the past two years**, including dates and locations of the hill fires, areas affected and manpower deployed, as well as the expenditure involved in each operation.
- (b) What are the measures taken and publicity work carried out by the Administration to reduce the occurrence of hill fires in country parks? What are the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

- (a) The particulars of hill fires affecting country parks and special areas in 2012 and 2013 are shown in the Annex.

The total annual expenditure for the prevention and fighting of hill fires in country parks and special areas in both 2012-13 and 2013-14 (revised estimate) are \$34 million. There is no breakdown of expenditure involved in each operation.

- (b) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department carries out the following measures during the hill fire season from October to April every year to prevent and combat hill fires in country parks and special areas:
- (i) Deploying staff on 24-hour duty at fire lookouts to enable close monitoring and early detection of outbreak of hill fires;
 - (ii) Arranging hill fire fighting teams on 24-hour standby duty at various country park management centres to enable swift responses to the occurrence of hill fires;
 - (iii) Maintaining close cooperation with the Fire Services Department, Government Flying Service, Civil Aid Service and other relevant departments in combating hill fires;
 - (iv) Launching promotional and educational campaigns on hill fire prevention including press release, broadcasting of Announcements of Public Interests on television and radio, dissemination of education leaflets, advice to villagers and country park visitors through village visits and patrol, etc.;
 - (v) Participating in publicity programmes on hill fire prevention coordinated by the Security Bureau and the Fire Services Department and in the district fire safety events organized by various District Offices during the fire season; and
 - (vi) Carrying out patrols and law enforcement duties.

The expenditure and manpower involved in prevention and fighting of hill fires in country parks and special areas are tabulated as follows:

Financial Year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower (Number of Staff)
2012-13	34	200
2013-14 (revised estimate)	34	211

Particulars of Hill Fires Affecting Country Parks (CP) and Special Areas (SA) in 2012 and 2013**2012**

Serial No.	Date	CP/SA	Area Affected (Hectares)	Trees Destroyed (No.)	Number of Staff involved in Fighting Hill Fire
1	4/1/2012	Tai Po Kau SA	2.5	0	37
2	26/3/2012	Tai Lam CP	3	200	7
3	28/3/2012	Tai Lam CP	0.7	0	7
4	1/4/2012	Tai Lam CP	0.25	0	14
5	4/4/2012	Lantau North CP	1	0	6
6	13/10/2012	Tai Po Kau SA	3	0	19
7	21/10/2012	Tai Mo Shan CP	3	200	14
8	23/10/2012	Plover Clove CP	7	500	21
9	23/10/2012	Lantau North CP	3	0	14
10	23/10/2012 to 24/10/2012	Tai Lam CP	18	2 500	39
11	28/10/2012	Tai Lam CP	3.5	0	6
12	4/11/2012	Ma On Shan CP	10	2 000	13
13	8/11/2012	Tai Lam CP	1.5	0	7
14	12/12/2012	Tai Lam CP	0.25	0	7
15	25/12/2012	Lam Tsuen CP	3	0	0
Total:			59.7	5 400	212

2013

Serial No.	Date	CP/SA	Area Affected (Hectares)	Trees Destroyed (No.)	Number of Staff involved in Fighting Hill Fire
1	6/1/2013	Pat Sin Leng CP	0.06	0	9
2	9/1/2013	Tai Po Kau SA	8	0	19
3	29/1/2013	Ma on Shan CP	3	0	13
4	30/1/2013	Tai Lam CP	2	0	13
5	15/2/2013	Pat Sin Leng CP	0.04	0	6
6	22/2/2013	Shing Mun CP	8	500	18
7	26/2/2013	Sai Kung East CP	2	300	8
8	11/3/2013	Tai Lam CP	4	300	7
9	6/10/2013	Pat Sin Leng CP	2.5	0	20
10	6/10/2013	Ma On Shan CP	8	0	20
11	13/10/2013	Tai Lam CP	1	80	7
12	13/10/2013	Tai Lam CP	1	0	1
13	13/10/2013	Sai Kung East CP	130	0	26
14	13/10/2013	Lam Tsuen CP	150	0	0
15	25/10/2013	Plover Cove CP	1	0	7
16	30/11/2013	Clear Water Bay CP	45	0	43
17	5/12/2013	Sai Kung West CP	4.5	4 200	17
18	7/12/2013	Ma On Shan CP	0.5	0	7
19	9/12/2013	Lantau South CP	0.25	0	5
20	9/12/2013	Plover Cove CP	4.5	0	14
21	24/12/2013	Ma On Shan CP	2	0	7
22	26/12/2013	Tai Lam CP	2	30	7
23	28/12/2013	Tai Lam CP	2	0	22
Total:			381.35	5 410	296

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB006

(Question Serial No. 1731)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 36):

The implementation of a territory-wide survey programme to collect information and update an ecological database is mentioned under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014-15. However, the estimates for the indicator "endangered species inspections" and the like are similar to the previous year. What are the details on the territory-wide survey programme to be implemented in the coming year? What are the differences between the forthcoming work and that in the past?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

The territory-wide survey programme, which has started since 2002-03, is a long-term programme aiming to collect ecological data on local animals and plants in different habitats including various types of wetlands, woodlands, grasslands and streams in Hong Kong. It covers about 100 plant and wetland communities and over 1 200 animal species such as butterflies, birds, amphibians and reptiles. It also includes the implementation of conservation action plans for species of conservation concern such as the Romer's Tree Frog, Birdwing Butterflies, and the Black-faced Spoonbill. This programme will continue in 2014-15 in order to update ecological information on the constantly changing natural environment. The indicator for "Endangered species inspections" refers to inspection of import/export consignments of endangered species and shops trading endangered species, and is not related to the aforesaid territory-wide survey programme.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB007

(Question Serial No. 3739)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 157):

Regarding the planned targets of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department in 2014, please advise on the following:

- (a) The estimated number of seedlings produced in 2014 is lower than those in 2012 and 2013. What are the reasons for that? What are the expenditure and manpower change involved? It was mentioned by the Administration that the number of seedlings produced would be decreased owing to reduction in tree planting areas. What are the area and scale of tree planting involved? What criteria are adopted in estimating the figures in 2014?
- (b) The estimated number of seedlings planted in 2014 is lower than those in 2012 and 2013. What are the reasons for that? What are the expenditure and manpower change involved? It was mentioned by the Administration that the number of seedlings planted would be decreased owing to reduction in tree planting areas. What are the area and scale of tree planting involved? What criteria are adopted in estimating the figures in 2014?
- (c) The number of hill fires attended to in 2014 is higher than those in 2012 and 2013 and the figures in the three years indicate an upward trend. What are the reasons for that? What are the expenditure and manpower change involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) & (b) After decades of tree planting, increasing public awareness and stepping up of hill fires preventive measures, most country park areas are now well vegetated. As a result, very few areas within country parks are available for tree planting. The main planting strategy in country parks now is to go for quality of planting instead of quantity, thus to enhance the overall biodiversity and conservation value of country parks.

To support the this planting strategy, the trees grown in recent years have been changed from fast growing exotic species to native ones with higher conservation value. However, these native tree species usually would have lower germination rate, higher mortality, slower growth and more stringent growth requirements as compared with exotic species. Additional efforts and resources are therefore required for selection of quality seeds, investigation of optimum growth conditions and greater after care of seedlings after planting. Therefore, though the total number of seedlings to be produced in 2014 will decrease, the estimated expenditure and manpower required for seedling production in 2014-15 would remain similar to that in 2013-14.

In 2014, the total planting area would be about 32 hectares, 21% less as compared with that in 2013. It is estimated that 261 man-days could be saved as a result of reduced planting. This includes both manpower for supervision of contractors and direct planting work carried out by staff of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department.

The total expenditure on production and planting of tree seedlings in country parks in 2013-14 is \$12.8 million. The estimated expenditure in 2014-15 will be similar to that in 2013-14.

- (c) The estimated number of hill fires in 2014 is based on the average of the number of hill fires in the last three years as shown below. The increase in the 2014 estimate is due to the higher number of hill fires in 2011.

Year	No. of hill fires
2011	42
2012	15
2013	23
Estimated number of hill fires in 2014 = 27	

Because of the small difference between the estimated number of hill fires in 2014 and 2013, the estimated expenditure and manpower required for the prevention and fighting of hill fires in country parks in 2014-15 would be similar to that in 2013-14. \$34 million and 211 staff have been earmarked for this area of work in 2014-15.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB008****(Question Serial No. 3740)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 158):

Regarding the work of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department in the following areas, please advise on the details of the work, the expenditure and manpower involved and how effective the work was in each of the past five years with a breakdown by year:

- The conservation and management of the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar site;
- The management of the Hong Kong Wetland Park; and
- The management and operation of the Hong Kong Global Geopark of China.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- The conservation management and protection of the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site (the Site) comprising a total area of 1 500 hectares includes law enforcement, monitoring of the ecological conditions and providing advice on wise use of wetland for planning / development proposals in and around the Site. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) implements a Baseline Ecological Monitoring Programme to keep track of the ecological conditions of the Site, including the community dynamics of benthic fauna, water quality and sediment quality. A Waterbird Monitoring Programme is in place to monitor the species and abundance of waterbirds in the Site and the Deep Bay area. In addition, AFCD Nature Wardens regularly patrol the Site for enforcement of the Wild Animals Protection Ordinance. AFCD also provides financial support to the World Wide Fund for Nature Hong Kong for managing the wetland habitats of the Mai Po Marshes Nature Reserve within the Site.

In the past five years, the expenditure and manpower allocation for the management of the Site are as follows:

Year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower
2009-10	15.0	13
2010-11	14.0	13
2011-12	15.8	13
2012-13	15.0	13
2013-14 (revised estimate)	15.5	13

- In the past five years, AFCD maintained a team of 76 staff for the management of the Hong Kong Wetland Park (HKWP) such as exhibit maintenance, habitat management, education and community services. AFCD also appointed contractors to carry out services like security, cleansing, landscaping, revenue collection, customer service, marketing and promotion. To promote the Park and attract more visitors, HKWP organised a wide range of activities including guided tours, seminars, wildlife watching classes, contests, dramas, art workshops and thematic events for visitors of all ages. It also strengthened habitat management to enhance its ecological functions. Ecological surveys conducted at HKWP have recorded 246 species of birds, 52 species of dragonflies, 10

species of amphibians and 29 species of reptiles. The respective expenditure and number of visitors over the past five years are as follows:

Year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Number of visitors
2009-10	49.8	437 357
2010-11	44.0	449 464
2011-12	45.5	444 104
2012-13	47.6	494 380
2013-14 (revised estimate)	50.9	445 000

- (c) The preparatory work of the Hong Kong Geopark started in 2009-10 which subsequently went into full operation in 2011-12. The expenditure and manpower allocated for its operation in the past five years are summarized below:

Year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower
2009-10	7.0	3
2010-11	22.6	10
2011-12	29.2	21
2012-13	29.2	21
2013-14 (revised estimate)	29.2	21

The major tasks involved include (i) conducting patrol and enforcement operations; (ii) arranging cleansing and litter collection services; (iii) setting up and maintenance of visitor facilities such as visitor centres, geo-trails, displays and panels; (iv) organizing education and promotion activities; (v) promoting local community participation; (vi) networking and tourism promotion; (vii) training of geopark guides; and (viii) conducting geological research and studies.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB009****(Question Serial No. 3741)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 159):

Regarding the licensing control of international trade in endangered species and curbing of illegal trade in endangered species in Hong Kong, please advise on the following:

- Please set out by year the numbers of cases handled by the Administration in the licensing control of international trade in endangered species over the past five years.
- Regarding the curbing of illegal trade in endangered species in Hong Kong, please provide a breakdown by year of the numbers of cases handled by the Administration, the species involved, the numbers of persons arrested, prosecuted and convicted, as well as the maximum and minimum penalties imposed, over the past five years.
- Does the Administration have any plans to strengthen its work on both of the above-mentioned aspects in future? What are the expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- The number of permits/certificates issued in the past five years with respect to control of trade in endangered species is set out below:

Year	Number of permits/certificates issued
2009	18 429
2010	20 097
2011	21 614
2012	25 909
2013	26 935

- There were various types of endangered species involved in the enforcement actions taken to combat illegal trade in endangered species. The more common species include live tortoise/turtle and snake, reptile leather product, pangolin carcass/scale, ivory and orchid, etc. The statistics on enforcement against illegal trade in endangered species in the past five years is summarised below:

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number of cases	379	339	348	356	596
Number of arrests	116	98	132	129	271
Number of prosecutions	121	116	117	135	161
Number of convictions	114	112	113	125	158

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Maximum penalty	Imprisonment for 8 months	Imprisonment for 8 months	Imprisonment for 6 months	Imprisonment for 8 months	Imprisonment for 4 months
Minimum penalty	A fine of \$100	A fine of \$100	A fine of \$100	A fine of \$100	A fine of \$100

- (c) An additional provision of \$0.5 million to hire three contract staff (two technical and one clerical staff) has been earmarked for 2014-15 to strengthen the licensing and enforcement work on protection of endangered species.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**(Question Serial No. 3742)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 160):

Regarding the inclusion of selected country park enclaves into country parks, please advise on the following:

- (a) The membership of the various advisory and statutory boards and committees under the Administration and the attendance rate of each of their members at meetings over the past three years;
- (b) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) proposed earlier to the Country and Marine Parks Board on the inclusion of three country park enclaves (Fan Kei Tok, Sai Lau Kong and the site near Nam Shan) into country parks but not the other six enclaves (Hoi Ha, Pak Lap, So Lo Pun, etc.). What are the reasons for the Administration's proposal to include only the said three enclaves and to exclude the said six enclaves?
- (c) According to the proposal of AFCD mentioned in item (b), what are the estimated operating expenditure and manpower involved respectively in the inclusion of only the three enclaves and that of all the nine enclaves?
- (d) According to the proposal of AFCD mentioned in item (b), are there any plans to include the six enclaves into country parks? If yes, what are the details, timetable, expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) The term of office of the Country and Marine Parks Board (CMPB) is two years. The membership lists of the past two terms (1 September 2009 to 31 August 2011 and 1 September 2011 to 31 August 2013 respectively) are at **Annex 1 and 2**. During the above two terms, the average attendance rates of the non-official members at meetings are 73% and 69% respectively.
- (b) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has assessed the suitability of incorporating the nine concerned country park enclaves into country parks based on the principles and criteria agreed by CMPB for designating new country parks or extending existing country parks, which include conservation value, landscape and aesthetic value, recreation potential, size, proximity to existing country parks, land status and land use compatibility, etc. For Fan Kei Tok, Sai Lau Kong and the site near Nam Shan, having considered their good overall intrinsic values, land status and compatibility with the surrounding country park areas, the three enclaves were assessed to be suitable for incorporation into country parks. On the other hand, upon assessment based on the above principles and criteria, the other six enclaves, i.e. Hoi Ha, Pak Lap, Pak Tam Au, So Lo Pun, Tin Fu Tsai and To Kwa Peng, were considered not suitable for incorporation into country parks. These enclaves are currently covered by draft Outline Zoning Plans.
- (c) In 2014-15, AFCD will first consult the stakeholders on the proposal to incorporate the enclaves of Fan Kei Tok, Sai Lau Kong and the site near Nam Shan into country parks, and then initiate the relevant statutory procedures. As the entire designation process will take more than a year to complete, the estimated expenditure and manpower for the management of the three enclaves will be worked out

nearer the time. Regarding the six enclaves that are assessed to be not suitable for incorporation into country parks, provision of additional resources by AFCD is not required.

- (d) For the reasons stated in (b) above, the Department has no plan to incorporate the six enclaves, i.e. Hoi Ha, Pak Lap, Pak Tam Au, So Lo Pun, Tin Fu Tsai and To Kwa Peng, into country parks. These enclaves are currently covered by draft Outline Zoning Plans.

Country and Marine Parks Board
Membership List
(1 September 2009 to 31 August 2011)

Chairman

Professor Nora TAM Fung-ye, BBS, JP

Non-official members

Dr. Gary ADES

Ms Jasminia Kristine CHEUNG

Professor CHU Lee-man

Ms Betty HO Siu-fong

Professor Paul LAM Kwan-sing, JP

Dr. LAW Chi-kwong, SBS, JP

Ms. HUI Mei-sheung, Tennessy, JP

Mr. LEUNG Wing-hang

Dr. LI Shing-foon, Eric

Mr. LI Yiu-ban, BBS, JP

Dr. LO Wing-lok, JP

Dr. Young NG Chun-yeong, MH

Honourable WONG Yung-kan, SBS, JP

Dr. YAU Wing-kwong

Official members

Members

Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation (Ex-officio)
Deputy Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation
Director of Home Affairs
Director of Lands
Director of Leisure and Cultural Services
Director of Marine
Director of Planning
Director of Water Supplies

Alternate members

Assistant Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation (Country and Marine Parks)
Assistant Director of Home Affairs (2)
Assistant Director of Lands (Estate
Management)
Assistant Director of Leisure and Cultural
Services (Leisure Services)³
Assistant Director of Marine (Port Control)
Assistant Director of Planning (New Territories)
Assistant Director of Water Supplies
(Development)

Country and Marine Parks Board
Membership List
(1 September 2011 to 31 August 2013)

Chairman

Professor Nora TAM Fung-yee, BBS, JP

Non-official members

Dr. Gary ADES

Ms Jasminia Kristine CHEUNG

Professor CHIU Lai-har, Rebecca, JP

Mr. CHOW Kwok-keung, Johnny

Professor CHU Lee-man

Dr. HAU Chi-hang

Ms. HUI Mei-sheung, Tennessy, JP

Ms. KWAN Sau-wan

Mr. LEUNG Wing-hang

Dr. LI Shing-foon, Eric

Ms. LO Po-man

Dr. Young NG Chun-yeong, MH

Dr. NG Cho-nam, BBS, JP

Mr. TANG King-shing, GBS, PDSM

Dr. TIK Chi-yuen. BBS, JP

Mr. WONG Yung-kan, SBS, JP

Official members

Members

Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation (Ex-officio)
Deputy Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation
Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Home Affairs
Director of Lands

Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Marine
Director of Planning
Director of Water Supplies

Alternate members

Assistant Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation (Country and Marine Parks)
Assistant Director (Nature Conservation &
Infrastructure Planning)
Assistant Director of Home Affairs (2)
Assistant Director of Lands (Estate
Management)
Assistant Director of Leisure and Cultural
Services (Leisure Services)³
Assistant Director of Marine (Port Control)
Assistant Director of Planning (New Territories)
Assistant Director of Water Supplies
(Development)

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB011****(Question Serial No. 3758)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 167):

Regarding the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department's work on nature conservation and country parks, please advise on the following:

- (a) The target for the number of Sites of Special Scientific Interest listed has been revised from 68 to 67 as from 2013, viz. there is a change on the proposed designation of a Site in Shui Hau Wan. What are the details of the change as well as the expenditure and manpower change involved?
- (b) Did the Administration openly explain to the public the details on the change on the proposed designation of the Site in Shui Hau Wan? If yes, what were the expenditure and manpower involved? If not, what were the reasons?
- (c) Has there been any research conducted on the ecological and scientific value of Shui Hau Wan? If yes, what are the details and the findings?
- (d) Has any assessment been undertaken on the ecological and nature conservation impact on Hong Kong arising from the change on the proposed designation of the Site in Shui Hau Wan?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) and (b) Shui Hau Wan is an important nursery ground for horseshoe crabs (*Tachypleus tridentatus*) in Hong Kong. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has consulted relevant departments and stakeholders on the proposal to designate Shui Hau Wan as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Since the local villagers have expressed strong objection to the proposal, AFCD is continuing its efforts to explain to the relevant stakeholders and to gain their support. Meanwhile, AFCD would keep on monitoring the conservation status of the horseshoe crabs and carry out conservation work as and when necessary. The target of "the number of Sites of Special Scientific Interest listed" was revised from 68 to 67 in 2013 to reflect the above situation. There is no change to the expenditure or manpower involved.
- (c) Both AFCD and local scientists have conducted studies at Shui Hau Wan. The site is a natural sheltered sandy shore, consisting of a vast sand-flat which is home to a high diversity of organisms, including horseshoe crabs in particular. It is thus considered to be of high conservation value.
- (d) SSSI designation is primarily an administrative device to ensure that government departments concerned are aware of the scientific importance of such sites, and that due consideration is given to conservation when developments at or near these sites are proposed. Although Shui Hau Wan has not yet been designated an SSSI, AFCD would advise relevant departments on the ecological importance of Shui Hau Wan when necessary. AFCD will also continue to monitor the conservation status of the horseshoe crabs and carry out conservation work as and when necessary. As such, the change will not cause any substantial impact to the local ecology and our conservation work.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB012****(Question Serial No. 3759)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 168):

Regarding the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department's work on nature conservation and country parks, please advise on the following:

- (a) The target for marine parks and marine reserves designated has been revised from 2 788 to 2 430 hectares as from 2013, viz. there is a change on the proposed designation of 5 marine parks in north-eastern region in the Geopark areas. What are the details of the change as well as the expenditure and manpower change involved?
- (b) Did the Administration openly and clearly explain to the public the details on the change? If yes, what were the expenditure and manpower involved? If not, what were the reasons?
- (c) Has there been any research conducted on the ecological and scientific value of the areas involved in the change? If yes, what are the details and the findings?
- (d) Has any assessment been undertaken on the ecological and nature conservation impact on Hong Kong arising from the change?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) The target has been revised from 2 788 hectares in 2012 to 2 430 hectares in 2013 due to the change of plan for the proposed designation of five marine parks in north-eastern region in the Geopark areas. The five marine parks were previously proposed for the protection of geological and marine ecological resources at the five geo-sites. These geosites were subsequently designated as special areas under the Country Parks Ordinance in 2011 and have since been regularly patrolled by staff of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD). Results of AFCD's on-going monitoring show that most geopark visitors are self-disciplined and the marine ecosystem including the coral communities at these five geosites remain stable and healthy. As such, we consider that there is no imminent need to designate these geo-sites as marine parks.

There is no change to the expenditure and manpower involved. A team of staff consisting of 1 Marine Park Officer, 1 Fisheries Supervisor I, 1 Senior Field Assistant, 6 Field Assistants and 1 Artisan will continue to patrol these geo-sites and monitor the geological and marine ecological resources. The expenditure involved is \$5 million per year.
- (b) The change in the proposed designation of the five marine parks was made after a review of the latest situation of the areas concerned. We will continue to monitor the situation and public consultation will be undertaken should there be a need to designate these areas as marine parks in the future.
- (c) According to AFCD's routine underwater ecological surveys and monitoring, annual Reef Check and other relevant studies, the marine ecosystem including the coral communities at these five geo-sites remain stable and healthy.

- (d) As stated in (c) above, the marine ecosystem including the coral communities at these five geo-sites remain stable and healthy. To further protect coral communities, we are going to set up “no anchoring areas” at the East Sharp Island, North Shelter Island and northern side of South Ninepin in 2014. Special marker buoys will be installed to mark off areas with high coral cover and advise boat operators to avoid anchoring within the marked areas. We will also continue to carry out sea patrols to monitor the visitors’ behavior and the geological and marine ecological resources at these five geo-sites.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB013****(Question Serial No. 3788)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 625):

Please set out the area, details of the work by the Administration, as well as the expenditure and manpower allocated in respect of the following in each of the past five years:

- (a) Country parks;
- (b) Special areas;
- (c) Marine parks;
- (d) Marine reserves;
- (e) Wetlands;
- (f) Sites of high scientific value and Sites of Special Scientific Interest; and
- (g) Geopark.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department carries out management, conservation, maintenance of facilities, law enforcement, education and publicity programme at country parks, special areas, geopark, marine parks and marine reserve. Conservation management of wetlands includes law enforcement, monitoring of the ecological conditions, wetland habitat management of the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site and providing advice on wise use of wetland for planning / development proposals in the Ramsar Site. The work conducted in Sites of Special Scientific Interest includes vegetation management, habitat enhancement and ecological monitoring.

The area, the total expenditure and manpower involved in the management of various protected areas in the past five years are shown as follows:

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
(a) Country Parks (ha)	43 394	43 394	43 394	43 394	43 455
(b) Special Areas outside country parks (ha)*	610	845	845	845	845
(c) Marine Parks (ha)	2 410	2 410	2 410	2 410	2 410
(d) Marine Reserve (ha)	20	20	20	20	20
(e) Wetlands (ha)**	1 500	1 500	1 500	1 500	1 500
(f) Sites of Special Scientific Interest (ha)	7 467	7 491	7 491	7 473	7 473
(g) Geopark (ha)***	-	4 985	4 985	4 985	4 985
Total Expenditure	266.5	285.5	297.1	325.1	335.5
Manpower****	952	924	913	846	827

* Area of special areas within country parks is not included to avoid double-counting.

** This refers to the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site.

- *** As the Hong Kong Global Geopark comprises various sites either covered by country parks or special areas, the areas shown in (a) and (b) have also included the area in (g).
- **** The manpower allocated has decreased as a result of the Department's continued effort to enhance the efficiency in delivering the services through re-engineering, redeployment of resources and alternative means such as outsourcing of some non-core duties.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB014

(Question Serial No. 0249)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 4):

Under Programme 2, it is estimated by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department that 550 000 seedlings will be planted in 2014. Please provide the estimated number of seedlings of native species to be planted and the estimated expenditure involved in planting seedlings of native species in 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply:

It is estimated that 481 000 seedlings of native species will be planted in 2014 and the estimated expenditure involved is \$11 million.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB015****(Question Serial No. 0250)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 5):

Would the Government advise on the respective numbers of plastic refuse bags used by the Administration and contractors in managing country parks and the related expenditure in 2013-2014, as well as the respective estimated numbers of refuse bags to be used and the related expenditure in 2014-2015? What were the quantities of leaf and tree litter collected within country parks and disposed of at landfills in the last year?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply:

The plastic refuse bags used in 2013-14 and will be used in 2014-15 by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) in managing country parks is about 230 000. The estimated expenditure is set out below:

Financial Year	Estimated Expenditure
2013-14	\$0.21 million
2014-15	\$0.22 million

The corresponding number of plastic refuse bags used/to be used by AFCD's contractors is 310 000. Since the contractors are responsible for the provision of plastic refuse bags when they carry out litter collection, the cost of the refuse bags is unknown to the Department.

Most of the green wastes (e.g. branches, leaves) generated from daily operation are stockpiled in the nearby natural habitats to provide niches for wildlife. When they decompose, they will return nutrients back to nature. Some tree logs are suitable for recycling. They are used to make furniture or decorative materials for the recreational facilities in the country parks such as animated features, waymarks and benches, etc. Only those green wastes which have been infested by pests, diseases or invasive species, and are thus not suitable to be stockpiled on site or reused in country parks, will be disposed of at landfills. In 2013, about 80 tonnes or 5% of the total amount of green wastes generated in country parks were disposed of at landfills.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB016

(Question Serial No. 3482)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 282):

In view of the frequent illegal felling of Agarwood (Incense Tree) in Hong Kong in recent years, does the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department have plans to compile statistics on Incense Tree throughout the territory? What measures will be taken to prevent the problem of illegal tree-felling from deteriorating? What is the estimated expenditure on the work in the coming year?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

Incense Tree is a common native tree species, mostly found in lowland broadleaf forests or in fung shui woods behind rural villages. There is practical difficulty in conducting a territory-wide survey on this species due to its widespread distribution and difficulty of access. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has not kept records of the number of Incense Trees throughout the territory.

AFCD has been working with the Police in taking enforcement actions and stepping up patrols at sites where illegal tree-felling had been reported. Persons involved in the illegal felling of Incense Trees will be prosecuted. AFCD will plant more seedlings of Incense Trees in country parks, to assist in the propagation of this species in Hong Kong. The resources involved in this area of work will be absorbed in the allocation for nature conservation and the management of country parks.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB017****(Question Serial No. 2841)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 29):

The Administration estimates that there will be 530 000 seedlings produced and 550 000 seedlings planted in 2014. Please set out:

- (1) the criteria for selecting seedlings;
- (2) the ratio between native tree species and exotic tree species;
- (3) the distribution of sites planned for tree planting; and
- (4) whether the Administration has considered increasing the proportion of mono-species tree plantations, which have been well received by locals in recent years.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher

Reply:

- (1) Planting objective is the key consideration in selection of tree species. In country parks, the planting objectives are mainly for afforestation, habitat enhancement and hill-fire rehabilitation. Therefore, hardy and fast growing native tree species such as *Schima superba* (木荷) and *Polyspora axillaris* (大頭茶) would be used in country parks. Other factors for tree species selection include site conditions and constraints, characteristic and growth performance of the tree species in specific habitats, etc.
- (2) The ratio between native tree species and exotic tree species planted in country parks in 2014 is around 7:1.
- (3) The distribution of sites for tree planting in country parks in 2014 is tabulated as follows:

District (in terms of District Council)	Number of trees to be planted
Central & West	1 500
East	1 500
South	1 000
Tsuen Wan	36 000
North	18 000
Tai Po	16 000
Sha Tin	14 000
Tuen Mun	130 000
Yuen Long	90 000
Sai Kung	55 000
Islands	187 000
Total	550 000

- (4) Large-scale planting of one single tree species is not encouraged for afforestation and habitat enhancement in country parks as it is prone to high potential risk of pest outbreaks and simultaneous problems of aging and dying back. However, some recreation areas in country parks such as the Tai Tong forest track have been selected to plant with trees of distinctive seasonal pattern, i.e. *Liquidambar formosana* (楓香) for public enjoyment. We will continue to explore suitable recreation areas in country parks and create more attractions through tree planting for the general public.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB018

(Question Serial No. 2259)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 47):

The Administration anticipates that the area of country parks will remain unchanged this year, yet at the same time states that selected country park enclaves will be included into country parks. Would the Administration provide an explanation for the discrepancy between these two figures, and advise on the progress of including enclaves into country parks?

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department plans to incorporate three country park enclaves, namely Fan Kei Tok, Sai Lau Kong and the site near Nam Shan, into their respective country parks in 2014-15. The three enclaves, comprising a total area of about 13 hectares, are assessed to be suitable based on the principles and criteria established by the Country and Marine Parks Board for designating new country parks or extending existing country parks. The Department will conduct consultation with the relevant stakeholders on the proposal and then embark on statutory procedures to incorporate these enclaves into country parks which would include the preparation of draft maps, public inspection, objection hearing, submission of draft maps to Chief Executive in Council for approval and negative vetting at Legislative Council, etc. The entire designation process will take more than a year to complete.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB019

(Question Serial No. 2270)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (600) Works
Programme: Not Specified
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 7):

- (a) Regarding Item 804 Improvement to the mountain bike trail in Tai Lam Country Park, what is the expenditure involved in 2014-15? What are the details of expenditure items and progress of works?
- (b) Has the Administration planned to improve other mountain bike trails (e.g. those in Sai Kung)? If yes, what is the expenditure involved this year?

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

- (a) In 2014-15, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department has earmarked \$1.5 million for the improvement of the mountain bike trail network in the Tai Lam Country Park. The expenditure will be used for hiring consultants and contractors for the design and construction of a new 5 km mountain bike trail and improving the existing mountain bike trails up to international standard. The Department plans to complete the construction works of the new trail in the first quarter of 2015, and the improvement of the existing mountain bike trails will be completed in the fourth quarter of 2015.
- (b) The Department will continue to conduct routine inspection on the existing mountain bike trails in other country parks, and carry out improvement and repair works to ensure that they are safe for mountain biking activities as and when necessary.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB020****(Question Serial No. 5644)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 57):

It is learnt that the progress of including selected country park enclaves (enclaves) into country parks is slow. In this regard, would the Administration inform this Committee of the latest progress of the work? What are the factors for determining whether the enclaves will be included into country parks or in development permission area (DPA) plans? What is the estimated schedule to include all the 77 enclaves in DPA plans or into country parks? Does the Administration set any targets for completion of work?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

There are 77 enclaves, of which 23 had already been covered before 2010 by Outline Zoning Plans (OZPs) under the Town Planning Ordinance. Of the remaining 54 enclaves, Sai Wan, Kam Shan and Yuen Tun, have been incorporated into Sai Kung East, Kam Shan and Tai Lam Country Parks respectively since 30 December 2013. In addition, 25 enclaves have been included in 18 Development Permission Area Plans gazetted under the Town Planning Ordinance, of which Sai Wan was incorporated into a country park and 6 enclaves covered by draft OZPs.

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) and the Planning Department will make assessments having regard to the actual circumstances of each enclave, including factors of conservation value, landscape and aesthetic value, geographical locations and existing scale of human settlements of the sites, and the relevant development pressure, in determining which enclaves are to be incorporated into country parks under the Country Parks Ordinance or protected by statutory plans under the Town Planning Ordinance.

AFCD has assessed three enclaves, namely Fan Kei Tok, Sai Lau Kong and the site near Nam Shan, to be suitable for incorporating into country parks based on the principles and criteria agreed by the Country and Marine Parks Board (CMPB) for designating new country parks or extending existing country parks, which include conservation value, landscape and aesthetic value, recreation potential, size, proximity to existing country parks, land status and land use compatibility. The Department has also consulted CMPB on the designation proposals. In 2014-15, the Department will consult the stakeholders on the designation proposals first, and then initiate the statutory procedures for the country park designation which would include the preparation of draft maps, public inspection, objection hearing, submission of draft maps to Chief Executive in Council for approval and negative vetting at Legislative Council. The entire designation process will take more than a year to complete.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB021

(Question Serial No. 5645)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 58):

Regarding hill fires that occurred in the previous year, would the Administration inform this Committee of the details of each occurrence of hill fires in country parks, including the dates of the hill fires, areas affected, the number of trees damaged, etc.? What are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved in preventing hill fires in the forthcoming year?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

The particulars of hill fires affecting country parks and special areas in 2013 are shown in the **Annex**.

The estimated expenditure and number of staff of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department involved in prevention and fighting of hill fires in country parks and special areas in 2014-15 are \$34 million and 211 respectively.

Particulars of Hill Fires Affecting Country Parks (CP) and Special Areas (SA) in 2013

Serial No.	Date	CP/SA	Area Affected (Hectares)	Trees Destroyed (No.)
1	6/1/2013	Pat Sin Leng CP	0.06	0
2	9/1/2013	Tai Po Kau SA	8	0
3	29/1/2013	Ma on Shan CP	3	0
4	30/1/2013	Tai Lam CP	2	0
5	15/2/2013	Pat Sin Leng CP	0.04	0
6	22/2/2013	Shing Mun CP	8	500
7	26/2/2013	Sai Kung East CP	2	300
8	11/3/2013	Tai Lam CP	4	300
9	6/10/2013	Pat Sin Leng CP	2.5	0
10	6/10/2013	Ma On Shan CP	8	0
11	13/10/2013	Tai Lam CP	1	80
12	13/10/2013	Tai Lam CP	1	0
13	13/10/2013	Sai Kung East CP	130	0
14	13/10/2013	Lam Tsuen CP	150	0
15	25/10/2013	Plover Cove CP	1	0
16	30/11/2013	Clear Water Bay CP	45	0
17	5/12/2013	Sai Kung West CP	4.5	4 200
18	7/12/2013	Ma On Shan CP	0.5	0
19	9/12/2013	Lantau South CP	0.25	0
20	9/12/2013	Plover Cove CP	4.5	0
21	24/12/2013	Ma On Shan CP	2	0
22	26/12/2013	Tai Lam CP	2	30
23	28/12/2013	Tai Lam CP	2	0
Total:			381.35	5 410

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB022

(Question Serial No. 5646)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 59):

Regarding illegal felling of trees and vegetation in country parks, please inform this Committee of the total number of cases detected, number of cases where offenders could not be located or arrested, and number of prosecutions made over the past two years. What are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved in the related patrol and enforcement work in 2014-15?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department conducts regular patrols in various country parks and carries out enforcement action against illegal activities. The number of prosecution cases against unauthorised felling of trees in county parks was 20 cases in 2012 and 16 cases in 2013. The estimated expenditure and manpower involved in the related patrol and enforcement work in 2014-15 are \$56 million and 126 staff respectively.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB023

(Question Serial No. 4175)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 192):

Please advise on the details of the provision for the Hong Kong Biodiversity Education Centre in 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

In 2014-15, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department has earmarked \$4.5 million for the management and operation of the Woodside Biodiversity Education Centre. This includes the expenditure on educational programmes, cleansing, utilities, security, building maintenance and staff costs.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB024

(Question Serial No. 4176)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 194):

Whereas 700 000 seedlings were produced in 2012 and 685 200 were produced in 2013, an estimated number of 530 000 seedlings will be produced in 2014. Please advise on the expenditure on fertilisers for producing seedlings under the estimate for 2014-15 and the amount involved in organic fertilisers.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

The estimated expenditure on fertilisers for seedlings production is \$30,000 in 2014-15, of which \$23,000 will be used for purchasing organic fertilisers.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB025****(Question Serial No. 4177)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 196):

Please advise on the expenditure of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department on the promotion of public education and publicity on nature conservation over the past five years, as well as the Department's estimated expenditure on the same aspects in 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

The expenditure of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department on the promotion of public education and publicity on nature conservation in the past five years (2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14) and the estimated expenditure in 2014-15 are given in the following table:

Year	Expenditure (\$ million)
2009-10	25.3
2010-11	27.8
2011-12	34.1
2012-13	36.0
2013-14 (revised estimate)	38.1
2014-15 (estimate)	38.1

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB026****(Question Serial No. 4178)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 197):

Please advise on the expenditure of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department on the management, maintenance and improvement of facilities in country parks, special areas, marine parks and marine reserves over the past five years, as well as the Department's estimated expenditure on the same aspects in 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

The expenditure of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department on the management, maintenance and improvement of facilities in country parks, special areas, marine parks and marine reserves in the past five years (2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14) and the estimated expenditure in 2014-15 are given in the following table:

Expenditure (\$ million)					
2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14 (revised estimate)	2014-15 (estimate)
126.8	125.8	133.1	163.5	163.5	163.5

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB027

(Question Serial No. 4179)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 198):

Please advise on the number of selected country park enclaves successfully incorporated by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department into country parks and the estimated expenditure involved over the past five years, as well as the Department's work target of incorporating selected country park enclaves into country parks and the estimated expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

Three enclaves, namely Sai Wan, Kam Shan and Yuen Tun, have become part of the Sai Kung East, Kam Shan and Tai Lam Country Parks respectively since 30 December 2013.

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has assessed three country park enclaves, namely Fan Kei Tok, Sai Lau Kong and the site near Nam Shan, to be suitable for incorporation into country parks based on the principles and criteria agreed by the Country and Marine Parks Board for designating new country parks or extending existing country parks, and has sought the opinions of the Board on the designation proposals. In 2014-15, the Department will consult the stakeholders on the designation proposals first, and then initiate the statutory procedures for designation. The entire designation process will take more than a year to complete.

The assessment of the suitability of enclaves for incorporation into country parks and the designation work form part of the existing work of AFCD staff. A breakdown on the expenditure involved is not available.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB028****(Question Serial No. 2359)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 41):

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014-15, the Administration has mentioned “the inclusion of selected country park enclaves into country parks”. Would the Administration please inform this Committee if provisions for research will be earmarked to conduct timely review on the coverage of country parks, so that areas that have been included in country parks can be released to make available more land resources if their conservation value or quality has dropped? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

Reply:

Country Parks are designated under the Country Parks Ordinance (Cap. 208) for conservation, education and recreational purposes. They cover important habitats for over 98% of the terrestrial plant and animal species of Hong Kong. They are also our natural heritage which the public treasures and attaches great importance to. Apart from playing vital role in maintaining biodiversity in the territory, our country parks are also important venues for the public to escape from the hustle and bustle of urban life and enjoy the beautiful scenery, tranquility and the wilderness of our countryside. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department will continue to manage and protect the country parks for the purpose of nature conservation, recreation, eco-tourism and education. There is no plan to conduct a review on the coverage of country parks with the view to releasing land for development.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB029****(Question Serial No. 1291)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 9):

The Department states in the Brief Description of this Programme that the estimated number of hill fires attended to in 2014 is 27, representing an increase as compared with the previous 2 years. In this connection, would the Administration inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the reasons for the estimated increase in hill fires to be attended to?
- (b) Please set out the locations of hill fires occurring over the past 2 years, the areas damaged and the numbers of trees destroyed in those fires and their causes. Were there any hill fire black spots among those locations?
- (c) Has rehabilitation or tree planting been carried out in sites where hill fires occurred over the past 2 years? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Che-cheung

Reply:

- (a) The number of hill fires to be attended to in 2014 is estimated basing on the average of the number of hill fires in the last three years and the increase in the 2014 estimates is due to higher number of hill fires in 2011.

Year	No. of Hill Fires
2011	42
2012	15
2013	23
Estimated number of hill fires in 2014: 27	

- (b) The particulars of hill fires affecting country parks and special areas in 2012 and 2013 are shown in the Annex.

Most of hill fires were caused by human carelessness or negligence, such as grave worshippers not extinguishing joss sticks and paper offerings, people barbequing or cooking outside designated areas, or uncontrolled fire as a result of farmers burning grass.

The hill fires in 2012 and 2013 occurred at locations scattered among different country parks and special areas. Some of hill fire outbreaks were near grave areas but there were no obvious hill fire black spots.

- (c) The Department carefully assesses the condition of the hill-fire damaged sites to determine the kind of rehabilitation work required. It has been our practice to conduct tree planting at suitable sites for habitat rehabilitation.

Particulars of hill fires affecting Country Parks (CP) & Special Areas (SA) in 2012 and 2013**2012**

Serial No.	CP/SA	Area Affected (Hectares)	Trees Destroyed (No.)
1	Tai Po Kau SA	2.5	0
2	Tai Lam CP	3	200
3	Tai Lam CP	0.7	0
4	Tai Lam CP	0.25	0
5	Lantau North CP	1	0
6	Tai Po Kau SA	3	0
7	Tai Mo Shan CP	3	200
8	Plover Clove CP	7	500
9	Lantau North CP	3	0
10	Tai Lam CP	18	2 500
11	Tai Lam CP	3.5	0
12	Ma On Shan CP	10	2 000
13	Tai Lam CP	1.5	0
14	Tai Lam CP	0.25	0
15	Lam Tsuen CP	3	0
Total:		59.7	5 400

2013

Serial No.	CP/SA	Area Affected (Hectares)	Trees Destroyed (No.)
1	Pat Sin Leng CP	0.06	0
2	TPK Nature Reserve	8	0
3	Ma on Shan CP	3	0
4	Tai Lam CP	2	0
5	Pat Sin Leng CP	0.04	0
6	Shing Mun CP	8	500
7	Sai Kung East CP	2	300
8	Tai Lam CP	4	300
9	Pat Sin Leng CP	2.5	0
10	Ma On Shan CP	8	0
11	Tai Lam CP	1	80
12	Tai Lam CP	1	0
13	Sai Keung East CP	130	0
14	Lam Tsuen CP	150	0
15	Plover Cove CP	1	0
16	Clear Water Bay CP	45	0
17	Sai Keung West CP	4.5	4 200
18	Ma On Shan CP	0.5	0
19	Lantau South CP	0.25	0
20	Plover Cove CP	4.5	0
21	Ma On Shan CP	2	0
22	Tai Lam CP	2	30
23	Tai Lam CP	2	0
Total:		381.35	5 410

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB030****(Question Serial No. 1341)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 1.11):

In view of the increase in illegal felling cases of Agarwood (Incense Tree) in recent years, please advise on the following:

- The number of illegal felling cases of Incense Tree received by the Department over the past five years and the number of Incense Trees felled;
- The number of prosecutions taken against illegal felling of Incense Tree over the past five years, the number of convicted cases and the penalties involved;
- Whether the Department has kept records and conducted surveys on the distribution of Incense Tree on a regular basis. If yes, what were the expenditure and manpower involved over the past five years? What are the estimated expenditure and manpower for 2014-15?
- Whether there is any plan to enhance the measures for the protection of Incense Tree and other native or rare tree species in Hong Kong. If yes, what are the estimated provision and manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a)&(b) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has been working closely with the Police in combating the illegal felling of Incense Trees. Detailed information in this connection over the past five years is provided below:

Year	Number of Cases	Number of Prosecution Cases	Penalties (Imprisonment)	Weight of Wood / Estimated Number of Trees
2009	15	2	2 - 4 months	1.168 kg / 5
2010	19	9	3 days - 51 months	14.265 kg / 7
2011	72	28	3 - 35 months	91.225 kg / 210
2012	67	29	9 - 45 months	70.509 kg / 99
2013	96	21	24 - 45 months	133.518 kg / 168

Note: number of convicted cases not available

- Incense Tree is a common native tree species, mostly found in lowland broadleaf forests or in fung shui woods behind rural villages. There is practical difficulty in conducting a territory-wide survey on this species due to its widespread distribution and difficulty of access. AFCD has not kept records of the number of Incense Trees throughout the territory.
- AFCD will continue to cooperate with the Police in taking enforcement actions against illegal felling of Incense Trees. Patrols will be stepped up at sites where illegal tree-felling had been reported. AFCD will plant more seedlings of Incense Trees in country parks to assist in the propagation of this species in Hong Kong. The resources involved in this area of work will be absorbed in the allocation for nature conservation and the management of country parks.

AFCD's routine work on nature conservation such as the protection of species and habitats, law enforcement and publicity would help protect native and rare plants of Hong Kong. In addition, specific measures including surveys, artificial propagation and ex-situ conservation have been implemented for conserving rare and precious plants. \$1.9 million and 5 staff (including professional, technical and non-technical grade staff) have been earmarked for implementing these measures in 2014-15.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB031****(Question Serial No. 2047)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 1.07):

Regarding the protection of country park enclaves (enclaves), please advise on the following:

- (a) What are the number of patrols in country parks, expenditure and manpower involved over the past five years, as well as the estimated expenditure in 2014-15?
- (b) Has the Department reviewed patrol routes and the effectiveness of specific arrangements, including whether the frequency of patrolling enclaves is adequate? If yes, what are the details of the review and the improvement measures?
- (c) Please set out the numbers of cases of unauthorised development, pollution or vandalism in enclaves received or detected by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, follow-up cases, as well as the numbers of warnings, prosecutions and convictions instituted by the Department over the past five years.
- (d) Among the existing 77 enclaves, how many have been or will be incorporated into country parks and how many are not covered by any protection measures? What are the respective locations and areas involved? Will the Department put in place any measures to enhance monitoring on these enclaves which are not covered by protection measures? If yes, what are the measures?
- (e) Is there any plan to incorporate the above enclaves which are not covered by protection measures into country parks? If yes, what are the expected implementation timetable and related arrangements?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) conducts regular patrols in country parks including the enclaves. The expenditure and manpower involved in the past five years are shown in the table below. Similar level of resources as in the case of 2013-14 has been earmarked for 2014-15.

Year	Expenditure (\$ million)	Manpower
2009-10	30	106
2010-11	33	120
2011-12	42	124
2012-13	57	125
2013-14 (revised estimate)	56	126

- (b) A comprehensive review on the patrol programme for country parks was conducted in 2013. It covered the length, coverage, checkpoints and target frequency of all the patrol beats and the adequacy of the work relating to monitoring enclaves. Improvement measures including revision of patrol beats, addition of checkpoints, as well as setting appropriate target frequencies for patrol beats will be implemented with effect from April 2014. The record keeping system for monitoring the patrol duties and their frequency will also be strengthened.
- (c) AFCD conducts regular patrols in country parks including the enclaves. If any suspected unauthorised development is detected in the enclaves, AFCD would refer such cases to the relevant departments such as Lands Department and Planning Department (PlanD) for follow-up action. As country park enclaves are outside the country park boundaries, AFCD cannot take enforcement actions under the Country Parks Ordinance (Cap. 208). Therefore, there is no statistics on warnings, prosecutions and convictions instituted. On the other hand, PlanD has since 2010 conducted a total of 90 inspections in enclaves included in Development Permission Area (DPA) Plans. In 2011, PlanD issued Enforcement Notice to 5 persons regarding two unauthorised developments, requiring the parties concerned to discontinue their unauthorised excavation works. The two unauthorised developments were discontinued afterwards and the land involved was reinstated according to the requirements in the Reinstatement Notice subsequently issued by PlanD.
- (d) Among the 77 enclaves, 23 of them had already been covered by Outline Zoning Plans (OZPs) before 2010. For the remaining 54 enclaves, Sai Wan, Kam Shan and Yuen Tun have become part of the Sai Kung East, Kam Shan and Tai Lam Country Parks respectively since 30 December 2013. Besides, AFCD plans to incorporate three country park enclaves, namely Fan Kei Tok, Sai Lau Kong and a site near Nam Shan into their respective country parks in 2014-15. They are assessed to be suitable based on the principles and criteria agreed by the Country and Marine Parks Board for designating new country parks or extending existing country parks. Besides, PlanD has so far included 25 enclaves into 18 DPA Plans, of which Sai Wan was incorporated into a country park and 6 enclaves covered by OZPs. The locations and area of the remaining 24 enclaves are set out in the **Annex**. AFCD will continue to conduct regular patrols in country parks including the enclaves. If suspected unauthorised development is detected in the enclaves, AFCD would refer such cases to relevant departments such as Lands Department and PlanD for follow-up action.
- (e) In the 2010-11 policy address, the Government undertook to include the 54 enclaves which had yet to be incorporated into country parks or protected by statutory plans into country parks or establish their proper uses through statutory planning, so as to meet the conservation and social development needs. For the enclaves listed in the **Annex**, AFCD is assessing their suitability for incorporation into country parks based on the established principles and criteria which include conservation value, landscape and aesthetic value, recreation potential, size, proximity to existing country parks, land status and land use compatibility. Views from the Country and Marine Parks Board on the designation proposals will be sought before consultation with stakeholders is conducted.

Name of enclave	Area (hectares)
Site near Chuen Lung	10
Site near Tso Kung Tam	9
Tsing Fai Tong	26
Sheung Tong	10
Sheung Fa Shan	26
Ping Shan Chai	15
Hung Shek Mun Tsuen	10
Lai Tau Shek	10
Chau Mei, Tai Tong, Chau Tau and Sha Tau	26
Tung Sam Kei	4
Nam Shan Tung	5
Lai Chi Chong	16
Cheung Sheung	16
Tai Hom	5
Wong Chuk Long	4
Site near Wong Mau Kok	3
Tsin Yue Wan	4
Tei Tong Tsai	15
Yi Tung Shan	7
Man Cheung Po	2
Site near Peaked Hill	5
Tai Ho and Site near Wong Kung Tin	277
Site near Ngau Wu Tok	5
Site near Tai Po Mei	6
Total area	516

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB032****(Question Serial No. 4351)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (700) General non-recurrent

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 1.20):

Regarding two items under the General non-recurrent expenditure, namely "536: Setting up a marine sanctuary in the Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau area" and "540: Artificial reefs project", please advise on the following:

- (a) In which year was the approved commitment of the above two items obtained?
- (b) What are the specific results and performance indicators of the above two items?
- (c) What are the specific work in the previous year, as well as the work plan and targets in 2014-15 regarding the above two items?
- (d) Since the above two items relate to long-term marine conservation, how will the Department continue with the work after the approved commitment is exhausted?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) The approved commitment of both items, i.e., "Item 536 Setting up a marine sanctuary in the Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau area" and "Item 540 Artificial Reefs Project" was created in 1996-97.
- (b) Item 536 is to cater for the capital expenditure required for the setting up of the Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau Marine Park such as the installation of marker buoys, purchase of patrol vessels and monitoring of the fisheries resources inside the Marine Park. Since the creation of the Item, the installation of marker buoys for the demarcation of the boundary of the Marine Park and the purchase of patrol vessels for the management and law enforcement work of the Marine Park have been completed. Regular fisheries resources surveys are conducted by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) to monitor the abundance of the prey for the Chinese white dolphin, which is important for its survival, in the Marine Park.

As regards Item 540, the provision is for the design, construction and deployment of artificial reefs (AR) and the related monitoring work in the waters of Hong Kong, with a view to enhancing marine resources, rehabilitating degraded habitats and protecting spawning and nursery grounds. Since the implementation of the AR Project, 668 units of AR with a total volume of 179,000 m³ have been deployed in Hong Kong waters. Monitoring surveys are being conducted by AFCD at suitable time intervals to gather information to assess the conditions and effectiveness of the deployed AR. According to the monitoring results, over 220 species of fish, including many high-valued species like groupers, breams, snappers and sweetlips, are using the AR for feeding, shelter and as spawning and nursery areas.

- (c) In 2013-14, surveys have been conducted by AFCD to monitor the fisheries resources within the Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau Marine Park, and to monitor the conditions of the deployed AR. We plan to conduct similar surveys for the same purposes in 2014-15.
- (d) The two items, which are general non-recurrent in nature, are for specific purposes as mentioned

above. Most of the works under the two projects have been completed.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB033****(Question Serial No. 0915)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 5):

According to the information provided by the Department, the number of hill fires attended to in Hong Kong increased from 15 in 2012 to 23 in 2013, and is estimated to increase to 27 in 2014. Would the Department please advise on the following:

- What were the details of and the expenditure involved in the promotional and educational initiatives for preventing hill fires over the past three years?
- Is the estimated increase in hill fires in 2014 when comparing to the past two years related to the effectiveness of the previous promotional and educational work? Will the Department strengthen such work in future? What is the estimated expenditure involved?
- What were the manpower and expenditure involved in the rehabilitation of areas damaged by hill fires over the past three years?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla

Reply:

- The promotional and educational campaigns on hill fire prevention organised by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) over the past three years included press release, broadcasting of Announcements of Public Interests on television and radio, dissemination of education leaflets, advice to villagers and country park visitors through village visits and patrol, etc. The Department also participated in publicity programmes on hill fire prevention coordinated by the Security Bureau and the Fire Services Department during the fire season and in the district fire safety events organized by various District Offices.

The expenditure of promotional and educational campaigns on hill fire prevention was absorbed in the overall budget for fire protection, and education and publicity of country parks. The participation of AFCD staff in the relevant activities was part of their routine duties. There is no separate breakdown in the expenditure on this item.

- The number of hill fires in 2014 is estimated basing on the average of the number of hill fires in the last three years.

Year	No. of Hill Fires
2011	42
2012	15
2013	23
Estimated number of hill fires in 2014: 27	

Enhanced public awareness and stepping up of preventive measures might account for the relatively low number of hill fires in recent years. In 2014-15, the Department has earmarked \$34 million for the prevention and fighting of hill fires in country parks and special areas.

- (c) The expenditure involved in tree planting for hill fire rehabilitation in country parks in the last three years are tabulated as follows:

Financial Year	Expenditure (HK\$ million)
2011-12	3.9
2012-13	3.7
2013-14 (revised estimate)	3.4

In recent years, we have deployed outside contractors to carry out tree planting work for rehabilitation of fire damaged sites. As the contractors were responsible for manpower provision, we have no records of the exact number of people involved. These contractors have been supervised and their performance closely monitored by AFCD. In 2013-14, 45 man-days had been assigned to perform such supervision functions.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB034****(Question Serial No. 1885)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 25):

What are the responsibilities of the two wild pig hunting teams in Hong Kong? Please set out by year the expenditure involved since the establishment of the hunting teams up to now. What were the details of the inter-departmental co-operation between the Department and the Police Force on wild pig hunting operations, and the expenditure involved upon the establishment of the hunting teams? What was the outcome of the operations conducted by the wild pig hunting teams over the past five years? Please set out by year the number of operations, hunting areas, reasons for hunting and method(s) of handling wild pig carcasses of the wild pig hunting teams, as well as the casualties incurred in hunting operations, etc.

Asked by: Hon. MO, Claudia

Reply:

The two civilian wild pig hunting teams were established in 1981 and 1995 respectively to address the nuisance and potential threats to the public caused by wild pigs. All the members are required to obtain an arms licence issued by the Hong Kong Police and a Special Permit under the Wild Animals Protection Ordinance issued by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD). No additional expenditure is involved in maintaining the establishment of the hunting teams as the members are all volunteers.

Operation of the wild pig hunting teams is justified only if there are confirmed public reports of persistent damage by wild pigs on a frequent basis or they are threatening human safety and property. Where warranted, AFCD would instruct the hunting teams to conduct hunting operations so as to abate the nuisance and to prevent the potential threats to the public safety from occurring. When the date and time of a hunting operation is confirmed, AFCD will inform the Hong Kong Police as well as the concerned District Office so that they would notify the villagers living near the location of the hunting operation. The hunting team leaders are also required to submit a hunting application to the relevant district office of the Hong Kong Police for approval before each operation. The carcass of the wild pigs shot must be disposed of at the animal carcass collection points of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department. AFCD's annual expenditure involved in arranging wild pig hunting is \$0.1 million. So far, there has not been any human casualty incurred in the hunting operations.

In the past five fiscal years, hunting operations arranged and wild pigs shot in the New Territories, Kowloon and Hong Kong Island and other outlying islands are summarized as follows:

Fiscal Year	New Territories Operations/wild pigs shot	Kowloon Operations/wild pigs shot	Hong Kong Island and other islands Operations/wild pigs shot	Total Operations/wild pigs shot
2009-10	118 / 57	2 / 0	9 / 10	129 / 67
2010-11	122 / 61	0 / 0	9 / 12	131 / 73
2011-12	83 / 26	0 / 0	13 / 10	96 / 36
2012-13	90 / 45	0 / 0	20 / 10	110 / 55
2013-14*	63 / 28	0 / 0	10 / 10	73 / 38

* up to 7 March 2014 only

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB035****(Question Serial No. 1888)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 28):

What were the details on the prosecutions taken against the import of products containing ingredients from bear gall bladders in contravention of the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance over the past three years? (Please set out information such as the places of origin, the types and quantities of products involved, as well as the penalties.)

Asked by: Hon. MO, Claudia

Reply:

A total of 2 prosecutions were taken against the import of products containing ingredients from bear gall bladders in contravention of the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance over the past three years. The details of the cases are as follows:

Year	Place of origin	Product(s) involved	Quantity	Penalty
2012	Mainland China	Wine containing ingredients from bear gall bladders (claimed)	3 bottles	A fine of \$1,000
2012	Mainland China	Wine containing ingredients from bear gall bladders (claimed)	1 bottle	A fine of \$500

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB036****(Question Serial No. 5193)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 62):

The Administration produced 685 200 seedlings in 2013 and will produce 530 000 seedlings in 2014, representing a substantial decrease. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department stated that it would focus more on the quality of planting so as to enhance the overall biodiversity values of plantations in country parks. What are the details in this regard? Please advise on the expenditure on fertilisers used for producing the seedlings under the estimate for 2014-15 and the amount involved in organic fertilisers?

Asked by: Hon. MO, Claudia

Reply:

Currently the tree planting programme in country parks puts more emphasis on enhancing the overall biodiversity and conservation value of country parks rather than soil erosion control alone. Fast growing exotic tree species used in the past have largely been replaced by native species which could provide better habitats and food sources for local fauna, including birds, amphibians, reptiles, mammals and insects. Owing to the lower germination rate, higher mortality, slower growth and more stringent growth requirements of these native species as compared with exotic species in general, more efforts and resources are required to collect quality viable seeds, investigate optimum growth conditions for each species, and take extra care of the seedlings after planting in country parks. For the existing exotic plantations in country parks, selected exotic trees will be progressively removed to give way for in-planting of native trees. It would help accelerate the transformation of these exotic plantations into natural forests. These measures would increase both the species complexity and richness of plantations through a gradual and natural succession towards rich biodiversity, and thereby lead to a greater diversity of wildlife in country parks.

The estimated expenditure on fertilizers for seedlings production is \$30,000 in 2014-15, of which \$23,000 will be used for purchasing organic fertilizers.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB037

(Question Serial No. 1493)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 32):

What is the area of the existing Lantau Country Parks? What is the percentage of such area in the total area of Lantau Island? What initiatives does the Administration have in place to conserve the Lantau Country Parks in future? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply:

The total area of the country parks on Lantau Island is 102 square kilometres. It represents about 70% of the land area of the island.

The conservation measures implemented in country parks include afforestation, habitat enhancement, hill-fire prevention and tree planting. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department will continue to carry out these conservation measures in country parks on Lantau Island. The estimated expenditure for these measures in 2014-15 is \$13.8 million.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB038

(Question Serial No. 1494)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 33):

What is the area of the existing country parks in the New Territories? What is the percentage of such area in the total area of the New Territories? What initiatives does the Administration have in place for the conservation of the New Territories in future? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. TO Kun-sun, James

Reply:

The total area of country parks in the New Territories is 311 square kilometres. It represents about 37% of the land area of the New Territories.

The conservation measures implemented in country parks include afforestation, habitat enhancement, hill-fire prevention and tree planting. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department will continue to carry out these conservation measures in country parks in the New Territories. The estimated expenditure for these measures in 2014-15 is \$42.3 million.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB039****(Question Serial No. 0926)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 3):

- (a) Regarding the curbing of illegal trade in endangered species in Hong Kong, what were the species and numbers involved respectively in the prosecutions taken over the past three years?
- (b) What is the establishment of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department in 2014-15 for the above enforcement work? What is the estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Pik-wan, Helena

Reply:

- (a) Among various types of animals and plants involved in prosecutions taken against illegal trade in endangered species, the more common ones include reptiles and their products, ivory, orchids, etc. The quantities of articles involved in the past three years are as follows:

	2011	2012	2013
Quantities of articles involved	70 kg and 2 000 pieces of animals/plants or their products	300 kg and 700 pieces of animals/plants or their products	500 kg and 900 pieces of animals/plants or their products

- (b) In 2014-15, a total of 34 staff, comprising 2 professional officers, 29 technical officers and 3 clerical staff, will be deployed to enforce against illegal trade in endangered species, including import and export control, shipment and shop inspection, and investigation of reported and suspected cases. The estimated expenditure involved is \$19.3 million.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB040

(Question Serial No. 1617)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 30):

Regarding the number of visitors to country parks as set out in the Indicators, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) By what medium and means were these figures obtained? Did the figures cover visitors of different types of hiking trails?
- (b) Has the Census and Statistics Department or other research agencies been commissioned to conduct surveys on the visitor volume of country parks? If yes, what are the details? If not, will the Administration consider conducting such surveys?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

- (a) The figures on the number of visitors to country parks per year were estimated based on the data collected from regular visitor counting surveys at major entry points and recreational sites of country parks at representative time. The figures covered visitors using different types of hiking trails in country parks.
- (b) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department has been conducting the visitor counting to estimate the number of visitors to country parks for many years. In 2012, the Department commissioned a marketing research consultancy firm to review the methodology for counting and estimation of visitors to country parks. The review concluded that the methodology adopted were sound and robust. The consultants also made some recommendations for improvement to the surveys which have been adopted by the Department.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB041

(Question Serial No. 1618)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 31):

Regarding the management of country parks, special areas, marine parks and marine reserves mentioned in this Programme, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) According to the departmental record, what was the number of hiking trails or country trails closed from 2011 to the summer of 2014 by private land owners owing to disputes that various types of hiking trails or country trails adjoin their private land? Please set out the trail sections and locations involved in such cases, as well as the suggested alternative routes.
- (b) Has the Administration requested the land owners concerned to reopen the said sections? If yes, what are the details of the reopening? If not, what are the reasons?
- (c) Has the Administration sought assistance from other government departments, e.g. the Lands Department, the Department of Justice, etc, to see if the land owners' practice is legal or an encroachment on government land? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

- (a) From 2011 to 2014 (till end of March), there were 3 cases of footpath blockage involving private land within country parks. The affected footpaths include Sai Kung MacLehose Trail Section 2 near Sai Wan Village, Lantau Trail Section 7 near Yi O Village and Ping Chau Country Trail at Tung Ping Chau.
- (b) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has liaised with the land owners of the cases with a view to resolving the blockage. In the Sai Wan case, AFCD has formulated a management plan which was supported in principle by the Country and Marine Parks Board at its meeting held on 24 February 2014. The Department will consult various stakeholders such as the villagers of Sai Wan and the Sai Kung District Council. It is aimed to implement the management plan in the coming year gradually with a view to enhancing the potential and facilities of Sai Wan as an attractive eco-tourism destination. The villagers of Sai Wan re-opened the said section on 23 March. In the Yi O case, an alternative footpath bypassing Yi O village to Tai O has been provided. With regard to the Ping Chau Country Trail, bypasses near the blocked sections are now available for access.
- (c) We will maintain communication with the stakeholders having regard to the specific circumstances of each case in a bid to reach consensus and settle disputes.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB042****(Question Serial No. 5036)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 91):

Regarding the management of country parks, special areas, marine parks and marine reserves under this Programme, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What were the numbers of staff deployed for management, patrol and law enforcement in each of the years from 2011 to 2014, with a breakdown by names of country parks, special areas, marine parks and marine reserves?
- (b) Apart from performing management, patrol and law enforcement duties by means of vehicles or launches, on foot, etc., does the Department use other means (e.g. patrolling by means of aircrafts) or forms of technical assistance (e.g. high-resolution aerial photo or satellite images)? If yes, please provide the details and advise on the expenditure involved. If not, are there any plans to introduce such means or technical aids?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

- (a) The number of staff involved in management, patrol and law enforcement in country parks, special areas, marine parks and marine reserves in 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 are as follows:

Year	Number of staff involved in management, patrol and law enforcement	
	Country parks and special areas	Marine parks and marine reserves
2011-12	757	63
2012-13	698	65
2013-14	693	63

The duties of the staff involved cover various country parks, special areas, marine parks and marine reserves. We do not have separate breakdown of manpower by individual country parks, special areas, marine parks and marine reserves.

- (b) Apart from performing management, patrol and law enforcement duties by means of vehicles or launches, on foot, etc., the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) also conducts aerial surveys using helicopter services provided by the Government Flying Services to monitor situation of various country parks and special areas on a need basis. AFCD also makes use of aerial photos for preliminary assessment of potential ecological impacts of development proposals inside country parks. As these activities form part of the routine management, patrol and law enforcement work of AFCD, there is no separate breakdown on the expenditure involved.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB043****(Question Serial No. 5037)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 92):

Regarding the management of country parks, special areas, marine parks and marine reserves mentioned under this Programme, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What was the respective expenditure on maintaining, repairing or constructing different types of hiking trails and facilities along them (e.g. pavilions for resting) in each of the years from 2011 to 2014?
- (b) What are the details on hiking trails that have been permanently closed for various reasons (e.g. landslides) according to the Department's records in 2013-14, including the locations of such trails and the country parks to which they belong? Are there any plans to restore such trails? If yes, what are the details on the plans and the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

- (a) The overall expenditure on maintaining, repairing and constructing hiking trails and recreational facilities of country parks in 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 is given in the following table. There is no separate breakdown on the expenditure for individual facilities.

Year	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14 (revised estimate)
Expenditure (\$ million)	65.9	70.5	71.0

- (b) Large areas of the original Lantau Trail Section 4 (near Sze Tsz Tau Shan and Muk Yue Shan in Lantau South Country Park) and part of the original Keung Shan Country Trail (near Keung Shan and Kwun Yam Shan in Lantau South Country Park) had been adversely affected by heavy rainstorms and serious landslides in June 2008. The affected areas are very steep and covered with loose soil and big rocks, and are considered to be unsafe for use by the public. For this reason, the trail sections affected have been permanently closed since 2008. Alternative routes linked to other nearby trails were identified and the required diversion works was completed in November 2008.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB044****(Question Serial No. 5038)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 93):

Regarding the prosecutions and enforcement actions on endangered species under this Programme, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) How many of the prosecution cases each year have been ended up with convictions and penalties since 2011 up to now? What was the amount of fines imposed or the term of imprisonment for each case?
- (b) How many of the prosecution cases over the past three years were related to the felling or smuggling of Agarwood (Incense Tree)? Please provide by year the information on the cases involved, numbers of prosecutions, convictions and penalties.
- (c) What were the numbers of reported cases of felling or smuggling Incense Tree within the Department's jurisdiction received in 2012 and 2013? Please set out the number of Incense Tree involved.

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

- (a) In the past three years, the statistics on the prosecutions, convictions and penalties in respect of the illegal trading of endangered species under the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586) are as follows:

Year	Number of prosecutions	Number of convictions	Maximum penalty	Minimum penalty
2011	117	113	Imprisonment for 6 months	A fine of \$100
2012	135	125	Imprisonment for 8 months	A fine of \$100
2013	161	158	Imprisonment for 4 months	A fine of \$100

- (b)-(c) To combat the illegal felling of Incense Trees, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department has been working closely with the Police in taking enforcement actions. Under the Forests and Countryside Ordinance (Cap. 96), any person who unlawfully fells or destroys any trees or growing plants on Government land is liable to a fine or imprisonment. Depending on the circumstances of individual cases, the Police may initiate prosecutions under the Theft Ordinance (Cap. 210), which imposes a heavier penalty, in a bid to achieve a stronger deterrent effect. Currently, offenders involved in illegal felling of Incense Tree are mainly prosecuted for criminal offences such as theft.

Detailed information on the criminal cases handled by the Police in 2012 and 2013 involving Incense Trees is provided below:

Year	Number of cases	Number of prosecutions	Penalties (imprisonment)	Weight of wood / estimated number of trees
2011	72	28	3 - 35 months	91.225 kg / 210
2012	67	29	9 - 45 months	70.509 kg / 99
2013	96	21	24 - 45 months	133.518 kg / 168

Note: number of convicted cases not available

There has been no prosecution related to the illegal import or export of Agarwood over the past five years.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB045

(Question Serial No. 5039)

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks
Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 94):

Regarding the management and extension of marine parks under this Programme, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) The expenditure and manpower involved in each of the past three years for handling and following up the preparation of draft maps of the proposed Southwest Lantau Marine Park and Soko Islands Marine Park by the Country and Marine Parks Authority in accordance with the Marine Parks Ordinance (Cap. 476); and
- (b) Whether there are any plans to formally submit the draft maps of the proposed Southwest Lantau Marine Park and Soko Islands Marine Park to the Legislative Council for approval in the coming 12 months.

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

- (a) On South Lantau and the outlying islands, the Government has planned to designate the area around Southwest Lantau and Soko Islands as marine parks to enhance the protection of Chinese white dolphins. In 2009, we have consulted the relevant fishermen organisations, Tai O Rural Committee and South Lantao Rural Committee again on the two proposed marine parks. These organisations expressed reservation over the management measures to be implemented for the marine parks, e.g. speed limits of vessels, and worried that the designation of the new marine parks would further reduce the fishing grounds in Hong Kong waters, and they therefore did not support the proposals. In this connection, we need to continue to follow up and fully discuss with the stakeholders on the arrangements before taking forward the plan to designate the two proposed marine parks. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department has been conducting pre-designation patrols and surveys in the past three years in order to gather the necessary information for the preparation of management plans when the two areas are designated as marine parks. The information collected would also be useful to address the concerns previously raised by the relevant fishermen organisations and Rural Committees. \$1.4 million and four staff were allocated each year for the preliminary preparatory work over the past three years.
- (b) In light of the current situation, we do not plan to proceed with the statutory procedures for the designation of the two proposed marine parks at Southwest Lantau and Soko Islands in the coming year. We will continue to conserve and monitor the population of Chinese white dolphins in the waters around Fan Lau and Soko Islands through the ongoing Conservation Programme for Chinese white dolphins.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB046****(Question Serial No. 5040)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 95):

Regarding matters on country park enclaves (enclaves), please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) In determining whether enclaves are regulated by means of statutory plans or inclusion into country parks, has the Country and Marine Parks Authority consulted the Country and Marine Parks Board for each enclave? Please provide the details of all the enclaves involved and of the meetings concerned since 2010 up to now.
- (b) What were the respective manpower and expenditure involved in processing, assessing and implementing the inclusion of enclaves into country parks in each of the past three years?
- (c) Please provide the information on the enclaves which are not covered by statutory plans or included into country parks, but will be sorted out in 2014-15, including the locations, areas, and respective country parks involved, etc.

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

- (a) The Country and Marine Parks Board (CMPB) meetings relevant to the incorporation of enclaves into country parks are set out in the following table:

Dates of CMPB meetings	Purposes
24 May 2011	To seek members' views on the updated principles and criteria for designating country parks and proposed measures for protecting country park enclaves
11 October 2011	To seek members' views on the proposal to incorporate Sai Wan into the Sai Kung East Country Park
22 February 2012	To report the progress on the proposed designation of Sai Wan as part of the Sai Kung East Country Park
13 June 2012	To report the progress on the proposed designation of Sai Wan, Kam Shan and Yuen Tun as part of the country parks; and to seek members' views on the note relating to the use or development of land within a country park enclave after the enclave is included into a country park
8 August 2012	To report the progress on the proposed designation of Sai Wan, Kam Shan and Yuen Tun as part of the country parks, and to seek members' views on invoking the statutory procedures under the Country Parks Ordinance on the designation proposals
17 October 2012	To seek members' views on the draft replacement maps of the Sai Kung East Country Park, Kam Shan Country Park and Tai Lam Country Park
7-8 February 2013	To hear objections to the draft replacement maps of the Sai Kung East Country Park, Kam Shan Country Park and Tai Lam Country Park.

Dates of CMPB meetings	Purposes
23 May 2013	To report the assessment on enclaves at the Plover Cove Country Park
24 February 2014	To seek members' views on the proposal to incorporate Fan Kei Tok, Sai Lau Kong and the site near Nam Shan into country parks

Based on the criteria and principles agreed by CMPB for designating new country parks or extending existing country parks, the Country and Marine Parks Authority (Authority) would assess each enclave for its suitability for incorporation into country parks. For enclaves assessed to be suitable, the Authority would consult CMPB before invoking the statutory procedures for their designation. Since 2010, the Authority has consulted CMPB on six enclaves assessed to be suitable for incorporation into country parks, namely Sai Wan, Yuen Tun, Kam Shan, Fan Kei Tok, Sai Lau Kong, and the site near Nam Shan. CMPB had also been informed of another six enclaves assessed to be not suitable for incorporation into the country parks. They are Hoi Ha, Pak Lap, Pak Tam Au, So Lo Pun, Tin Fu Tsai and To Kwa Peng.

- (b) The assessment on the suitability of enclaves for incorporation into country parks and the designation form part of the existing work of the staff of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD). There is no breakdown for the manpower and expenditure involved.
- (c) In 2014-15, AFCD plans to incorporate three country park enclaves, namely Fan Kei Tok, Sai Lau Kong and the site near Nam Shan, into their respective country parks. They are assessed to be suitable based on the principles and criteria agreed by CMPB for designating new country parks or extending existing country parks. The Department will consult the stakeholders on the proposals first, and then initiate the statutory procedures for the designation. Their respective area and the country parks into which they will be incorporated are as follows:

Enclaves	Country parks into which the enclave will be incorporated	Area (hectares)
Fan Kei Tok	Plover Cove Country Park	4.6
Sai Lau Kong	Plover Cove Country Park	1.9
The site near Nam Shan	Lantau South Country Park	5.9

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB047****(Question Serial No. 3097)**

Head: (22) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation (Alan WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 1):

Regarding “the management and protection of country parks, special areas, marine parks and marine reserves for the purpose of nature conservation, recreation, nature based tourism and education”, would the Administration inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) Please set out in tabular form the respective numbers of visitors went to country parks, marine parks and the Hong Kong Global Geopark of China over the past three years (2011-12 to 2013-14). Among them, what are the respective percentages of local residents, Mainland visitors and overseas visitors?
- (b) Are the ancillary facilities provided to visitors in country parks, marine parks and the Hong Kong Global Geopark of China adequate? Are there any areas in which allocation of resources is required for enhancements?
- (c) Please set out in tabular form the public education and publicity programmes held by the Administration over the past three years (2011-12 to 2013-14) in promoting nature conservation. What are the details on the financial provision?
- (d) In 2014-15, how will the Administration make use of the funding to promote ecotourism in various districts of Hong Kong in collaboration with local communities and the tourism industry?

Asked by: Hon. YIU Si-wing

Reply:

- (a) The numbers of visitors to country parks, marine parks and the Hong Kong Global Geopark of China (Geopark) from 2011 to 2013 are as follow:

Calendar Year	Number of visitors to country parks (including Geopark) (million)	Number of visitors to marine parks (million)
2011	13.4	0.23
2012	12.9	0.19
2013	11.4	0.17

Our visitor surveys do not distinguish between local and non-local visitors. Therefore, such statistics are not available.

- (b) The ancillary facilities provided in the country parks, marine parks and Geopark such as trails, directional signs, location maps, recreational facilities and visitor centres are in general adequate to facilitate the visitors to enjoy the natural environment and to conduct ecotourism. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will continue to maintain these facilities and allocate resources for enhancement where appropriate. In 2014-15, a new visitor centre in Sai Kung named Hong Kong Global Geopark Volcano Discovery Centre will be opened to provide better services for visitors going to the geosites in Sai Kung.

- (c) In the past three years (2011-12 to 2013-14), AFCD conducted a series of country parks, marine parks and Geopark activities for the public, students and visitors. These activities included a series of learning activities for students and nature appreciation activities for the general public such as school visits, field studies, guided tours at Visitor Centres and nature trails, volunteer scheme, the Marine Parks Ambassador Scheme, tree planting, coastal clean-up events as well as roving exhibitions, seminars and workshops. The expenditure involved is as follow:

Year	Expenditure (\$ million)
2011-12	28.3
2012-13	24.8
2013-14 (revised estimate)	26.6

- (d) In 2014-15, AFCD will continue to collaborate with district councils and Hong Kong Tourism Board (HKTB) to promote nature-based eco-tourism activities. For the promotion of the Geopark as a destination for ecotourism, AFCD will carry out a variety of publicity activities including (a) setting up new visitor centre and new exhibits; (b) upskilling of the Geopark guides through continuous training; (c) engaging local communities for sustainable geotourism projects; (d) production of multi-platform promotion materials; and (e) overseas promotion through the international platform of the Global Geoparks Network and in collaboration with the HKTB.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB048

(Question Serial No. 3712)

Head: (33) Civil Engineering and Development Department
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational Expenses
Programme: (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials
Controlling Officer: Director of Civil Engineering and Development (C K HON)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 330):

1. Last year, what were the total expenditures on delivering public fill for beneficial reuse in the Mainland? What was the average expenditure for delivering each tonne of materials? At present, what are the receiving locations of the fill in the Mainland?
2. According to paragraph 48, the Civil Engineering and Development Department continued to deliver surplus public fill for beneficial reuse in the Mainland and to liaise with the Mainland authority to enhance the scheme of delivering surplus public fill for beneficial reuse in the Mainland. What does the abovementioned "enhance" refer to? Please provide the detailed and involved expenditures;
3. According to paragraph 50, the government will review the scheme of cross-boundary delivery of surplus fill for beneficial reuse in the Mainland. What are the aspects included in the review? Please provide the details of review and the working timetable.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

1. The estimated expenditure in managing public fill by the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) is \$749.5 million in 2013-14. This mainly includes the cost of the delivery of public fill to the Mainland (Taishan in Guangdong Province), handling of public fill for use in local projects, operation and maintenance of the public fill reception facilities and the associated staff and administrative expenditures. As the delivery of surplus public fill to the Mainland and supply of public fill for use in local projects are undertaken by the same contractor, we do not have separate breakdown of the expenditures involved.
- 2-3. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government and the relevant Mainland authorities hold joint liaison meeting annually to review the actual operation of delivering public fill to Taishan in the preceding year and discuss the delivery quantity in the coming year. To enhance the work on the cross-boundary delivery of surplus public fill, we also liaise with the relevant Mainland authorities to discuss issues, including coordination of vessel operation and compliance checking to enable a smoother and more efficient delivery process. As such liaison and coordination work is part of the day-to-day duties of CEDD, we do not have separate breakdown of the expenditure involved.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB049****(Question Serial No. 2282)**

Head: (33) Civil Engineering and Development Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer: Director of Civil Engineering and Development (C K HON)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 20):

1. In 2014-15, the public fill supplied to local projects substantially increases due to the increase in demand. What are the items involved in the estimates and what are the manpower establishment and expenditures of each item? Please reply in table form as follows.

Project	Manpower establishment involved	Expenditures involved

2. Has the Administration assessed the adverse effects on the residents in Tseung Kwan O where the fill bank is located due to the increase in logistic transport attributed to the increase in fill demand? Has the Administration formulate mitigation measures in this financial year? If yes, what are the expenditures involved?

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, GaryReply:

1. In 2014, it is anticipated that the public fill for local use will mainly be used in the reclamation and site formation works of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge and related projects. The respective contractors will be responsible for collecting the public fill from the fill banks by marine transport. Therefore, increase in demand of delivering public fill for use in local projects has no direct impact on the manpower deployed in the management of the fill banks.
2. Delivery of public fill for use in local projects is mainly by marine transport, which has minimal impact on the road traffic in the vicinity of the fill banks. We will ensure the operation of the Tseung Kwan O fill bank complies with the relevant environmental protection legislations, and have implemented various mitigation measures, including enhancing the washing and cleansing of Wan Po Road and the nearby areas, with a view to minimising the impact on adjacent residents. Since the mitigation measures are carried out by the fill bank contractor as part of their duties and responsibilities, we do not have cost breakdown for the measures.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB050

(Question Serial No. 1303)

Head: (33) Civil Engineering and Development Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials
Controlling Officer: Director of Civil Engineering and Development (C K HON)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 18):

The public fill delivered to the Mainland in 2014 is estimated to be 11 million tonnes. In this connection, what is the estimated expenditure involved? Besides, the public fill supplied to local projects for their use is estimated to be 4 million tonnes. Which projects will such fill be used? And, what are the expenditures involved?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Che-cheung

Reply:

The Civil Engineering and Development Department will spend \$885.1 million in the management of public fill in 2014-15. This expenditure covers costs for the delivery of public fill to the Mainland and for use in local projects, operation and maintenance of the public fill reception facilities and associated staff and administrative costs. In 2014, the public fill delivered for use in local projects is estimated to be 4 million tonnes. The fill will mainly be used in the reclamation and site formation works of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge and related projects.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB051****(Question Serial No. 1174)**

Head: (33) Civil Engineering and Development Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer: Director of Civil Engineering and Development (C K HON)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 9):

According to the 2014-15 financial provision under different programmes, the estimate of Programme (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials is \$885 million, the highest allocation among all, accounting for 41.7% of the total provision. Compared with the 2013-14 revised estimate of \$749 million, the estimate under this Programme increases 18.1%. In this connection:

1. The 2013-14 revised estimate is \$749 million, 14.9% lower than the original estimate. What are the reasons?
2. In the past 3 financial years, what were the respective changes in expenditures in relation to the handling of additional surplus public fill in the cross-boundary delivery and the handling of additional public fill supplied to local projects?
3. Have other measures and specific options been considered and studied to reduce the related expenditures? If yes, what were the measures and options involved? What were the details and results? If no, what were the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. TSE Wai-chuen, Tony

Reply:

1. The revised estimate for 2013-14 is lower than the original estimate mainly due to the quantity of public fill delivery being less than the original forecast.
2. In the past 3 financial years, the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) spent about \$700 million each year in the management of public fill. Details of the expenditures are as follows -

Financial Year	Expenditures
2011-12	\$759.8 million (actual)
2012-13	\$718.1 million (actual)
2013-14	\$749.5 million (revised estimate)

The above expenditures mainly covered costs for the delivery of public fill to the Mainland and for use in local projects, the operation and maintenance of the public fill reception facilities, and the associated staff and administrative expenditures. The changes in yearly expenditures mainly reflect the actual delivery quantity of public fill. Since the delivery of public fill to the Mainland and the supply of public fill to local projects are undertaken by one contractor, we do not have cost breakdown for individual operations.

3. The CEDD is looking into the long-term strategy and options for handling surplus fill, which include reusing surplus fill through reclamation projects outside Victoria Harbour.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB052

(Question Serial No. 0974)

Head: (39) Drainage Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Sewage Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (CHUNG Kum-wah, Daniel)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 9):

The seawater odour in Tsuen Wan has plagued residents for years and the Administration has failed to come up with an effective solution. In recent years, the Administration has proposed to provide four additional dry weather flow interceptors in the district under the project of "Upgrading of West Kowloon and Tsuen Wan Sewerage", but the works have not yet commenced. In this connection, please advise on:

- (1) the advance works, the progress and expenditure involved for the provision of dry weather flow interceptors in Tsuen Wan district in the past;
- (2) the works, the progress and expenditure involved for the project in the future.

Asked by: Hon CHAN Han-pan

Reply:

- (1) The Drainage Services Department is making preparation for engaging engineering consultants to carry out investigation and design for the improvements to the sewerage in West Kowloon and Tsuen Wan (including the provision of the above four dry weather flow interceptors). We expect that the investigation and design work can commence in the later half of 2014 at the earliest.
- (2) We plan to take forward the project in phases. Phase 1 works will include the construction of four dry weather flow interceptors in Tsuen Wan and four others in West Kowloon, and associated sewerage improvement works. The programme and cost of the project will be examined under the consultancy study.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB053****(Question Serial No. 4345)**

Head: (39) Drainage Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (CHUNG Kum-wah, Daniel)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 56):

1. How many resources will be allocated for the rural sewerage works by Drainage Services Department in 2014-15? Please provide in detail the districts and villages involved, as well as the implementation programme and progress of the works.
2. Regarding the rural sewerage works in the vicinity of Sham Tseng, what are the progress and expenditure involved? And regarding the sewerage works in Tsuen Wan District, what are the progress and expenditure involved? Will these sewerage improvement works further improve the seawater pollution in Tsuen Wan District this year?

Asked by:Hon CHAN Han-pan

Reply:

1. The estimated expenditure in 2014-15, the districts and villages involved, and the implementation programme of the village sewerage works undertaken by the Drainage Services Department (DSD) are summarised below :

District	No. of villages	Names of villages	Estimate 2014-15 (\$ million)	Works commencement date	Expected completion date
Islands	14	O Tsai, Tai Peng, Yung Shue Long New Village, Yung Shue Long Old Village, Tai Shan East, Tai Shan Central, Tai Shan West, Tai Yuen Village, Po Wah Yuen, Sha Po New Village, Sha Po Old Village, Ko Long, Wang Tong and Yue Kwong Chuen	221	07/2012	Mid 2018
North	17	Nam Wa Po, Wai Tau Tsuen, Fu Tei Pai, Ping Kong, Tai Wo, Sheung Tam Shui Hang, Ha Tam Shui Hang, Muk Min Tau, Tsiu Hang, Nga Yiu Tau, San Tsuen, Wu Shek Kok, Yim Tso Ha, Shan Tsui, Tai Hang, Kau Lung Hang San Wai and Kau Lung Hang Lo Wai	202	11/2011	Mid 2017
Sai Kung	12	Kap Pin Long, Nam Shan, Mau Ping New Village, Wong Chuk Shan San Tsuen, Pak Kong Au, Pak Kong, San Uk, Tai Ping Village, Fei Ngo Shan Road, Lung Wo Tsuen, Wo Tong Kong and Sha Kok Mei	85	01/2013	Early 2017
Tolo Harbour (Sha Tin)	43	Kau To, Kwai Tei New Village, Tin Liu, Tsok Pok Hang, Siu Lek Yuen, Sha Tin Fishermen's New Village, Sha Tin Heights,	248	02/2009	Mid 2017

/ Tai Po)		Shan Tong, Ha Wun Yiu, Fui Yiu Ha, Ngau Pei Sha, She Shan Tsuen, San Tong, Tai Mong Che, Ma Po Mei, Shui Wo, Pak Ngau Shek Ha Tsuen, Pak Ngau Shek Sheung Tsuen, Ng Tung Chai, Chai Kek, Wo Liu, Ping Long, Tai Om, Sha Pa, Po Sam Pai, San Tau Kok, Lai Pek Shan San Tsuen, Ting Kok, Sheung Wo Che, Kau Liu Ha, Hang Ha Po, San Uk Pai, Fong Ma Po, San Uk Tsai, Chung Uk Tsuen, Tong Min Tsuen, Lung A Pai, Ko Tin Hom, Tin Liu Ha, Chuen Shui Tseng, Wo Tong Pui, Lam Tsuen San Tsuen and Pak Tin Kong			
Tuen Mun	4	Tsing Shan Tsuen, Tseng Tau Sheung Tsuen, Tuen Tze Wai and Tsing Chuen Wai	184	12/2009	Late 2015
Yuen Long	6	Nam Pin Wai, Sai Pin Wai, Tai Tong Tsuen, Tsoi Uk Tsuen, Wong Uk Tsuen and Ying Lung Wai	40	09/2012	Mid 2016
Total	96		980		

2. In 2009, the DSD completed two Public Works Programme (PWP) items, namely nos. 4126DS “Sham Tseng sewerage stage 3” and 4052DS “Ting Kau sewerage stage 2”, to provide public sewerage for a total of 10 villages in the Sham Tseng and Ting Kau areas. Moreover, the DSD completed in 2002 the PWP item no. 4218DS, “Sham Tseng sewerage, stage 2 phase 1”, which includes the construction of a section of a trunk sewer and the provision of public sewerage for two other villages in Sham Tseng. The total approved project estimate for these three projects is about \$268 million.

Besides, the DSD engaged engineering consultants in January 2014 to commence the investigation and design work for the provision of sewerage for 20 villages in Tsuen Wan District. Currently, the DSD is making preparation for engaging engineering consultants to carry out investigation and design work for upgrading the public sewerage and construction of 4 dry weather flow interceptors in Tsuen Wan District. The investigation and design work is expected to commence in the later half of 2014 at the earliest. The consultancy study will include the preparation of an implementation programme and a cost estimate for the project.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB054****(Question Serial No. 4979)**

Head: (39) Drainage Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (CHUNG Kum Wah, Daniel)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 626):

Please provide a breakdown by 18 District Council districts of the volume of sewage collected and treated, and the expenditure and manpower involved each year over the past 5 years in Hong Kong.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The annual volume of sewage collected and treated by Drainage Services Department over the past 5 years are summarized below. Since the sewage catchments of the treatment facilities do not totally match with the boundaries of the District Councils, we do not have a breakdown by District Council districts of the volume of sewage treated. Figures showing the volume of sewage treated in the table below are listed under three regions, namely, Hong Kong & Outlying Islands, Kowloon and New Territories.

Year \ Region	Hong Kong & Outlying Islands (million m³)	Kowloon (million m³)	New Territories (million m³)	Total (million m³)
2009	254	456	268	978
2010	260	454	264	978
2011	266	451	262	979
2012	276	460	271	1 007
2013	272	464	277	1 013

The overall annual expenditure on operation and maintenance and manpower involved in sewage collection and treatment over the past 5 financial years are summarized below. Given the sewage treatment facilities and connected sewerage systems are closely linked and of different scales, the Department has shared resources and a breakdown by districts of the manpower and expenditure in relation to “sewage collection” and “sewage treatment” is not available.

Year	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14 Revised estimate
Operation & Maintenance Expenditure (\$ million)	1,109.4	1,172.4	1,203.5	1,249.3	1,279.9
Manpower (number of staff)	941	919	936	944	947

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB055

(Question Serial No. 4986)

Head: (39) Drainage Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Sewage Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (CHUNG Kum-wah, Daniel)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 395):

The "National 12th Five-Year Plan" has stated clearly that Hong Kong has an advantage in terms of sewage treatment and water pollution management. As limited resources were allocated for the environment and conservation work through the Innovation and Technology Fund by the Administration in the past, will more resources be made available in the future? Of these increased resources, how much will be allocated for water treatment and management?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

DSD has all along actively allocated resources on research and development to improve the technology and efficiency of sewage treatment facilities and reduce their carbon footprints. We have also actively explored the compact sewage treatment technology with an aim to construct new sewage treatment facilities with minimal land required, so as to meet the ever-increasing demand for sewage treatment. Currently, there are 19 research projects in progress, ranging from sewage treatment, use of energy and odour treatment. We will continue to conduct researches in future, as necessary.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB056****(Question Serial No. 4311)**

Head: (39) Drainage Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (CHUNG Kum-wah, Daniel)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 45):

In Programme (2), regarding the operation of existing sewage treatment works in Hong Kong, please advise this Committee of:

- (1) the current monthly treatment capacity and energy consumption of installations at the 3 sewage treatment works in Sha Tin, Sai Kung and Sham Tseng, as well as the staff establishment and expenditure involved in daily operation and maintenance of these sewage treatment works;
- (2) the staff establishment and expenditure involved, as well as anticipated work progress of the investigation and design for the relocation of Sha Tin sewage treatment works to caverns;
- (3) the staff establishment and expenditure involved, as well as anticipated work progress of the feasibility studies on the relocation of Sai Kung sewage treatment works and Sham Tseng sewage treatment works to caverns;
- (4) the rank, scope of duty, expenditure and anticipated period for open recruitment of the 8 posts created in 2014-15.

Asked by:Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply:

- (1) The current monthly treatment capacity and energy consumption of installations at the 3 sewage treatment works in Sha Tin, Sai Kung and Sham Tseng, as well as the staff establishment and expenditure involved in daily operation and maintenance are as follows:

	Monthly treatment capacity (m ³)	Energy consumption in 2013 (kWh)	Staff establishment (no. of posts)	Total expenditure in 2013 (\$ million)
Sha Tin sewage treatment works	7,128,000	44,303,000	85	138
Sai Kung sewage treatment works	277,000	2,282,000	8	12
Sham Tseng sewage treatment works	297,000	1,993,000	18	10

- (2) Subject to funding approval by the Finance Committee, the Drainage Services Department plans to engage engineering consultants in the later half of 2014 to commence the investigation and design for the relocation of Sha Tin sewage treatment works (STW) to caverns for completion in phases in late 2022, at an estimated cost of \$637.7 million in money-of-the-day (MOD) prices.

The investigation and design work will be managed by a Chief Engineer, a Senior Engineer and an Engineer on part-time basis, supported by six time-limited professional-grade staff.

- (3) Subject to funding approval by the Finance Committee, the Drainage Services Department plans to engage engineering consultants in the later half of 2014 to carry out two feasibility studies on the relocation of Sham Tseng and Sai Kung STWs to caverns. It will take 2 years to complete the studies and the estimated costs are \$39.2 million and \$40.6 million in MOD prices respectively.

The two feasibility studies will be managed by a Chief Engineer, a Senior Engineer and an Engineer on part-time basis, supported by one time-limited professional-grade staff.

- (4) Details of the 8 new posts are as follows:

Rank	No. of new posts (2014-15)	Scope of duty	Notional annual mid-point salary value (\$)
Senior Engineer	1	To provide professional services for the planning and development of sewerage infrastructure projects	1,153,800
Engineer/ Assistant Engineer	2		1,277,040
Senior Mechanical Inspector	1	To provide technical support for the operation and maintenance of electrical and mechanical facilities	738,000
Electrical Inspector	1		567,480
Works Supervisor II	2		472,200
Engineering Laboratory Technician I	1	To provide technical support for laboratory services	472,140
Total	8		4,680,660

Open recruitment exercise for the posts is tentatively scheduled for the 2nd quarter of this financial year.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB057****(Question Serial No. 5485)**

Head: (39) Drainage Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (CHUNG Kum-wah, Daniel)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 60):

How many appeal cases of sewage charge and trade effluent surcharge were there in 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14? 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, Tommy

Reply:

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 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 are as follows:

Notes:

- As there is a time lag for processing the applications, the number of applications approved does not correspond to the number of applications received within the same financial year.
- As we received the majority of TES rate reassessment applications (many of which are deferred renewal applications) in the last

		2011-12	2012-13	2013-14 (for 11 months only)
Reassessment of TES rate	Number of applications received			
	– All trades	191	215	254
	– Restaurant trade	137	202	238
	Number of applications approved ⁽¹⁾			
	– All trades	229	99 ⁽²⁾	168
– Restaurant trade	172	92 ⁽²⁾	158	
Reassessment of DF	Number of applications received			
	– All trades	25	11	26
	– Restaurant trade	0	0	0
	Number of applications approved ⁽¹⁾			
	– All trades	8	18	7
– Restaurant trade	0	0	0	

few months of 2012-13, many of them were approved in 2013-14. The number of TES rate reassessment applications approved was therefore relatively low in 2012-13 due to the special circumstances as explained above.

It normally takes 3 to 4 months to process a case.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB058****(Question Serial No. 5486)**

Head: (39) Drainage Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (CHUNG Kum-wah, Daniel)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 61):

Over the past 3 years (from 2011-12 to 2013-14), 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 expenditure involved and the number of staff required for the repair and maintenance of sewage treatment facilities in 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 are listed below:

	2011-12 (Actual)	2012-13 (Actual)	2013-14 (Revised estimate)
(a) Expenditure for repair and maintenance works (\$ million)	601	610	614
(i) Sewage treatment works (\$ million)	422	422	421
(ii) Sewers (\$ million)	179	188	193
(b) Number of staff ^{Note}	605	602	608

Note:

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

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB059****(Question Serial No. 0871)**

Head: (39) Drainage Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (CHUNG Kum Wah, Daniel)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Asked by: Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Question (Member Question No. 14):

(1) In 2013-14, how many burst incidents of sewers occurred due to ageing of the network? For how many years have each of these sewers been used before the incident occurred?

(2) What measures will be taken this year to tackle the problem of bursts and leaks? What are the expenditure and manpower involved?

(3) Please list out the total lengths, current age, overall average age and the maintenance cost of sewers in the territory.

Reply:

(1) In 2013-14, there were 588 cases of bursting or leakage of public sewers that required rehabilitation works. The burst or leaking pipes had been in operation from 10 years to more than 40 years.

(2) The Drainage Services Department inspects all existing sewers under a systematic maintenance programme. Rehabilitation works to the sewers will be carried out when defects or damages are identified in the inspections. In 2013-14, the estimated expenditure was about \$77 million and 102 staff were involved.

(3) The Drainage Services Department is managing about 1 700 kilometres of sewers.

The age distribution of the sewers of this department is estimated as follows –

Age of sewers	Proportion against total length
Less than 5 years	6%
5 to < 10 years	6%
10 to < 15 years	11%
15 to < 20years	10%
20 to < 25years	14%
25 to < 30years	12%
30 to < 35years	10%
35 to < 40years	8%
40 to < 45years	6%
45 to < 50years	6%
50 years or above	11%

The overall average age of the sewers is about 28 years.

In 2013-14, the total estimated expenditure on repair and maintenance of sewers is about \$193 million,

which includes the estimates at part 2 above, as well as the estimated expenditure on regular cleansing, clearing and replacement of sewers. This department does not keep the statistics of maintenance expenses broken down by the age of sewers.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB060

(Question Serial No. 4291)

Head: (39) Drainage Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Sewage Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (CHUNG Kum-wah, Daniel)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 67):

According to Programme 3, the Administration will continue to operate and maintain sewer systems and sewage treatment facilities in a cost-effective manner, paying particular attention to the odour issue in the coming year. Please advise:

1. What is the progress of maintenance of sewer systems and sewage treatment facilities this year? Please advise on the locations, expenditures and manpower involved. Has the odour issue been improved? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons? What are the numbers of complaints in relation to the odour issue of sewer systems and sewage treatment facilities received by the Administration over the past three years? Has the Administration identified any odour blackspots of sewer systems and sewage treatment facilities based on these complaints? If yes, what are the details? Will the Administration take actions against them in particular?
2. The Administration will continue to operate and maintain sewer systems and sewage treatment facilities in the coming year. Please advise on the details, locations, manpower and expenditures involved.

Asked by: Hon. MAK Mei-kuen, Alice

Reply:

1. Every year the Drainage Services Department (DSD) carry out regular inspection and maintenance works for sewerage systems and sewage treatment facilities in various districts. The work progress of this year is on schedule. The expenditure was \$614 million and 608 staff were involved. In 2011, 2012 and 2013, the numbers of complaints received by DSD in relation to the odour of sewerage systems and sewage treatment facilities were 11, 3 and 5 respectively.

DSD has adopted various effective measures to reduce the odour nuisance from the sewage. These measures include:

- (a) dosing of chemicals like calcium nitrate, ferric chloride and other deodourising agents to control the generation of odour from sewage;
- (b) covering up of channels and sewage treatment facilities which are likely to emit odour;
- (c) installing deodourisation systems like activated carbon system, chemical scrubbers and biofilter at appropriate locations; and
- (d) cleansing of sewer systems regularly.

These measures, together with frequent and close monitoring, have helped alleviate the odour issue. The number of odour complaints has shown a declining trend in recent years.

2. DSD will continue to effectively deploy resources to carry out regular inspection and maintenance works for sewerage systems and sewage treatment facilities in various districts, in order to ensure the proper operation of existing sewage collection, treatment and disposal facilities. It is expected the manpower and expenditure involved in the coming year will be similar to that of this year.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB061

(Question Serial No. 0827)

Head: (39) Department of Drainage Services
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Sewage Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (CHUNG Kum-wah, Daniel)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Environment

Question (Member Question No. 41):

Has the Administration considered upgrading the 6 dry weather flow interceptors in Yau Tsim Mong District and 8 others at Nam Cheong Street, and providing new-type automatic dry weather flow interceptors at the outlets of the box culvert at Cherry Street and Hoi Fan Road so as to prevent sewage from flowing into the New Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter, as well as the waters off the Hampton Place and The Long Beach from the vicinity of Nam Cheong Street respectively? If yes, what are the completion dates and the expenditures involved?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Pik-wan, Helena

Reply: The design work for the provision of automatic dry weather flow interceptors (DWFIs) at the outlet of the box culvert at Cherry Street has commenced in August 2012 and is now near completion. The estimated expenditure for the design work is about \$13.5 million. Upon completion of the design work, we will prepare the implementation programme and the cost estimate for the project and then seek funding approval from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council in accordance with the Public Works Programme procedures.

There is currently no plan to provide DWFIs at the outlet of the box culvert at Hoi Fan Road. However, the Drainage Services Department is now making preparation for engaging engineering consultants to carry out investigation and design work for a sewerage improvement project which includes the provision of eight DWFI at the upstream of the box culvert along Nam Cheong Street and six others in Yau Tsim Mong District, as well as other sewerage upgrading works in West Kowloon. The investigation and design work is expected to commence in the later half of 2014 at the earliest.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB062

(Question Serial No. 1526)

Head: (39) Drainage Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Sewage Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (CHUNG Kum-wah, Daniel)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 6):

Regarding the work of “commencing the investigation and design for the upgrading of the Kwun Tong preliminary treatment works”, please advise on the details and estimated expenditure involved. When will the design work be completed for commencement of the project? As the preliminary treatment works occupies the waterfront area, will adjustments be made to the design for the upgrading works so as to tie in with the project “Energizing Kowloon East” and release part of land along the waterfront?

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai

Reply:

To cope with the future demand in the district, there is a need to enhance the sewage treatment capacity of the Kwun Tong Preliminary Treatment Works. We are now in the process of engaging engineering consultants to carry out the investigation and design work for the project. The investigation and design work is expected to commence in April 2014 for completion in 2016, at an estimated expenditure of about \$13.3 million. The construction programme and cost of the project will be examined under the consultancy study.

The Drainage Services Department will endeavour to make adjustments to suit the planning of the project “Energizing Kowloon East”, and will request the engineering consultants to give priority to examining the feasibility of the proposed release of a portion of the land along the waterfront.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB063****(Question Serial No. 4913)**

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

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

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (CHAN Fan)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 171):

Regarding the work to ensure the enforcement of electrical and gas safety requirements, please advise:

- (a) The work details and the manpower and expenditure involved in each of the past five years;
- (b) The number of cases in each of the past five years where inappropriate work procedures were found with the LPG supply company concerned being advised to implement improvement measures and follow-up actions in accordance with the legislation or relevant regulations. Please list the figures by year and gas supply company;
- (c) How many cases in (b) above are repeat cases?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) is responsible for the regulation and enforcement of electrical and gas safety under the Electricity Ordinance, Cap. 406 and the Gas Safety Ordinance, Cap. 51. These responsibilities are undertaken respectively by the Electricity Legislation Division and Gas Standards Office of EMSD, which currently have a total strength of 150 staff including professional engineers, inspectors, etc. Duties of these divisions include registration of trade practitioners, inspection of electrical and gas installations and appliances, inspection and approval of gas installations, investigation into electrical and gas incidents, initiation of prosecution and disciplinary actions against non-compliant cases, and promotion of electrical and gas safety to the public and the trade. In the past five years, the average total recurrent expenditure for these two divisions was about \$99.62 million per year.

(b) and (c)

The number of cases in the past five years where inappropriate work procedures were found with the LPG supply company concerned being advised to take follow-up actions are set out below-

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of Cases</u>
2009	0
2010	1
2011	4
2012	0
2013	2

There are no repeat cases in the above cases.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB064

(Question Serial No. 4920)

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety
Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (CHAN Fan)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 178):

With regard to the study on the long-term electricity market structure by the SAR Government, please advise us of the details, expenditure involved and manpower committed, and the time schedules; and whether the stranded costs of the power companies have also been studied, and if so, the details and results.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

According to the Scheme of Control Agreements signed by the Government and the two power companies, before implementing any change to the electricity supply regulatory framework, the Government shall take into account all relevant factors and discuss with the power companies the market readiness, any potential future change to the electricity supply regulatory framework and transition issues before 2016. In order to explore the feasibility of introducing more competition to the electricity market and whether that will benefit the electricity users, the Environment Bureau (ENB) will proceed to review the post-2018 regulatory framework for the electricity market. The review will cover a range of policy, economic, legal, technical and financial matters that will require detailed examination, and will involve a lot of work including developing a feasible regulatory framework applicable to Hong Kong, conducting consultancy studies, launching public consultation and organising public engagement activities, collecting views from the public and stakeholders, conducting in-depth discussions and negotiation with the power companies, and formulating implementation plans for changes to the regulatory framework that may occur.

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department provides technical support to ENB in respect of the above work. As the related officers also handle other duties concurrently, there is no separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure involved.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB065****(Question Serial No. 4982)**

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

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

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (CHAN Fan)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 632):

In the past five years, how many gas incidents were investigated by the Administration in each year and what are the ratios of the causes of these incidents? What were the expenses and manpower involved, and the follow-up actions taken and their effectiveness? Please provide information by year on the number of cases involving penalty, and the maximum and minimum penalties imposed.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) The numbers of gas incidents investigated over the past five years (from 2009 to 2013) were 392, 345, 420, 334 and 339 respectively.
- (b) These incidents basically fall into three categories – about 67% were related to gas pipe/cylinder/fitting faults, about 6% were related to careless or improper use of gas fittings, and the remaining 27% were found to be non-gas related.
- (c) Gas incident investigations were conducted by engineers and inspectors whose responsibilities also include such duties as inspection, public education and publicity. We do not have the breakdown of manpower or expenditure involved in incident investigation only.
- (d) Based on the analysis of gas incidents investigated, public education and publicity programmes as well as inspection plans are developed with the aim of enhancing gas safety. Gas safety publicity work will continue to be carried out in 2014 with a view to reducing the number of incidents.
- (e) The numbers of prosecutions and the resulting penalties in the past five years are shown in the following table:

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of Prosecutions</u>	<u>Maximum Penalty (\$)</u>	<u>Minimum Penalty (\$)</u>
2009	63	6,000	300
2010	31	7,500	400
2011	28	8,000	1,000
2012	41	5,000	500
2013	30	15,000	300

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB066

(Question Serial No. 6065)

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy
Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (CHAN Fan)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 419):

What is the total number of installations that have been completed from the implementation of the water-cooled air-conditioning system scheme to the present? What is the estimated saving per year on electricity consumption?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

A total of 514 installations have been completed from the implementation of the scheme to the present. The estimated saving per year on electricity consumption is about 318.3 million kWh.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB067****(Question Serial No. 6066)**

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

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

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (CHAN Fan)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 420):

In the past three years, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department provided technical advice and support to government bureaux and departments on energy savings through organising seminars and experience sharing workshops. Please provide a thematic breakdown of the numbers of these seminars and workshops.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

In the past three years (i.e. 2011, 2012 and 2013), the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department provided technical advice and support to government bureaux and departments on energy savings to better acquaint them with government energy consumption, energy saving measures, the Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance and the relevant codes of practice. A thematic breakdown of the numbers of seminars and workshops organised for this purpose is as follows:

	2011	2012	2013
Government Energy Consumption Reporting and Energy Saving Measures Seminar	3	3	3
Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance and Code of Practice Workshop	5	5	2

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB068****(Question Serial No. 6067)**

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

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

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (CHAN Fan)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 421):

In the past three years, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department organised publicity and public education programmes to promote public awareness on best practices in energy efficiency and conservation and renewable energy. Please provide a thematic breakdown of the numbers of these activities.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

In the past three years (i.e. 2011, 2012 and 2013), the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) continuously organised publicity and public education programmes on energy conservation and renewable energy to promote public awareness on best practices in energy efficiency and conservation and renewable energy. A thematic breakdown of the numbers of these activities is as follows:

	2011	2012	2013
Public and Trade Seminars	53	83	60
School Exhibitions and Outreach Programmes	27	55	57
Tours of the Education Path of EMSD Headquarters	189	225	253

Furthermore, EMSD also distributed promotional leaflets and newsletters to the public and disseminated energy conservation and renewable energy information through the internet.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB069****(Question Serial No. 4181)**

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

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

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (CHAN Fan)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 200):

With regard to the renewable energy projects undertaken for the Government and public bodies, please provide information in accordance with the format below-

	Government Department/ Public Body	Buildings/ Facilities Involved	Electricity and cost saving	Reduction in carbon emission
2011				
2012				
2013				
2014				

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

The renewable energy installation funded by the resources allocated to the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) in 2011 is shown in the table below.

Year	Government Department/ Public Body	Buildings/ Facilities Involved	Electricity generated and cost saving [#]	Reduction in carbon emission
2011	Education Bureau	South Yuen Long Government Primary School	1 500 kWh and electricity cost saving of about \$1,500 per year	About 1 000 kg per year

[#] For calculation of cost saving, it is assumed that the average electricity tariff is \$1 per kWh.

Apart from the above project, there are also renewable energy installations funded by resources allocated to other departments for individual capital projects. Examples of these installations are the solar water heating system at Castle Peak Hospital, the photovoltaic system and small wind turbines at Sing Yin Secondary School, and the photovoltaic system and solar water heating system at Cruise Terminal Building. As these projects are funded by the provision for individual capital projects, there is no need for EMSD to allocate separate resources for their implementation in 2012 to 2014.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB070****(Question Serial No. 4182)**

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

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

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (CHAN Fan)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 201):

With regard to the energy-saving projects undertaken for the Government and public bodies, please provide information in accordance with the format below-

	Government Department/ Public Body	Buildings/ Facilities Involved	Electricity and cost saving	Reduction in carbon emission
2011				
2012				
2013				
2014				

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

During the period between 2011 and 2014, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department has handled/will handle a total of 190 energy-saving projects for various government departments and public bodies. These projects include the 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 14 million kWh, or equivalent to an annual reduction of about 9 800 tonnes of carbon dioxide emission. A breakdown is given in the table below.

Year	Government Department/Public Body	Buildings/Facilities Involved	Electricity and cost saving [#] per annum	Reduction in carbon emission per annum
2011	Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department; Architectural Services Department; Civil Aviation Department; Civil Engineering and Development Department; Census and Statistics Department; Correctional Services Department; Customs and Excise Department; Department of Health;	art and cultural venues; carpark buildings; court buildings; cooked food centres; dockyards; clinics; community centres; departmental headquarters; fire stations;	5 million kWh and electricity cost saving of about \$5 million	3 500 tonnes
2012	Drainage Services Department; Education Bureau; Environmental Protection Department; Fire Services Department; Food and Environmental Hygiene Department; Government Property Agency; Government Records Service; Home Affairs Department; Hong Kong Police Force;	government offices; government quarters; hospitals; libraries; markets; museums; parks and playgrounds; police stations; prisons; public toilets;	4 million kWh and electricity cost saving of about \$4 million	2 800 tonnes
2013	Hospital Authority; Immigration Department; Independent Commission Against Corruption; Judiciary;	recreational centres; regional depots; schools; sewage treatment plants; sports centres; stadiums; swimming pools;	3 million kWh and electricity cost saving of about \$3 million	2 100 tonnes
2014	Leisure and Cultural Services Department; Marine Department; Transport Department; and Water Supplies Department.	town halls; workshops, etc.	2 million kWh and electricity cost saving of about \$2 million	1 400 tonnes

[#] For calculation of cost saving, it is assumed that the average electricity tariff is \$1 per kWh.

Apart from the above projects, there are other minor works and capital works projects with energy efficiency features undertaken by various departments using their allocated resources or project votes for individual capital projects.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB071

(Question Serial No. 5384)

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (603) Plant, vehicles and equipment
Programme: (-) Not Specified
Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (CHAN Fan)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 61):

What are the details of the replacement works for the air conditioning system at Tai Shing Street Market Building? When is the project expected to be completed?

Asked by: Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply:

The replacement works for the air conditioning system at Tai Shing Street Market Building include the installation of a set of high energy efficiency chiller together with a control system and associated equipment to replace the existing facility and improve energy efficiency. The project is expected to be completed in end April 2014. Upon completion of works, the annual electricity cost saving is estimated to be around \$0.48 million[#].

[#] For calculation of cost saving, it is assumed that the average electricity tariff is \$1 per kWh.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB072

(Question Serial No. 2508)

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy
Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (CHAN Fan)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 1.03):

Please provide information on the number of energy-saving projects undertaken by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department for the Government and public bodies in the past five years, the expenditure involved, and the estimate for 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department conducted a total of 405 energy-saving projects for various government departments and public bodies in the past five years (i.e. from 2009 to 2013). These projects include the retrofitting of energy efficient lighting and control systems, light emitting diode (LED) exit signs, and energy efficient air-conditioning and control systems, etc. Our estimated expenditure on implementation of energy-saving projects from 2009-10 to 2013-14 is about \$389 million. The estimate for 2014-15 is \$4.1 million.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB073

(Question Serial No. 0509)

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy
Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (CHAN Fan)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 23):

With regard to research studies on application of innovative energy efficiency technologies, three studies were completed in 2013-14. What are the expenditure, details and findings of these studies? On the three studies planned for 2014-15, what are the establishment and expenditure involved? What are the progress and estimated completion time of these studies?

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-kwok

Reply:

In 2013-14, the expenditure of completed research studies on application of innovative energy efficiency technologies was \$0.2 million. These studies include light emitting capacitor (LEC) exit sign, low loss electromagnetic ballast and variable speed room air conditioner. The findings of these studies show that the technologies have good energy saving performance and are suitable for local application. We will disseminate information of the relevant technologies through newsletters and the internet.

In 2014-15, we plan to conduct three application studies on, namely high efficiency chillers, energy-efficient system for lifts and high energy efficiency lighting technology. The estimated expenditure of these studies is \$0.3 million. The work incurred will be absorbed by existing manpower and so there is no separate breakdown on manpower involved. The relevant application studies will commence in April 2014 and are expected to be completed in 2014-15.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB074****(Question Serial No. 5194)**

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

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

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (CHAN Fan)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 63):

With regard to the renewable energy projects undertaken for the Government and public bodies, please provide information in accordance with the format below-

	Government Department/ Public Body	Buildings/ Facilities Involved	Electricity and cost saving	Reduction in carbon emission
2011				
2012				
2013				

Asked by: Hon. MO, Claudia

Reply:

The renewable energy installation funded by the resources allocated to the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) in 2011 is shown in the table below.

Year	Government Department/ Public Body	Buildings/ Facilities Involved	Electricity generated and cost saving [#]	Reduction in carbon emission
2011	Education Bureau	South Yuen Long Government Primary School	1 500 kWh and electricity cost saving of about \$1,500 per year	About 1 000 kg per year

[#] For calculation of cost saving, it is assumed that the average electricity tariff is \$1 per kWh.

Apart from the above project, there are also renewable energy installations funded by resources allocated to other departments for individual capital projects. Examples of these installations are the solar water heating system at Castle Peak Hospital, the photovoltaic system and small wind turbines at Sing Yin Secondary School, and the photovoltaic system and solar water heating system at Cruise Terminal Building. As these projects are funded by the provision for individual capital projects, there is no need for EMSD to allocate separate resources for their implementation in 2012 and 2013.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB075****(Question Serial No. 5195)**

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

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

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (CHAN Fan)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 64):

With regard to the energy-saving projects undertaken for the Government and public bodies, please provide information in accordance with the format below-

	Government Department/ Public Body	Buildings/ Facilities Involved	Electricity and cost saving	Reduction in carbon emission
2011				
2012				
2013				

Asked by: Hon. MO, Claudia

Reply:

During the period between 2011 and 2013, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department has handled a total of 180 energy-saving projects for various government departments and public bodies. These projects include the 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 12 million kWh, or equivalent to an annual reduction of about 8 400 tonnes of carbon dioxide emission. A breakdown is given in the table below.

Year	Government Department/Public Body	Buildings/Facilities Involved	Electricity and cost saving [#] per annum	Reduction in carbon emission per annum
2011	Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department; Architectural Services Department; Civil Aviation Department; Census and Statistics Department; Correctional Services Department; Customs and Excise Department; Department of Health; Drainage Services Department; Education Bureau;	art and cultural venues; carpark buildings; court buildings; cooked food centres; dockyards; clinics; community centres; departmental headquarters; fire stations;	5 million kWh and electricity cost saving of about \$5 million	3 500 tonnes
2012	Environmental Protection Department; Fire Services Department; Food and Environmental Hygiene Department; Government Property Agency; Government Records Service; Home Affairs Department; Hong Kong Police Force; Hospital Authority; Immigration Department;	government offices; government quarters; hospitals; libraries; markets; museums; parks and playgrounds; police stations; prisons; public toilets; recreational centres;	4 million kWh and electricity cost saving of about \$4 million	2 800 tonnes
2013	Independent Commission Against Corruption; Judiciary; Leisure and Cultural Services Department; Marine Department; Transport Department; and Water Supplies Department.	regional depots; schools; sewage treatment plants; sports centres; stadiums; swimming pools; town halls; workshops, etc.	3 million kWh and electricity cost saving of about \$3 million	2 100 tonnes

For calculation of cost saving, it is assumed that the average electricity tariff is \$1 per kWh.

Apart from the above projects, there are other minor works and capital works projects with energy efficiency features undertaken by various departments using their allocated resources or project votes for individual capital projects.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB076

(Question Serial No. 5054)

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety
Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (CHAN Fan)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 109):

With regard to the long-term electricity market structure study, please advise this Committee:

- 1) the expenditure and manpower involved in the past three years;
- 2) the details of the study, and if that includes the impact on the local electricity market should it become an open market. If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

(1) and (2)

According to the Scheme of Control Agreements signed by the Government and the two power companies, before implementing any change to the electricity supply regulatory framework, the Government shall take into account all relevant factors and discuss with the power companies the market readiness, any potential future change to the electricity supply regulatory framework and transition issues before 2016. In order to explore the feasibility of introducing more competition to the electricity market and whether that will benefit the electricity users, the Environment Bureau (ENB) will proceed to review the post-2018 regulatory framework for the electricity market. The review will cover a range of policy, economic, legal, technical and financial matters that will require detailed examination, and will involve a lot of work including developing a feasible regulatory framework applicable to Hong Kong, conducting consultancy studies, launching public consultation and organising public engagement activities, collecting views from the public and stakeholders, conducting in-depth discussions and negotiation with the power companies, and formulating implementation plans for changes to the regulatory framework that may occur.

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department provides technical support to ENB in respect of the above work. As the related officers also handle other duties concurrently, there is no separate breakdown on the manpower and expenditure involved.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB077****(Question Serial No. 5056)**

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

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

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (CHAN Fan)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 111):

With regard to the energy-saving projects for the Government and public bodies under the programme, please advise this Committee of the venue, title and committed expenditure of each of the 55 and 50 projects completed respectively in 2012-13 (please itemise separately).

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

Information about the projects completed from 2012 to 2013 is provided in the table below:

Year 2012

Item	Venue	Project Description	Project Expenditure (\$)
1	Backup Air Traffic Control Centre	Replacement of existing lighting systems by more energy efficient ones	220,000
2	Tsing Yi Police Station	Replacement of existing air-cooled chiller plant by water-cooled type chiller plant (Phase 1)	1,200,000
3	Tsing Yi Police Station	Replacement of existing air-cooled chiller plant by water-cooled type chiller plant (Phase 2)	1,200,000
4	APB Centre	Replacement of air-conditioning systems	1,800,000
5	Sha Tin Government Offices	Refurbishment of existing T8 fluorescent lighting system with more energy-efficient T5 lighting system (Phase 2)	1,400,000
6	Tsuen Wan Multi-storey Carpark Building	Refurbishment of existing T8 fluorescent lighting system with more energy-efficient T5 lighting system (Phase 2)	990,000
7	Government quarters, 122 Pokfulam Road	Replacement of existing T8 fluorescent lighting system by more energy-efficient T5 lighting system - staircases and carpark	1,200,000
8	Government quarters, 6 Lok Fung Path	Refurbishment of existing T8 fluorescent lighting system with energy-efficient LED lighting system	900,000
9	Sai Kung Government Offices (Carpark and 5/F Corridor Areas)	Replacement of existing T8 fluorescent lighting system by LED lighting system plus photo sensors	500,000

Item	Venue	Project Description	Project Expenditure (\$)
10	King's College (Annex Block)	Replacement of existing T8 fluorescent lighting system by LED light fittings	1,200,000
11	Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices	Replacement of air-cooled chiller no. 9 by water-cooled type	2,000,000
12	Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices	Replacement of air-cooled chiller no. 10 by water-cooled type	2,000,000
13	Chater Hall, Conduit Road	Refurbishment of existing lightings with energy-efficient ones	280,000
14	EPD Office at Island West Refuse Transfer Station	Refurbishment of existing T8 fluorescent lighting system with T5 fluorescent lighting system (Phase 2)	820,000
15	APB Centre	Replacement of air-cooled chiller no. 5 by high efficiency chiller	1,600,000
16	Marine Police Port District Headquarters cum Marine Police South Police Station	Replacement of storage type water heating system by energy-efficient instantaneous water heating system	170,000
17	Caroline Hill Depot, Fan Garden Depot and Tuen Mun Depot	Replacement of existing air compressor systems by energy efficient systems	350,000
18	Air Mail Centre Workshop, Airport Police Station Office Block and Tung Chung Police Station (6/F and 7/F)	Refurbishment of existing T8 fluorescent lighting system with T5 fluorescent lighting system	620,000
19	Sha Tin Government Offices	Refurbishment of existing T8 fluorescent lighting system with more energy-efficient fluorescent lighting system (Phase 3)	1,600,000
20	APB Centre	Replacement of air-cooled chiller no. 6 by high efficiency chiller	1,700,000
21	Siu Ho Wan EMSD Depot	Replacement of existing high bay lighting system by more energy-efficient LED high bay lighting system (Phase 3)	1,600,000
22	Lo Wu and Man Kam To Control Point	Replacement of air-conditioning system	750,000
23	Customs and Excise Department (venues at T1, AAT, DHL, etc.) and GFS Headquarters	i. Retrofitting of lighting system with T5 fluorescent lighting system ii. Replacement of lighting system by LED lighting system iii. Installation of occupancy sensors	170,000
24	Yue Kwong Road Sports Centre	Replacement of existing air-conditioning system by high efficiency chiller system (Phase 1)	1,000,000
25	Wong Chuk Hang Sports Centre	Replacement of existing air-conditioning system by high efficiency chiller system (Phase 1)	1,400,000
26	To Kwa Wan Sports Centre	Replacement of existing air-conditioning system by high efficiency chiller system (Phase 1)	1,100,000
27	To Kwa Wan Sports Centre	Replacement of existing air-conditioning system by high efficiency chiller system (Phase 2)	1,000,000
28	Ko Shan Theatre	Replacement of existing air-conditioning system by high efficiency chiller system (Phase 1)	1,300,000
29	Ko Shan Theatre	Replacement of existing air-conditioning system by high efficiency chiller system (Phase 2)	1,500,000

Item	Venue	Project Description	Project Expenditure (\$)
30	Cheung Chau Sports Centre	Replacement of existing air-conditioning system by high efficiency chiller system (Phase 1)	1,100,000
31	Cheung Chau Sports Centre	Replacement of existing air-conditioning system by high efficiency chiller system (Phase 2)	1,400,000
32	Yue Kwong Road Sports Centre	Replacement of existing air-conditioning system by high efficiency chiller system (Phase 2)	1,000,000
33	Wong Chuk Hang Sports Centre	Replacement of existing air-conditioning system by high efficiency chiller system (Phase 2)	1,400,000
34	Sun Yat Sen Memorial Park Sports Centre	Replacement of existing air-conditioning system by high efficiency chiller system (Phase 1)	1,500,000
35	Sun Yat Sen Memorial Park Sports Centre	Replacement of existing air-conditioning system by high efficiency chiller system (Phase 2)	1,300,000
36	Tsuen Wan Government Offices - Post Office	Replacement of air conditioning system	1,300,000
37	Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre	Replacement of existing lighting system by LED lighting system (East Block)	1,500,000
38	Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre	Replacement of existing lighting system by LED lighting system (West Block)	1,900,000
39	Kowloon Tong Government Primary School	Replacement of existing lighting system by LED lighting system	1,400,000
40	Sai Kung Government Offices	Replacement of existing T8 fluorescent lighting system by LED lighting system (G/F carpark areas)	560,000
41	Western Wholesale Food Market	Replacement of high bay lighting system by LED high bay lighting system (West Block)	790,000
42	Western Wholesale Food Market	Replacement of high bay lighting system by LED high bay lighting system at the egg market	1,100,000
43	Tsuen Wan Multi-storey Carpark Building	Replacement of high bay lighting system by LED high bay lighting system on G/F	1,500,000
44	Ho Man Tin Government Offices	Retrofitting of air-conditioning system	2,400,000
45	Airport Police Station (Office Block)	Retrofitting of lighting system with T5 fluorescent lighting system	570,000
46	C&ED and IMMD offices at Terminal 1 of the Hong Kong International Airport	Retrofitting of lighting system with T5 fluorescent lighting system, plus supply and installation of occupancy sensors	240,000
47	Various municipal venues in NT Region including Tsuen Wan Town Hall, North Kwai Chung Market, Wing Fong Street Market, Tsing Yi Swimming Pool, Kwai Shing Swimming Pool, North Kwai Chung Jockey Club Public Swimming Pool, North District Town Hall and Sheung Shui Swimming Pool	Replacement of existing T8 fluorescent lighting system by T5 fluorescent lighting system	1,300,000

Item	Venue	Project Description	Project Expenditure (\$)
48	Various municipal venues in NT Region including Yeung Uk Road Market, Luen Wo Hui Market, Shek Kip Mei Service Reservoir Playground, Lok Shun Path Barbecue Area, Hang Hong Street Sitting-out Area, To Shek Street Sitting-out Area, Tui Min Hoi Promenade Sitting-out Area, San On Street Sitting-out Area, Ping Wui Street Rest Garden, Ha Wan Tsuen Garden, Kat Hing Wai Playground, Kadoorie Beach, Wo Liu Hang Playground Local Open Space Site C1 / Hin Tin Street 31C, Tin Sam Garden No.1, A Kung Kok Street Garden, North District Community Centre Amenity Area, North District Sports Ground, Pak Fuk Children's Playground and Butterfly Beach Park	Replacement of existing fluorescent lighting system by T5 fluorescent lighting system and replacement of existing 70W/80W high pressure sodium vapour lamps	1,000,000
49	South Kwai Chung Public Library	Replacement of existing T8 fluorescent lighting system by T5 fluorescent lighting system	150,000
50	Various municipal venues in NT Region including Tsing Yi Market, Kwu Tung Market, Dai Kwai Street Refuse Collection Point, Plover Cove Road Market and Refuse Collection Point, Yan Oi Market, Tai Kiu Market, Tung Yick Market, Yuen Long Vehicle Depot, Luen Wo Hui Municipal Services Building, Tai Tau Leng Playground, Tai Po Depot and Tai Po Sports Ground	Replacement of existing T8 fluorescent lighting system by T5 fluorescent lighting system and replacement of existing high bay lamps by energy-efficient induction lamps	1,400,000
51	Hung Hom Market	Addition of variable speed drive for the escalators	390,000
52	Air Traffic Control Complex	Improvement of lighting for the Hong Kong Observatory Airport Meteorological Office	170,000
53	WSD Kowloon East Regional Building	Replacement of existing fluorescent lighting system by LED high bay lighting system (workshop, pump room and staircases)	1,800,000
54	Kwai Fong Multi-storey Car Park	Replacement of existing fluorescent lighting system by LED high bay lighting system - car park (Phase 1)	1,670,000
55	Kwai Fong Multi-storey Car Park	Replacement of existing fluorescent lighting system by LED high bay lighting system - car park (Phase 2)	1,200,000

Item	Venue	Project Description	Project Expenditure (\$)
1	Chek Lap Kok Fire Station	Replacement of Air Handling Unit and Primary Air Handling Unit (with variable speed drive)	420,000
2	Sun Tin Wai Community Hall, Sha Tin	Replacement of existing lighting system by energy-efficient lighting system	510,000
3	Chun Shek Community Hall, Sha Tin	Replacement of existing lighting system by energy-efficient lighting system	630,000
4	Tsuen Wan Multi-storey Carpark Building	Replacement of existing lighting system by LED lighting system - carpark (G/F to 4/F)	1,900,000
5	Tsuen Wan Multi-storey Carpark Building	Replacement of existing lighting system by LED lighting system - carpark (5/F to 9/F)	1,800,000
6	Low Block of High Court Building	Replacement of one existing air-cooled chiller by high efficiency chiller	960,000
7	Chek Lap Kok Fire Station	Replacement of chiller water pumps and associated accessories	680,000
8	Chek Lap Kok Fire Station	Replacement of sea water-cooled chillers by high efficiency chiller systems	990,000
9	Various municipal venues including Sai Wan Ho Sports Centre, Harbour Road Sports Centre and Quarry Bay Market	Replacement of existing incandescent / tungsten halogen and T8 luminaries by energy-efficient T5 luminaries, and replacement of existing mercury vapour lamps by energy-efficient halogen lamps	320,000
10	Various municipal venues including Kowloon Park, Hammer Hill Road Swimming Pool and Health Education Exhibition and Resource Centre	Replacement of existing T8 lamps by energy-efficient T5 lamps, and replacement of existing metal halide lamps by energy-efficient induction lamps	510,000
11	Various municipal venues including Lung Sum Avenue Sports Centre, Tuen Mun Riverside Park, Yeung King Playground, San Hui Playground, Tuen Mun Park, San Wo Lane Playground, Tai Mei Tuk Water Sports Centre, Pak Shek Kok Waterfront Promenade, Tai Po Old Market Playground, Lok Ma Chau Lookout Public Toilet, Cafeteria Old Beach, Shek Wu Hui Playground and Sheung Shui Garden No.4	Replacement of existing incandescent / tungsten halogen and metal halide luminaries by energy-efficient luminaries	450,000
12	Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices	Retrofitting of air-conditioning system	4,600,000
13	Kowloon City Law Courts Building	Retrofitting of air-conditioning system	2,800,000
14	High Block of High Court Building	Replacement of one existing air-cooled chiller by high efficiency chiller	1,900,000
15	Airport Police Station (Barrack Block)	Replacement of two heat pump systems	690,000
16	Government VIP Lounge	Refurbishment of the lighting system with LED lighting system	150,000
17	Hung Hom Police Station	Retrofitting of air-cooled chiller no. 1	1,300,000

Item	Venue	Project Description	Project Expenditure (\$)
18	Hung Hom Police Station	Retrofitting of air-cooled chiller no. 2	1,300,000
19	Kwai Chung Police Station	Retrofitting of air-cooled chiller no. 1	1,300,000
20	Kwai Chung Police Station	Retrofitting of air-cooled chiller no. 2	1,300,000
21	Cheung Sha Wan Police Station	Retrofitting of air-cooled chiller no. 1	1,000,000
22	Cheung Sha Wan Police Station	Retrofitting of air-cooled chiller no. 2	1,000,000
23	Tsuen Wan District Police Headquarters	Retrofitting of air-cooled chiller no. 1	1,200,000
24	Tsuen Wan District Police Headquarters	Retrofitting of air-cooled chiller no. 2	1,200,000
25	Tsuen Wan District Police Headquarters	Retrofitting of air-cooled chiller no. 3	1,200,000
26	Lady Trench Polyclinic	Replacement of existing window type air conditioners by central VRV air-conditioning system	450,000
27	Tai O Jockey Club General Outpatient Clinic	Retrofitting of lighting system	150,000
28	Government Logistic Centre - 4/F, part of 2/F, toilets and lobbies	Replacement of existing lighting system by LED lighting system	1,200,000
29	Government Logistic Centre - 6/F, part of 2/F and disposal stores	Replacement of existing lighting system by LED lighting system	1,200,000
30	60, 61 and 62 Moorsom Road Non-Departmental Quarters - carpark and external concourse areas	Replacement of existing lighting system by LED lighting system	1,000,000
31	Shun Lee Disciplined Services Quarters - staircases of Block 1, 2, 3 and 4	Replacement of existing lighting system by LED lighting system	1,500,000
32	Elizabethan Court - staircases and common area	Replacement of existing lighting system by LED lighting system	500,000
33	Western Wholesale Food Market - external areas, staircase and corridor	Replacement of existing lighting system by LED lighting system	300,000
34	Shun Lee Disciplined Services Quarters - staircases of Block 5, 6, 7 and 8	Replacement of existing lighting system by LED lighting system	1,500,000
35	Cheung Chau Sports Centre	Replacement of existing air-conditioning system by high efficiency chiller system	1,900,000
36	Sun Yet Sen Memorial Park Sports Centre	Replacement of existing air-conditioning system by high efficiency chiller system	1,700,000
37	Tin Shui Wai Sports Centre	Replacement of existing air-conditioning system by high efficiency chiller system (Phase 1)	1,300,000
38	Tin Shui Wai Sports Centre	Replacement of existing air-conditioning system by high efficiency chiller system (Phase 2)	1,300,000
39	Oi Kwan Court (FEHD offices)	Replacement of existing air-conditioning system by high efficiency chiller system (Phase 1)	1,400,000
40	Oi Kwan Court (FEHD offices)	Replacement of existing air-conditioning system by high efficiency chiller system (Phase 2)	1,400,000

Item	Venue	Project Description	Project Expenditure (\$)
41	Wai Tsuen Sports Centre	Replacement of existing air-conditioning system by high efficiency chiller system	3,200,000
42	Cornwall Street Squash and Table Tennis Centre	Replacement of existing air-conditioning system by high efficiency chiller system	3,400,000
43	Shun Lee Tsuen Sports Centre	Replacement of existing air-conditioning system by high efficiency chiller system	4,600,000
44	Mong Kok Government Offices	Installation of electromagnetic induction descaling device for the fresh water-cooled HVAC system	510,000
45	Civil Engineering and Development Department Headquarters Building	Installation of electromagnetic induction descaling device for the fresh water-cooled HVAC system	460,000
46	APB Centre	Installation of electromagnetic induction descaling device for the fresh water-cooled HVAC system	510,000
47	Government quarters, 87-91 Broadcast Drive	Replacement of existing lighting system by LED lighting system	200,000
48	EMSD Headquarters Building	Installation of electromagnetic induction descaling device for the fresh water-cooled HVAC system	340,000
49	Public Works Central Laboratory	Installation of electromagnetic induction descaling device for the fresh water-cooled HVAC system	340,000
50	Public Health Laboratory Centre	Optimization of chiller plant operation	270,000

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB078****(Question Serial No. 5057)**Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): (603) Plant, vehicles and equipmentProgramme: (-) Not SpecifiedControlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (CHAN Fan)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No. 112):

With regard to the replacement of air conditioning systems with high efficiency chillers at five government venues under the subhead, please advise members of this Committee:

- 1) The estimated completion dates of these five projects and the estimated payback period of each project;
- 2) The estimated annual electricity cost saving for each venue after completion of works.

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-waiReply:

The estimated completion date, payback period and annual electricity cost saving of these five projects are shown in the table below.

Item	Project Description	Estimated completion date	Estimated payback period	Estimated annual electricity cost saving [#] (\$)
1	Replacement of air conditioning system with high efficiency chillers (Phase 1) at Tai Shing Street Market Building	End of April 2014	7 years	483,000
2	Replacement of air conditioning system with high efficiency chillers (Phase 1) at Po On Road Municipal Services Building	End of April 2014	10 years	346,000
3	Replacement of air conditioning system with high efficiency chillers at Yeung Uk Road Sports Centre	End of April 2014	10 years	304,000
4	Replacement of air conditioning system with high efficiency chillers at Tsuen Wan West Sports Centre	End of April 2014	8 years	549,000
5	Replacement of air conditioning system with high efficiency chillers at Smithfield Road Municipal Services Building	End of April 2014	6 years	674,000

[#] For calculation of cost saving, it is assumed that the average electricity tariff is \$1 per kWh.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB079****(Question Serial No. 2197)**

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

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

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (CHAN Fan)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 40):

With regard to the liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) filling stations, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) originally planned to approve two LPG filling stations in 2013. The actual number of LPG filling stations approved is however three. Please advise the details of the additional filling station (including its location and date of commencement of operation). It is planned that four LPG filling stations would be approved in 2014. Please advise the details of the filling stations concerned, and whether the feasibility of increasing the number of dedicated LPG filling stations would be studied. If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons and whether there are any measures to shorten the waiting time of LPG vehicles for refilling services.

Has the Administration collected any statistics on the utilisation rate of LPG filling stations? Please provide the average waiting time for refilling services during peak (shift-changing hours) and non-peak periods at the dedicated and non-dedicated LPG filling stations on Hong Kong Island.

Asked by: Hon. YICK Chi-ming, Frankie

Reply:

There were only two LPG filling stations originally expected for completion in 2013 and they are located at Repulse Bay and Tsing Yi respectively. There was one other filling station, also located at Tsing Yi, which was completed ahead of schedule. As a result, three filling stations were put into operation in September, November and December 2013 respectively.

The four LPG filling stations planned to be approved in 2014 are located at Sheung Kwai Chung, Sai Kung, Fanling North and Clear Water Bay. According to the land lease conditions, the filling stations at Sheung Kwai Chung and Sai Kung are expected to be put into operation by June 2014 and September 2016 respectively, whilst the filling stations at Fanling North and Clear Water Bay are expected to be put into operation by September 2015.

Currently, the LPG filling network has a total of 63 LPG filling stations, comprising 12 dedicated stations and 51 non-dedicated stations distributed in all 18 districts across the territory. As the existing filling network is generally sufficient to meet the filling demand of all taxis and LPG light buses, the Government does not have any plan to set up additional dedicated LPG filling stations. Nevertheless, the Government has since June 2000 required all new petrol filling stations on the land sales programme to provide LPG filling facilities, subject to fulfillment of the necessary safety requirements. This arrangement was further strengthened in 2012, with conditions being imposed in new tenders for petrol filling stations which are able to fulfill the necessary safety requirements, requiring the operators of non-dedicated filling stations to provide LPG nozzles at not less than 25% of the total number of filling facilities at the petrol filling stations. This new requirement serves to enhance the overall provision of LPG filling facilities and extend the coverage of the filling network. Apart from this, the Government will continue to identify suitable sites so as to enable oil companies to establish more non-dedicated filling stations to further expand the filling network, and to provide convenience to the trade, shortening the waiting time of LPG vehicles for refilling services.

According to the operational records provided by operators of dedicated LPG filling stations, a daily average of about 1 030 to 4 120 vehicles per station were refilled in 2013. LPG vehicles queuing for refilling services normally occurred at shift-changing periods, in particular at those dedicated LPG filling stations that are located at popular locations (i.e. near areas plied by the majority of taxis). Outside shift-changing periods, vehicles do not require much waiting time for refilling even at dedicated LPG filling stations. With regard to non-dedicated LPG filling stations, the Government has not collected any statistics on their operation data, but it is to our understanding that vehicles in general do not need to queue up for a long time for refilling at these stations.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB080

(Question Serial No.: 1690)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 61):

In the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014-15, it is mentioned that the Department will continue to collaborate with the Guangdong authorities to promote the adoption of cleaner production and technologies and practices by Hong Kong-owned factories in Guangdong Province. What are these “incentive” measures? What are the expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

In April 2008, we launched a Cleaner Production Partnership Programme (the Programme) in conjunction with the Economic and Information Commission of Guangdong Province (the former 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 cleaner production demonstration projects and engage third party verification services on effectiveness of improvement projects. The Programme also organises awareness promotion and publicity activities, such as seminars, workshops, briefings and factory visits as well as production of promotional materials and operation of a dedicated website for cleaner production by the Hong Kong Productivity Council. The Hong Kong - Guangdong Cleaner Production Partners Recognition Scheme is also jointly organised to give recognition to Hong Kong-owned factories and enterprises which vigorously pursue cleaner production. In 2014-15, a sum of \$25 million has been earmarked to provide funding support for some 200 projects. The Programme is mainly taken forward by the Cross-boundary and International Division of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD), and the necessary resources are being met by funding provided under Head 44 – EPD.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB081

(Question Serial No.:1691)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (6) Nature Conservation
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 62):

It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014-15 that the Department will oversee the implementation of the measures to better protect country park enclaves. It is also mentioned in Report No.61 of the Public Accounts Committee that the Audit Commission has conducted a review on the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department regarding the protection of country parks and special areas. In this connection, what are the differences between EPD and AFCD in the work to protect country park enclaves? What are the expenditures incurred by both departments respectively?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

The main responsibilities of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) are to formulate policies and to co-ordinate and oversee the implementation of programmes on nature conservation. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) is the authority responsible for implementing the policies with the aim to conserve flora, fauna and natural habitats; to designate and manage country parks, special areas, marine parks and marine reserves; and to control international trade in endangered species of animals and plants in Hong Kong. In Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014-15, it is mentioned that AFCD will give emphasis to the inclusion of selected country park enclaves into country parks.

The resources incurred by the AFCD on country parks are absorbed under Programme (2) ("Nature Conservation and Country Parks Programme") under Head 22 – AFCD. In 2014-15, the provision of this programme amounts to \$583 million. The EPD will continue to oversee AFCD's work in this aspect and relevant resources are absorbed under Programme (6) ("Nature Conservation") under Head 44 – EPD. The provision under this programme is \$8.7 million in 2014-15.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB082****(Question Serial No.: 1711)**Head: (44) Environmental Protection DepartmentSubhead(No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) WasteControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.: 16):

With regard to the operation of the three strategic landfills in Hong Kong, please provide the following information:

a) Please tabulate as follows the information of waste received by various landfills **in the past three years**.

Landfill		Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)								
		2011			2012			2013		
		Domestic Waste [Food Waste]	Commercial and Industrial Waste [Food Waste]	Sludge	Domestic Waste [Food Waste]	Commercial and Industrial Waste [Food Waste]	Sludge	Domestic Waste [Food Waste]	Commercial and Industrial Waste [Food Waste]	Sludge
West New Territories Landfill	by land									
	by sea									
South East New Territories Landfill	by land									
	by sea									
North East New Territories Landfill	by land									
	by sea									
Total										

b) What were the operational expenses of the above three strategic landfills **in the past three years**? What was the average expenditure for handling 1 tonne of MSW?

c) Please list in table form the complaints relating to odour and noise generated from the above three strategic landfills **in the past 36 months** as well as the outcome of the complaints.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

a) A summary of the quantities of waste received by the three strategic landfills in the past three years (i.e. from 2011 to 2013) is listed below:

Landfill		2011			2012			2013		
		Municipal Solid Waste		Sewage Sludge	Municipal Solid Waste		Sewage Sludge	Municipal Solid Waste		Sewage Sludge
		Domestic Waste [Food Waste]	Commercial and Industrial Waste [Food Waste]		Domestic Waste [Food Waste]	Commercial and Industrial Waste [Food Waste]		Domestic Waste [Food Waste]	Commercial and Industrial Waste [Food Waste]	
West New Territories Landfill	by land	923 [391]	442 [161]	0	967 [389]	483 [137]	0	984 [--]	503 [--]	0
	by sea	2922 [1237]	796 [291]	422	2952 [1187]	854 [243]	420	2933 [--]	1004 [--]	434
North East New Territories Landfill	by land	1358 [575]	470 [113]	133	1444 [581]	499 [102]	134	1591 [--]	551 [--]	140
	by sea	0 [0]	0 [0]	0	0 [0]	0 [0]	0	0 [--]	0 [--]	0
South East New Territories Landfill	by land	770 [326]	1315 [490]	338	924 [372]	1155 [327]	341	852 [--]	1130 [--]	325
	by sea	0 [0]	0 [0]	0	0 [0]	0 [0]	0	0 [--]	0 [--]	0
Total		5973 [2528]	3023 [1056]	893	6286 [2528]	2992 [809]	895	6359 [--]	3188 [--]	900

Remarks:

1. The compilation of the 2013 figures on food waste is still in progress and not yet available.
2. All figures shown are in tonnes per day and may not add up to total due to rounding off.
3. The quantity of food waste in square brackets is included in the figure quoted above. For example, for the disposal of domestic waste at the West New Territories Landfill by land in 2011, out of the 923 tonnes landfilled, 391 tonnes were food waste.

(b) The costs for handling 1 tonne of municipal solid waste at landfills in the past three years (i.e. from 2011 to 2013) are as follows:

	(\$/tonne)
2011-12 (actual)	168
2012-13 (actual)	180
2013-14 (estimated)	191

(c) The complaint information in relation to air and noise generated from the North East New Territories Landfill, the West New Territories Landfill and the South East New Territories Landfill, as well as the consolidated processing results, in the past three years (i.e. from 2011 to 2013) is as follows:

Year	North East New Territories Landfill		West New Territories Landfill		South East New Territories Landfill	
	Air	Noise	Air	Noise	Air	Noise
2011	1	0	16	2	1 120	0
2012	1	0	18	4	1 953	0
2013	2	0	20	6	2 462	1

The operation of the three strategic landfills has all along been subject to independent monitoring on various fronts, including the regulations imposed by the operation contracts for the landfills and various relevant pollution control ordinances. The environmental standards are very stringent and comply with the standards of advanced countries in the world. To further prevent odour and mitigate potential environmental nuisances to the surrounding areas, a number of additional measures have been implemented at the landfills by the contractors, including minimizing the size of active tipping areas as far as practicable; covering the tipping areas with a layer of soil and/or Posi-Shell Cover (a cement-based cover material) at the end of the daily waste reception process; covering the non-active tipping areas with temporary impermeable liners or Posi-Shell Cover; setting up deodorizers; installing extra landfill gas extraction wells and mobile flares; upgrading wheel washing facility to full-body vehicle washing facility, etc. Separately, our Environmental Compliance Division conducts on-site investigations for every complaint they receive, and replies to the complainant in

due course upon the completion of the investigations. The Environmental Compliance Division has also set up an odour monitoring team for the South East New Territories Landfill in mid-2013 to monitor the odour situation in the vicinity of the landfill.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB083****(Question Serial No.: 1712)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 17):

Regarding the operation of refuse transfer stations in various districts, please reply on the following:

- (a) Please list the quantities of waste processed and the related operation costs of refuse transfer stations in various districts of Hong Kong **over the past 3 years**.
- (b) Each of these refuse transfer stations has its own design capacity. Have they reached their original design capacities in terms of daily intake? Which of them is/are close to saturation?
- (c) Is the waste received daily by refuse transfer stations immediately sent to the 3 strategic landfills? What is the arrangement for the delivery of waste to the landfills?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

- (a) The throughput and operation costs of refuse transfer stations in Hong Kong in the past three years are as follows :

Refuse Transfer Stations	Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Throughput (tonnes)		
	2011	2012	2013
Shatin Transfer Station	342 735	365 268	408 070
West Kowloon Transfer Station	821 980	851 682	870 890
Island East Transfer Station	287 985	291 702	291 270
Island West Transfer Station	189 800	194 346	202 940
Outlying Islands Transfer Facilities	29 565	30 378	29 565
North Lantau Transfer Station	62 050	65 148	68 620
North West New Territories Refuse Transfer Station	337 260	363 438	381 425

Refuse Transfer Stations	Operation Cost (\$ million)		
	2011-2012	2012-13	2013-14 Revised Estimate
Shatin Transfer Station	31	35	36
West Kowloon Transfer Station	100	111	142
Island East /Island West Transfer Station	122	124	109
Outlying Islands Transfer Facilities	43	55	51
North Lantau Transfer Station	25	26	28

North West New Territories Refuse Transfer Station	23	29	28
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- (b) According to the MSW throughput data of these refuse transfer stations in 2013, Shatin Transfer Station, West Kowloon Transfer Station and North West New Territories Refuse Transfer Station have reached over 90% of the design capacity and are close to saturation.
- (c) The waste delivered to the transfer stations will usually be sent to the landfills within 24 hours as required and specified in the contracts. Arrangement for delivery of waste to the landfills is as follows:

Refuse Transfer Stations	Mode of transportation to landfills
Shatin Transfer Station	All by land
West Kowloon Transfer Station	All by sea
Island East Transfer Station	All by sea
Island West Transfer Station	All by sea
Outlying Islands Transfer Facilities	All by sea
North Lantau Transfer Station	All by sea
North West New Territories Refuse Transfer Station	All by land

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB084

(Question Serial No.:1713)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 18):

Regarding the existing waste disposal facilities and waste-to-energy projects, please reply on the following:

a) what is the daily landfill gas emission from waste disposal at the three strategic landfills currently? Are there any collection systems at these strategic landfills to collect such landfill gas? If yes, how will the landfill gas collected be used?

b) please advise on the energy output from the various waste-to-energy projects proposed by the Government, including sludge treatment facility, organic waste treatment facilities and integrated waste management facility. How will the Government put into use and deal with the energy generated by these waste-to-energy projects?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

(a) In 2013, the three strategic landfills (i.e. the Southeast New Territories Landfill, the Northeast New Territories Landfill and the West New Territories Landfill) collected on average a total of approximately 580,000 cubic metres of landfill gas (commonly known as biogas) per day. All the three landfills have landfill gas management systems for collection of landfill gas. The landfill gas collected provides electricity to the landfills for their internal operations through the generating units on site. Landfill gas is also used as a source of thermal energy for leachate treatment process at the landfills. In addition, the surplus landfill gas collected from the Northeast New Territories Landfill is also delivered to Hong Kong & China Gas's production plant in Tai Po for use as an alternative energy for town gas production.

(b) The sludge treatment facility is able to convert thermal energy generated to electricity for use by the entire facility. It is estimated that when the facility is fully commissioned, about 18 million kWh of surplus electricity could be transmitted to the public electricity grid per year. Phase 1 of the organic waste treatment facilities will adopt the anaerobic digestion technology, which will convert food waste into biogas for power generation. Apart from electricity for use by the entire facility, it is also estimated that when the facility is fully commissioned, about 14 million kWh of surplus electricity could be transmitted to nearby government facilities and the existing public electricity grid per year. Phase 2 of the organic waste treatment facilities will also employ the anaerobic digestion technology to convert food waste into biogas for electricity generation or fuel gas. Apart from electricity for use by the entire facility, it is also estimated that when the facility is fully commissioned, about 23 million kWh of surplus electricity could be transmitted to nearby government facilities and the existing public electricity grid per year. Phase 1 of the integrated waste management facility will convert the thermal energy generated into electricity. Apart from electricity for use by the entire facility, it is expected that when the facility is fully commissioned, approximately 480 GWh of surplus electricity will be transmitted to the public electricity grid per year.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No.: 1714)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 19):

In respect of community green stations (CGSs), please advise on the following:

- (a) At present, how many CGSs are under construction or have commenced / will commence operation? What facilities are provided in the said CGSs? How much waste can be handled daily? What are the daily operating expenditures?
- (b) The Budget states that the Government is pressing ahead with the development of CGSs. Page 199 of Volume I of the Estimates of Expenditure also states that CGSs will be developed in each of the 18 districts. What are the related progress and planning? Please tabulate the progress of preparation, estimated schedule for commissioning and estimated expenditure involved for the CGSs in each district.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

- (a) The Government plans to set up one community green station (CGS) in each of the 18 districts and will provide funding for their operations. The capital works will cost about \$400 million. We will appoint non-profit organisations by way of open tender to operate the CGSs. The specific operating expenditures will depend on the financial proposals submitted by the individual operators in the open tender. The CGSs aim to enhance environmental education and assist in the collection of recyclables of lower market value at the community level. However, there will be no treatment (including cleaning and dismantling) at the stations. Therefore, each CGS will have offices for the operators, facilities for environmental education and logistic facilities in support of recyclable collection. At present, the sites for two CGSs have been confirmed and the construction work thereof will commence soon.
- (b) The latest development for each of the CGSs is tabulated below:

District	Latest development	Estimated schedule for Commissioning	Estimated capital expenditure
Shatin	Site confirmed	2014	\$20.5 million
Eastern	Site confirmed	First half of 2015	\$27.3 million
Others	Preparation work started	By phases	About \$350 million in total

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB086****(Question Serial No.:1715)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:20)

Please list in table form the advertisements and educational activities organised since the implementation of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign in December 2012, the dates of implementation/launch, the expenditures involved. Please also give a brief account of the effectiveness of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign so far.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

Details of the advertisements, promotional and educational activities organised since the implementation of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign in December 2012, the dates of implementation and the expenditures involved are shown in the table below:

Description	Date of Implementation	Expenditure Involved (HK Dollar)
Advertising for the Campaign (including those in public transport system, printed materials and electronic platform, etc.)	From May 2013 till now	About 10.4 million
Drawing up and promoting good practices of food waste reduction in cooperation with the relevant trades and sectors	From May 2013 till now	Not Applicable
Launching the Food Wise Charter Scheme	From May 2013 till now	Not Applicable
Launching the Food Wise Hong Kong Ambassador Scheme	From May 2013 till now	Not Applicable
Meeting with the relevant sectors including women groups and the catering industry to conduct briefings and encourage participation	From March 2013 till now	Not Applicable
Establishing a supporting website for the Campaign, organising food waste reduction training workshops ¹ for launching the Food Wise Hong Kong Ambassador Scheme and participation by the relevant sectors and interested parties.	From December 2012 till now	About 0.8 million
Organising publicity activities to promote the Food Wise message, including: - Launch ceremony of the Campaign	18 May 2013	About 2.7 million

- Food Wise Hong Kong Steering Committee First Anniversary Ceremony/Food Wise Caroling	17 December 2013	
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Note:

1) 10 training workshops have been organised so far.

Since its launching, the Campaign has promoted a food wise and waste less culture and encouraged behavioural change to reduce food waste in the community through various schemes and activities. The "Big Waster" symbolising food wastage in the Campaign is gradually taking root in the community. As at 15 February 2014, 330 organisations have signed the Food Wise Charter and pledged to reducing food waste, and some 450 Food Wise Hong Kong Ambassadors have taken part in the food waste reduction training workshops to prepare themselves for promotion of Food Wise message. We will keep in view the effectiveness of the Campaign.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB087****(Question Serial No.:1716)**Head: (44) Environmental Protection DepartmentSubhead(No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (2) AirControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.: 21):

Please list in tabulated form the titles, responsible units, particulars, duration of trial period and expenditure/provision involved of the 58 trial projects approved under the Pilot Green Transport Fund to test out green innovative transport technologies as at end of 2013.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kanReply:

As at end of 2013, the Pilot Green Transport Fund has approved 58 trials with subsidies totalling about \$82 million. In order to allow approved applicants to obtain more competitive offers during tendering, we will not disclose the amounts of subsidy granted to individual approved projects. Other details of the approved projects are tabulated as follows:

	Name of Subsidy Recipient	Trial Project	Trial Product and Quantity	Trial Period
1	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Electric Shuttle Buses on Campus	2 electric buses	2 years
2	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Electric Vans on Campus	2 electric van type light goods vehicles	2 years
3	Federal Express (Hong Kong) Limited	Electric Vans for Courier Service	3 electric van type light goods vehicles	2 years
4	TNT Express Worldwide (HK) Limited	Electric Vans for Courier Service	2 electric van type light goods vehicles	2 years
5	Chi Shing Transportation Company	Electric Van for Construction Industry	1 electric van type light goods vehicle	2 years
6	Good Funds Services Limited	Electric Buses for Resident Shuttle Service	2 electric buses	2 years
7	Kwoon Chung Motors Company Limited	Electric Buses for Resident Shuttle Service	2 electric buses	2 years
8	International Trademart Company Limited	Electric Buses for KITEC and MTR Kowloon Bay Station Shuttle Service	2 electric buses	2 years
9	Kwai Bon Transportation Limited	Hybrid Light Goods Vehicles for Logistics Service	3 hybrid light goods vehicles	2 years
10	A. S. Watson Group (HK) Limited	Hybrid Light Goods Vehicles for Supermarket	1 hybrid light goods vehicle	2 years
11	MTR Corporation Limited	Hybrid Light Goods Vehicles for Transportation Industry	1 hybrid light goods vehicle	2 years
12	Kerry Distribution (Hong	Hybrid Medium Goods Vehicles	3 hybrid medium	2 years

	Name of Subsidy Recipient	Trial Project	Trial Product and Quantity	Trial Period
	Kong) Limited	for Logistics Service	goods vehicles	
13	Hong Kong Automobile Association	Electric Van for Emergency Vehicle Rescue Service	1 electric van type light goods vehicle	2 years
14	On Mei Tak Environmental Technology Limited	Hybrid Medium Goods Vehicles for Transportation of Recycling Materials	3 hybrid medium goods vehicles	2 years
15	Swire Beverages Limited	Hybrid Light Goods Vehicles for Beverage Delivery	3 hybrid light goods vehicles	2 years
16	Swire Beverages Limited	Hybrid Medium Goods Vehicles for Beverage Delivery	3 hybrid medium goods vehicles	2 years
17	UPS Parcel Delivery Service Limited	Hybrid Light Goods Vehicles for Courier Service	2 hybrid light goods vehicles	2 years
18	Shun Hing Logistics Company Limited	Hybrid Light Goods Vehicles for Logistics Service	2 hybrid light goods vehicles	2 years
19	S.F. Express (Hong Kong) Limited	Hybrid Light Goods Vehicles for Courier Service	3 hybrid light goods vehicles	2 years
20	Kwoon Chung Motors Company Limited	Electric Vans for Servicing Passenger Transport Industry	2 electric van type light goods vehicles	2 years
21	Sun Bus Limited	Electric Bus for Hong Kong Disneyland Shuttle Service	1 electric bus	2 years
22	Yan Yan Motors Limited	Hybrid Light Buses for Green Minibus Service	2 hybrid light buses	2 years
23	Teamwise Corporation Limited	Hybrid Light Buses for Green Minibus Service	2 hybrid light buses	2 years
24	Glory Success Transportation Limited	Hybrid Light Buses for Green Minibus Service	3 hybrid light buses	2 years
25	Hong Kong Metropolitan Bus Limited	Hybrid Light Bus for Green Minibus Service	1 hybrid light bus	2 years
26	Sunny Engineering Company	Electric New Territories Taxi	1 electric taxi	2 years
27	Shu Sang Taxi Company	Electric New Territories Taxis	2 electric taxis	2 years
28	Kam Tsang Taxi Company	Electric New Territories Taxi	1 electric taxi	2 years
29	Lai Sun Motors Company Limited	Electric New Territories Taxi	1 electric taxi	2 years
30	Discovery Bay Transit Services Limited	Electric Buses for Resident Service in Discovery Bay	2 electric buses	2 years
31	Hong Kong & China Transportation Consultants Limited	Hybrid Light Buses for Green Minibus Service	3 hybrid light buses	2 years
32	Big Three Limited	Hybrid Light Bus for Green Minibus Service	1 hybrid light bus	2 years
33	China-Hong Kong Passenger Services Co. Limited	Wheelchair-Accessible Electric Urban and New Territories Taxis	2 electric taxis	2 years
34	Fanling Motors Company Limited	Wheelchair-Accessible Electric New Territories Taxis	2 electric taxis	2 years
35	Tai Po Motors Company	Wheelchair-Accessible Electric New Territories Taxis	2 electric taxis	2 years
36	Wai Kit Trading International Limited	Wheelchair-Accessible Electric New Territories Taxi	1 electric taxi	2 years
37	Chief Asia Group Limited	Wheelchair-Accessible Electric New Territories Taxi	1 electric taxi	2 years
38	Ip Yiu Kwan	Wheelchair-Accessible Electric Urban Taxi	1 electric taxi	2 years
39	Gate Gourmet Hong Kong Limited	Electric Van for Catering Service	1 electric van type light goods vehicle	2 years
40	Kwok Kin Air Condition &	Electric Van for Building Service	1 electric van type	2 years

	Name of Subsidy Recipient	Trial Project	Trial Product and Quantity	Trial Period
	Electrical Work Company Limited		light goods vehicle	
41	Chun Dak Engineering (HK-Macau) Company Limited	Electric Van for Construction Industry	1 electric van type light goods vehicle	2 years
42	CM Geotechnics Limited	Electric Van for Civil Engineering Industry	1 electric van type light goods vehicle	2 years
43	Cinpek Engineering Limited	Electric Van for Civil Engineering Industry	1 electric van type light goods vehicle	2 years
44	BioCycle (Hong Kong) Limited	Electric Vans for Pest Management Service	2 electric van type light goods vehicles	2 years
45	New Method Cleaning Services Limited	Electric Van for Cleaning Service	1 electric van type light goods vehicle	2 years
46	Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation	Electric Bus for Tenant Shuttle Service	1 solar air-conditioning system	2 years
47	Hong Kong International School Association Limited	Electric Van for Student and Goods Delivery	1 electric van type light goods vehicle	2 years
48	C & C Logistic Services Company Limited	Electric Van for Logistics Service	1 electric van type light goods vehicle	2 years
49	Ray Ray Limited	Electric Van for Exhibition Production and Stage Decoration Services	1 electric van type light goods vehicle	2 years
50	Swire Beverages Limited	Electric Vans for Beverage Delivery	2 electric van type light goods vehicles	2 years
51	Mak Hang Kei (Hong Kong) Construction Limited	Electric Vans for Construction Industry	2 electric van type light goods vehicles	2 years
52	Geotech Engineering Limited	Electric Vans for Construction Industry	2 electric van type light goods vehicles	2 years
53	Hotel ICON Limited	Electric Light Buses for Hotel Guest Shuttle Service	2 electric light buses	2 years
54	Kam Lung Trading Company	Hybrid Light Goods Vehicle for Vegetable Wholesale and Retail Delivery	1 hybrid light goods vehicle	2 years
55	Airport Authority Hong Kong	Electric Vans for Staff Shuttle Service and Goods delivery	3 electric van type light goods vehicles	2 years
56	DHL Express (Hong Kong) Limited	Electric Van for Courier Service	1 electric van type light goods vehicle	2 years
57	DKSH Hong Kong Limited	Hybrid Light Goods Vehicle for Logistics Service	1 hybrid light goods vehicle	2 years
58	DKSH Hong Kong Limited	Hybrid Medium Goods Vehicles for Logistics Service	2 hybrid medium goods vehicles	2 years

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No.: 1717)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 22):

Regarding the subsidy programme for the replacement of catalytic converters and/or oxygen sensors on vehicles, please advise:

- a) **So far**, how many petrol and liquefied petroleum gas taxis and light buses in Hong Kong have been subsidized to replace their catalytic converters and oxygen sensors? How many of them are still waiting for replacement of such components? When will all the installation work be done? What is the expenditure of the whole replacement exercise?
- b) **So far**, how many Euro II and III franchised buses in Hong Kong have been retrofitted with selective catalytic reduction devices? How many eligible franchised buses have not been retrofitted with such components? When will all the installation work be done? What is the expenditure of the whole exercise?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

1. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) launched a one-off subsidy programme for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) taxis and light buses to replace their catalytic converters and oxygen sensors in August 2013 to assist the LPG taxis and light buses to reduce emission of carbon monoxide, hydrocarbon and nitrogen oxides. A total of 18 103 taxis and 3 572 light buses are eligible for applying the subsidy in Hong Kong and a funding of \$150 million was provided to the Government for implementation of the replacement programme.

The programme was open for application to the vehicle owners from August 2013 onwards in three stages according to the year of vehicle manufacture and manufacturer, and the application was closed on 31 January 2014. During the application period, a total of 2 881 light buses and 13 942 taxis have registered for joining the programme. About 12 000 have completed the replacement as of January 2014 while it is estimated the replacement work for another 4 800 vehicles will be completed by end of April 2014.

2. A funding of \$400 million has been approved to the Government to wholly subsidize the franchised bus companies in retrofitting about 1 400 eligible Euro II and III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction (SCR) devices to reduce emission of nitrogen oxides. At present, 6 Euro II and III franchised buses have been retrofitted with SCR devices in the trial scheme. The franchised bus companies are now arranging retrofitting of SCR devices for the remaining buses and it is expected the retrofitting programme will be completed in late 2016.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB089

(Question Serial No.: 1718)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 23):

On promoting the use of electric vehicles (EVs), please reply on the following:

- (a) How many registered vehicle owners have signed up since the implementation of the waiver of First Registration Tax on EVs?
- (b) Please list in a table the current distribution of EV charging stations in various districts of Hong Kong, the types of charging facilities (quick/slow) and the usage levels.
- (c) What was the situation of EV procurement by various government departments in the past 3 years?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

(a) The waiver of First Registration Tax on electric vehicles (EVs) began in 1994. Till the end of February 2014, a total of 211 vehicle owners have made the first registration (excluding Government EVs), involving approximately 494 EVs.

(b) At present, the Government has installed some 500 standard charging facilities in 18 car parks under management of the Transport Department and Government Property Agency. The commercial sector has also installed over 500 charging facilities in different places. There are also 10 quick chargers in different districts of Hong Kong with an average of one charger within about 20 km. The distribution of these chargers by district is provided in **Annex 1**.

In 2013, based on the electricity consumption in about 500 standard chargers of the Government car parks, we estimated that the average number of charging was about 67 times per month per car park. The number of charging was about 50 times per month for each quick charger.

(c) Details of EV procurement by Government departments in the past three years are provided in **Annex 2**.

Geographical distribution of public EV chargers (by districts)

District	No. of Charging Points		District	No. of Charging Points	
	General	Quick (Japanese CHAdeMO Standard)		General	Quick (Japanese CHAdeMO Standard)
Central & Western	165	1	Islands	10	1
Eastern	119	1	Kwai Tsing	20	--
Southern	4	2	North	36	1
Wan Chai	112	--	Sai Kung	30	--
Kowloon City	5	--	Sha Tin	62	1
Kwun Tong	57	1	Tai Po	15	--
Sham Shui Po	43	--	Tsuen Wan	47	--
Wong Tai Sin	61	--	Tuen Mun	21	--
Yau Tsim Mong	154	1	Yuen Long	42	1

Details of EV procurement by Government departments in the past three years

Department	2011	2012	2013	Total
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department		3	3	6
Architectural Services Department		1		1
Buildings Department		8		8
Customs and Excise Department	1		1	2
Civil Aviation Department	2			2
Civil Engineering and Development Department	1	1		2
Correctional Services Department		1		1
Administration Wing	1			1
Department of Health		1		1
Electrical and Mechanical Services Department	1	1	3	5
Environmental Protection Department	1			1
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department		1	2	3
Fire Services Department			1	1
Government Logistics Department	1			1
Home Affairs Department		1		1
Hong Kong Police Force	23	108		131
Post Office		5	2	7
Highways Department		1		1
Housing Department		1	1	2
Independent Commission Against Corruption	2			2
Labour Department		1		1
Lands Department		4		4
Leisure and Cultural Services Department	1	1		2
Office of the Communications Authority	1			1
Radio Television Hong Kong	1		1	2
Social Welfare Department	2	1		3
Transport Department		5		5
Water Supplies Department	4		4	8
Total	42	145	18	205

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB090****(Question Serial No.: 1719)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 24):

Regarding reduction of vessel emissions, please reply on the following:

- (a) To encourage ocean-going vessels (OGVs) to use low sulphur fuel when berthing in Hong Kong waters, has the Administration installed onshore power supply facilities or relevant supporting facilities for incentivizing OGVs to switch to low sulphur fuel when berthing in Hong Kong waters? If yes, what are the details? What is the expenditure involved?
- (b) Please provide the number of vessels that sail frequently or serve as a means of transportation in Hong Kong waters. Please also provide the numbers of local vessels that were prosecuted by the Administration for emission of excessive smoke **over the past three years.**

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

- (a) The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has implemented the 3-year Port Facilities and Light Dues Incentive Scheme since September 2012 to encourage the use of low sulphur fuel by ocean-going vessels (OGVs) while berthing in Hong Kong waters to reduce the emission of sulphur dioxide and respirable suspended particulates. As at the end of February 2014, we have approved 4 524 applications for the port facilities and light dues reduction which account for about 12% of the vessel arrivals. The amount of port facilities and light dues concession was about \$25 million.

The Government has reserved space for the installation of on-shore power supply (OPS) facilities at the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal. Regarding the installation of OPS facilities at the Terminal, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department engaged a consultancy service in November 2013 to conduct a technical feasibility study, which could help to work out the work details of OPS installation and estimate the cost.

- (b) The number of vessels that sail frequently or serve as a means of transportation in Hong Kong waters in 2013 is as follows:

	<u>Number</u>
<u>Non-Hong Kong vessels</u>	
OGVs (average daily arrivals)	74
River vessels (average daily arrivals)	220
<u>Local vessels</u>	
Licensed local vessels (excluding non-self-propelled vessels)	16 359

In the past 3 years, one local vessel was prosecuted by the Marine Department for excessive emission of smoke.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB091

(Question Serial No.:1720)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question(Member Question No.: 25):

(a) Please list the number of government buildings/public facilities and private enterprises which took part in carbon audits in each of the past years **since the implementation of carbon audits**.

(b) Please advise on the manpower and expenditure involved in each carbon audit conducted for government buildings, public facilities or enterprises.

Asked by:Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

(a) Since the promulgation of carbon audit practice, around 240 government buildings and public facilities have participated in carbon auditing with about 530 yearly carbon audit reports completed. A breakdown by year is listed in below: –

Reporting Year	Number of Yearly Carbon Audit Reports Completed
2008	23
2009	120
2010	144
2011	178
After 2011	67 [Remark]

[Remark: Carbon audit is a tool to review the past carbon performance of buildings/public facilities, and it takes time to complete auditing reports. Therefore, the provisional number of yearly carbon audit reports completed for years after 2011 is 67 so far.]

In addition, the Government has been encouraging the private sector to participate in carbon reduction initiatives, and has published a set of technical guidelines for conducting carbon audits. Furthermore, the Environment and Conservation Fund has supported a CarbonSmart Programme to incentivize about 200 private enterprises to conduct carbon audits. A carbon footprint repository will also be launched in 2014-15 to facilitate listed companies to disclose carbon audit findings, and share carbon management experience and practices. By then, the public would be able to know more about the number of private enterprises that have participated in carbon auditing.

- (b) The manpower and expenditure for carbon audits implemented by individual Government departments were funded by the recurrent expenses of the departments. In addition, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has rolled out in September 2012 a three-year programme to conduct energy-cum-carbon audits for about 120 Government buildings and public facilities. So far, audits for three reporting years for around 60 Government buildings and public facilities have been completed, and the expenditure involved is about \$4.12 million. Furthermore, the CarbonSmart Programme, which is supported by the Environment and Conservation Fund, is providing a matching fund of upto \$30,000 each to about 200 private enterprises to conduct energy-cum-carbon audits. We do not have manpower breakdown for promoting carbon audit, which is an integral part of EPD's work on managing climate change.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB092****(Question Serial No.: 1721)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (4) Water

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 26):

Please list the numbers of complaints about water pollution in the vicinity of the three strategic landfills and sewage treatment works in various districts received **in the past three years**. In response, what action has the Administration taken to improve the water quality in the vicinity of these facilities **during the past three years** and what is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

The number of complaints about water pollution concerning the three strategic landfills and sewage treatment works received in the past three years are as follows:

Year	No. of complaints about water pollution in the vicinity of landfills			No. of complaints about water pollution in the vicinity of sewage treatment works
	SENT Landfill	WENT Landfill	NENT Landfill	
2011	0	3	0	0
2012	1	6	0	0
2013	3	0	3	0

According to the findings of the investigations into the above complaints, it was confirmed that fifteen of these complaints did not involve discharge of wastewater. The remaining one involved discharge of polluting matter from a leachate storage lagoon at the NENT Landfill in 2013. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has conducted investigations and replied to the complainant on the follow-up actions.

The design and operation of the three strategic landfills are in compliance with very stringent environmental performance indicators and requirements as well as international standards. The Environmental Compliance Division of EPD regulates discharge of wastewater to the waters of Hong Kong, including treated wastewater from landfills and government sewage treatment works, through the licensing controls of the Water Pollution Control Ordinance (Cap. 358). The Environmental Infrastructure Division of EPD is responsible for overseeing the operation and environmental monitoring work of landfill contractors to ensure that the contractors meet the stringent environmental performance specified in the contracts and the statutory requirements under the relevant pollution control ordinances.

In response to concerns about the possible impacts of wastewater management at landfills on the surrounding environment including surface water and groundwater, the contractors have implemented various measures

under EPD's supervision, including building and operating wastewater treatment plants, ammonia stripping plants, sequencing batch reactors etc. for proper collection and treatment of wastewater from landfills to avoid any adverse impact on the water quality nearby. The expenditure of various wastewater management measures of the contractors is already included in the daily operating expenses of landfills.

The Drainage Services Department (DSD) operates and maintains the sewage treatment works in accordance with the respective design memorandum of the works and DSD's operational experience to ensure that the effluent discharge from sewage treatment works complies with statutory discharge standards and requirements. Samples of the effluent are taken and tested regularly to ensure that the effluent quality meets the standards and requirements. The expenditure of various effluent management measures is already included in the daily operating expenses of sewage treatment works. DSD does not have breakdowns on the expenditure in this regard.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB093****(Question Serial No.: 1722)**Head: (44) Environmental Protection DepartmentSubhead(No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (4) WaterControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.: 27):

The Environmental Protection Department has stated that the sewerage master plans for Central and East Kowloon, West Kowloon, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Chung, Tuen Mun, Tsing Yi, the Outlying Islands, Hong Kong Island, North District and Tolo Harbour areas have been reviewed and proposals are being pursued. Please set out in a table the sewage treatment capacity of the sewerage systems in the above districts for the **past 3 years and the coming 3 years**, the details of the upgrading works, expected date of commencement, expected date of completion, as well as the expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kanReply:

The annual volume of sewage from the three broad regions in Hong Kong treated by the Drainage Services Department in the past 3 years and the coming 3 years are listed in the table below. Since the boundaries of the catchment areas of sewage treatment facilities and the Sewerage Master Plans (SMPs) are not entirely the same, the volume of sewage treated is not listed according to regions by SMPs. The figures below are listed under three regions namely Hong Kong and Outlying Islands, Kowloon and New Territories.

Region Year	Hong Kong & Outlying Islands (million m ³)	Kowloon (million m ³)	New Territories (million m ³)	Total (million m ³)
2011	266	451	262	979
2012	276	460	271	1 007
2013	272	464	277	1 013
2014 estimate	276	471	281	1 028
2015 estimate	282	480	287	1 049
2016 estimate	287	490	292	1 069

Major works projects under the SMPs (except the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme (HATS)) implemented in the past 3 years and the coming 3 years include sewage interception schemes, expansion/improvement of sewerage systems, enhancement of facilities of sewage treatment works, etc. The approved project estimate and expenditure involved are listed in the table below:

SMP	(\$million)							Start date of project	Completion date of project
	Approved project estimate	Actual expenditure 2011-12	Actual expenditure 2012-13	Revised estimate 2013-14	Estimate 2014-15	Estimate 2015-16	Estimate 2016-17		
Central & East Kowloon	1,508	278	198	157	87	219	126	01/2009	Late 2016
West Kowloon, Tsuen Wan & Kwai Chung ^{Note}	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuen Mun & Tsing Yi	3,315	607	764	634	374	410	61	12/2007	Late 2015
Outlying Islands	2,923	210	166	243	270	309	304	07/2001	Mid-2018
HK Island	2,454	38	47	5	3	-	-	05/2004	Mid-2012
North District & Tolo Harbour	4,424	333	412	485	531	632	492	09/2005	Mid-2017
Total	14,624	1,466	1,587	1,524	1,265	1,570	983		

Note:

Some of the relevant works projects in West Kowloon, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Chung were already completed before 2011-12. Other major works projects also are under planning. Of these, the design of installation of additional automatic dry weather flow interceptors at the Cherry Street box culvert outlet commenced in August 2012, whereas the design of provision of sewers in some unsewered areas commenced in January 2014 as well. Besides, the advance disinfection facilities of the Stonecutters Island Sewage Treatment Works under HATS Stage 2A came into full operation in March 2010, while the major works have commenced progressively since July 2009 and will be completed within 2014.

We will continue to take forward these sewerage works according to priorities and depending on actual resources.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB094****(Question Serial No.: 1725)**Head: (44) Environmental Protection DepartmentSubhead(No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme:Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.: 30):

- a) The 2014-15 Estimate for various programmes is higher than the 2013-14 Revised Estimate. Programme (1), (2) and (6) have the biggest increase in provision. What are the reasons?
- b) New posts will be created under Programme (1)-(5), and Programme (1) has the highest number of new posts. Please provide the details of the new posts created under various programmes mentioned above.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kanReply:

- (a) The increase of \$514.0 million in Programme (1) is mainly due to increased contract payments for the operation of waste facilities and the commencement of trial operation of the Sludge Treatment Facilities. The increase of \$2,918.8 million in Programme (2) is mainly due to the implementation of non-recurrent projects to improve roadside air pollution. The increase of \$ 2 million in Programme (6) is mainly used for enhancing cooperation with various sectors on nature conservation and continuing to conduct promotion and public education to the community on nature conservation.

Programme	Grade	Rank	No.	Expenditure(\$m)
(1)	EPO	AD	1	1.739
	EPO	SEPO	9	10.384
	EPO	EPO / AEPO	23	12.990
	EPI	SEPI	6	2.833
	EPI	EPI	14	4.107
	Stat	Senior Stat	1	1.154
	Stat	Stat	1	0.773
	StatO	StatOII / Stu StatO	1	0.220
	Architect	Architect / AA	2	1.277
	TA	TA	1	0.808
	AO	AOI	1	0.622
	EO	SEO	1	0.846
	EO	EOI	2	1.244
	EO	EOII	1	0.412
CO	CO	1	0.357	

	CO	ACO	3	0.667
	CO	CA	2	0.347
	PS	PSI	1	0.357
	OA	OA	(1)	(0.153)
	Total		70	40.984
(2)-(5)	EPO	EPO / AEPO	12	6.777
	EPI	CEPI	1	0.622
	EPI	EPI	7	2.054
	Motor Driver	Motor Driver	1	0.185
	EPO	SEPO	(1)	(1.154)
	Total		20	8.484
Aggregate total			90	49.468

Note: () denotes the number of posts deleted and the relevant expenditure

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB095****(Question Serial No.: 1730)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 35):

What is the Government's green procurement policy? How did the Administration promote it within the Government in the past to ensure compliance by various departments during procurement? How effective was it? How will the Administration enhance promotion of the Government's green procurement policy in future and what is the manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

The Government has been taking the lead in promoting the policy of green procurement. We encourage government departments to purchase green products as far as possible and where economically rational. We have extended the number of types of products on the Government's green procurement list to 103 items. In 2011, the Government spent about \$830 million on the 103 types of products on the green procurement list; in 2012, the expenditure was about \$1.6 billion.

To promote the policy of green procurement, the Government has amended Stores and Procurement Regulations since 2000, requesting various departments to take environmental factors into account in setting out the tender specifications. Green specifications were developed for items commonly used by various bureaux and departments (B/Ds), and two circulars have been issued to B/Ds to provide guidance on green procurement policy. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) in collaboration with other departments and stakeholders will continue to organise or participate in training seminars. Relevant information on green procurement (including the Government's green procurement list and related training information) will continue to be disseminated through the EPD's website. The above work is carried out by B/D within their purview in concert with the waste reduction policy under the Environment Bureau. Relevant manpower and resources are provided by B/Ds and we do not have a breakdown.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB096

(Question Serial No.: 5417)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Waste
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 52):

In the performance measures in respect of the waste programme, it is mentioned that the indicator for number of chemical waste collector licences issued has risen sharply from 12 in 2013 to 32 as planned in 2014, whereas the indicator for number of chemical waste disposal licences issued has dropped by about one half from 13 in 2013 to 7. What are the reasons respectively? What are the expenditures involved respectively?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

We anticipate that the number of chemical waste collection licences and chemical waste disposal licences due for renewal in 2014 are 32 and 7 respectively. It is therefore estimated that the number of licences to be issued in 2014 are 32 and 7 respectively.

The processing of licence applications is part of the Environmental Protection Department's routine integrated enforcement and control duties, the Department does not have a separate breakdown on expenditure and establishment in this regard. We will continue to process renewal applications for the above two types of licences with our existing manpower and resources. No additional expenditure is required.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB097

(Question Serial No.: 5418)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Waste
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 53):

In the performance measures in respect of the waste programme, the indicator for prosecutions for livestock waste control offences has surged from 1 in 2013 to 12 in the 2014 estimate. What are the reasons? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) stepped up ambushes to the livestock farms near Tai Kong Po Tsuen in Yuen Long in 2013 to combat illegal discharge of wastewater. We successfully gathered evidence after investigations and issued a total of 9 summonses to prosecute the non-compliant farms. As the prosecutions initiated in 2013 for this batch of summonses will be concluded in 2014, we anticipate the number of completed prosecutions in 2014 will be 12, which is an increase over the number of prosecutions in 2013.

Control of livestock waste is part of EPD's routine integrated enforcement work, there is no breakdown of expenditure in this area and also no additional expenditure involved.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB098

(Question Serial No.: 5419)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Waste
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:54):

According to the performance measures in respect of the waste programme, the number of prosecutions against marine dumping offences has surged from 0 in 2013 to 80 in the 2014 estimate. Is there a rising trend of marine dumping in Hong Kong? If yes, what are the articles dumped and why? Has the Administration deployed more staff for monitoring and prosecution in response? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

Under the Dumping At Sea Ordinance, the number of summonses for which prosecution will be concluded in 2014 is estimated to be 80. These summonses are largely originated from a single works project involving dumping of marine mud outside the designated disposal area specified in the permit on multiple occasions. For this single case, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has issued a total of 72 summonses to the involved parties. Hence, we anticipate that the number of works projects involving marine dumping offences will maintain at a low level. The number of prosecutions is subject to fluctuation from year to year but it is not on an increasing trend.

Materials permitted to be dumped at sea are mainly sediments from marine and dredging works. EPD has 12 staff responsible for, inter alia, processing applications for marine dumping permits and conducting inspections and enforcement work. As control of marine dumping is part of EPD's routine integrated enforcement work, there is no breakdown of expenditure in this area. We will deploy existing staff and resources to follow up on prosecutions. Additional provision and adjustment of manpower are not required.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB099

(Question Serial No.: 5420)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Waste
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 55)

In the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014-15, it is mentioned that the Environmental Protection Department will make necessary preparation for the extension of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags. What is the preparation mentioned above? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

For the purpose of preparing for the extension of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags to cover the entire retail sector on 1 April 2015, the Environmental Protection Department has earmarked \$8 million to carry out relevant publicity and public education programmes for the implementation of the scheme in 2014-15.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB100****(Question Serial No.: 5421)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 56):

In the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014–15, it is mentioned that the Department will continue to promote glass recycling. In this connection, what were the resources allocated by the Government in the past three years? Will the resources to be allocated in 2014 be more or less the same as those in the past three years? If yes, why does the Government not allocate more resources to promote glass recycling? If no, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) encourages the public to recycle glass bottles through various measures, including the recycling programmes funded by the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) and those self-financed by the trade. Apart from publicity and technical support, the EPD also provides logistics support and organises collection programmes at schools and housing estates. The relevant work is carried out by the EPD's staff, which is part of the work of the department. The expenditure of the relevant measures under the ECF and the EPD in the past three years is tabulated below:

Year	Expenditure (\$ million)
2011	1.41
2012	2.94
2013	7.20

The EPD will continue to promote and support various recycling programmes to gain experience for the implementation of mandatory producer responsibility scheme (PRS) on glass beverage bottles. In this connection, the EPD reported the progress and work plan of the preparatory work to the Panel on Environmental Affairs in November 2013. Main focus of the work in the coming year is to expand the glass bottle collection network. We plan to increase the number of residential collection points from currently 321 to about 1 000 by the end of 2014. The estimated expenditure of the work on glass recycling for 2014-15 is about \$14.4 million.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB101****(Question Serial No.: 5422)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 57)

In the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014-15, it is mentioned that the Environmental Protection Department will support the Steering Committee to Promote the Sustainable Development of the Recycling Industry. What is the support rendered? What are the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

The Government set up the Steering Committee to Promote the Sustainable Development of the Recycling Industry in August 2013 to step up concerted efforts in reducing waste at source and promoting the development of the recycling industry. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is responsible for secretariat functions to the Steering Committee and co-ordinates policy development and implementation of initiatives arising from the deliberation of the Steering Committee. These initiatives include establishing and managing the Recycling Fund, development of a certification scheme for recyclers, provision of training programmes for the recycling workforce in collaboration with relevant training bodies, co-ordination of public education and publicity campaigns, promotion of green procurement, facilitating infrastructural and land support for recycling operations including short-term tenancy sites, berths in Public Cargo Working Areas, etc.

22 time-limited non-directorate civil service posts will be created in EPD in 2014-15 to support the above-mentioned efforts. The relevant supernumerary posts have a term of 3 years and the notional annual salary cost at mid-point is \$11,227,000. In addition, subject to approval of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council, a supernumerary Assistant Director post will also be created in EPD; the additional notional annual salary cost at mid-point will be \$1,739,000.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB102

(Question Serial No.: 5423)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Waste
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 58):

In the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014–15, it is mentioned that the Environmental Protection Department will continue to monitor the operation of the EcoPark in Tuen Mun Area 38. It was reported in the past year that some companies in the EcoPark had not properly utilized the land. There are even cases where the land leased has not yet been developed. Would the Government advise if it will allocate more resources or put forward improvement measures to better monitor the situation? If yes, what is the associated expenditure? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

The Administration has closely monitored the development and operation of the tenants' recycling businesses in the EcoPark. In general, if the tenants encounter any development or operational problem, the Administration will take proactive steps to follow up and understand their difficulties in order to provide support and assistance. In case of breach of any of the conditions in the lease agreements by the tenants, the Administration would issue warning letters to the tenants or even take legal actions to terminate the lease agreements if necessary. At present, all available lots in the EcoPark have been leased, and the tenants are in different stages of planning, constructing, testing or commissioning of their plants and operations. However, there is a tenant who cannot commission in accordance with the lease agreement so the Administration has initiated the legal process for termination of the lease agreement. The monitoring and follow-up work of the EcoPark are carried out by the Environmental Infrastructure Division of Environmental Protection Department and we have no separate breakdown on the cost of this work.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB103****(Question Serial No.: 5424)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 59):

In the Estimates of 2014-15, the estimate for Programme (2) Air is 256.5% higher than the revised estimate for 2013-14. The increase for this programme is the greatest among all programmes. However, the indicators for the performance measures in respect of air-related activities in the Estimates for 2014 are similar to the previous year. What are the reasons? Besides, the increase in provision is mainly due to increased cash flow requirement for non-recurrent projects and a net increase of 7 posts. What are the non-recurrent projects? What are the duties of and expenditure involved in the 7 posts?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

The estimated financial provision under the Air Programme of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) in 2014-15 is \$4.0569 billion, an increase of \$2.9188 billion as compared to the revised estimate for 2013-14. The increased provision is mainly due to the implementation of 3 new non-recurrent programmes on improving roadside air quality. Their details are as follows:

Non-recurrent Programme	Revised Estimate for 2013-14	Estimated Provision for 2014-15
Ex-gratia payment for phasing out pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles by 2020	\$280 million	\$3.36 billion
Trial of electric buses by franchised bus companies	\$20 million	\$130 million
Retrofitting Euro II & Euro III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices to reduce their emissions	\$6 million	\$20 million

The above measures will help improve roadside air quality gradually.

For the manpower establishment, there will be a net increase of 7 posts to help formulate air policies, carry out law enforcement actions, monitor air quality and implement the ex-gratia payment scheme for phasing out pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles. The expenditure involved in these 7 posts is \$2.05 million.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB104

(Question Serial No.: 5425)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 60):

In the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014–15, it is mentioned that the Department will “continue to promote the use of electric vehicles”. In this connection, what were the resources allocated by the Government in the past three years? Will the resources to be allocated in 2014 be more or less the same as those in the past three years? If yes, why will the Government not allocate more resources to promote the development of electric vehicles? If no, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

The government expenditures on promoting the use of electric vehicles (EVs) in the past three financial years (i.e. 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13) were about \$8.2 million, \$9.4 million and \$8.6 million respectively, mainly used to promote the use of EVs through different channels, including allocating funds to dedicated support team of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department and conducting promotional activities. In 2014-15, we will spend about \$11.4 million on the aforesaid promotion works, launching a pilot scheme for electric taxi suppliers to install additional quick chargers in car parks administered by the Transport Department, and installing 100 medium chargers in various districts to shorten the charging time of EVs.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB105

(Question Serial No.: 0045)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 106):

Regarding the waste management work of the Environmental Protection Department, please advise on the following:

- (a) The estimated financial provision for 2014-15 is 23.8% higher than the original estimate for 2013-14. What are the reasons?
- (b) For the waste treatment process, please list out the expenditure of each step (e.g. collection, transfer, disposal at landfills) in each of the past 5 years. Please list the details by year and step;
- (c) As regards the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign implemented since December 2012, please provide the details of each project and activity (e.g. public events, industry meetings, the time and place of meetings with organisations as well as the number of participants), the expenditure and manpower involved, the effectiveness, the amount of resources used as well as the waste generated (e.g. paper, wood, plastic bag, food waste). Please list by project how the Administration handled these resources and waste after completion of the projects and activities;
- (d) What were the details of the waste management work of extending the three landfills and constructing incinerators in each of the past 5 years? What were the expenditure and manpower involved, as well as the amount of resources used and waste generated (e.g. paper, wood, plastic bag). Please list the details by year.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) The increase in provision in the estimate for 2014-15 as compared with the original estimate for 2013-14 is mainly provided to cover the price fluctuation as required in accordance with the contract provisions of waste facilities, commencement of trial operation of the Sludge Treatment Facility, implementation of the Waste Diversion Plan, operation of the Community Green Stations, implementation of the producer responsibility schemes and to meet the increased requirement of other operating expenses and the net increase of 70 posts.
- (b) The operation costs for the waste treatment processes such as collection, transfer, landfilling in the past five years are provided in the following table.

Financial Year	Operation Cost (\$million)			
	Collection*	Transfer	Landfilling	Total
2009-10 (Actual)	378	305	397	1,080
2010-11 (Actual)	378	330	422	1,130
2011-12 (Actual)	405	344	489	1,238
2012-13 (Actual)	431	380	607	1,418
2013-14 (Estimate)	446	394	616	1,456

* Household collection and delivery service is mainly provided by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department.

(c) The Food Wise Hong Kong Steering Committee was set up in December 2012 to formally launch the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign (the Campaign) in May 2013. The Campaign has carried out promotional and public education activities through various media, as well as implemented a number of major schemes and activities as below:

Major Schemes and Activities	Time	Location	No. of Participants
Advertising for the Campaign (including those in public transport system, printed materials and electronic platform, etc.)	From May 2013 till now	Not Applicable	
Drawing up and promoting good practices of food waste reduction in cooperation with the relevant trades and sectors	From May 2013 till now	Not Applicable	
Launching the Food Wise Charter Scheme	From May 2013 till now	Not Applicable	
Launching the Food Wise Hong Kong Ambassador Scheme	From May 2013 till now	About 450	
Meeting with the relevant sectors including women groups and the catering industry to conduct briefings and encourage participation	From December 2012 till now	Central Government Offices	About 180 in total
Establishing a supporting website for the Campaign, organizing food waste reduction training workshops for launching the Food Wise Hong Kong Ambassador Scheme and participation by the relevant sectors and interested parties.	So far 10 training workshops have been organized on the following dates respectively: 21 May, 3 & 26 June, 30 September, 9 & 11 October, 15 & 20 November, 6 December 2013 and 17 January 2014. The website of Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign came into operation on 18 May 2013	Mostly in the Hong Kong Productivity Council Building in Kowloon Tong, and also organized twice in Tuen Mun and Kwun Tong respectively.	Ranged from dozens to 100 on each occasion
Organizing publicity activities to promote the Food Wise message, including: - Launch ceremony of the Campaign - Food Wise Hong Kong Steering Committee First Anniversary Ceremony/Food Wise Caroling	18 May 2013 17 December 2013	Olympian City Shopping Mall Discovery Park Shopping Centre	About 250 About 120

Since the launch of the Campaign, we have promoted a food wise and waste less culture and encouraged

behavioural change to reduce food waste in the community through various schemes and activities. The "Big Waster" symbolizing food wastage in the Campaign is gradually rooting in the general public. As at 15 February 2014, 330 organizations have signed the Food Wise Charter and are committed to reducing food waste, and some 450 Food Wise Hong Kong Ambassadors have taken part in the food waste reduction training workshops to prepare themselves for promotion of Food Wise message. We will keep in view the effectiveness of the Campaign.

The manpower involved in the Campaign was absorbed under the existing establishment. As at end of March 2014, the expenditure spent on advertising was \$10.4 million and the total expenditure on the other major schemes and activities listed in the above table was \$3.5 million. We have adopted a principle of simplicity and green in carrying out the above work and activities. Catering services were not provided and reusable materials were used as far as possible, and hence there was no generation of a large amount of waste.

(d) In the past five years, the Environmental Protection Department has conducted a series of work on the proposed extension of three landfills (i.e. the Southeast New Territories landfill extension project, Northeast New Territories landfill extension project and West New Territories landfill extension project) and the development of Integrated Waste Management Facilities (IWMF) (i.e. waste-to-energy incinerator), including:

- (i) conducting feasibility studies and environmental impact assessments;
- (ii) liaising with statutory bodies, non-statutory organizations and local representatives to facilitate continuous public involvement in the projects;
- (iii) completion of land use rezoning;
- (iv) obtaining the Environment Permit required for the project;
- (v) conducting geotechnical investigation, preparatory work for the tendering exercise as well as going through the statutory procedures under the Foreshore and Sea-bed (Reclamations) Ordinance regarding the development of IWMF on an artificial island constructed adjacent to Shek Kwu Chau;
- (vi) implementing district improvement and betterment measures in response to the local community's concern; and
- (vii) seeking the Legislative Council's support for the project and funding approval, etc.

The expenditures involved in the preparatory work for the proposed extension of the three landfills and the development of IWMF on an artificial island constructed next to Shek Kwu Chau in the past five years are mainly expenses on studies as provided in the table below:

Financial Year	Expenditures on Preparatory Work (\$million)	
	Extension of Three Landfills	IWMF (in relation to item (d) (v) above)
2009-10 (Actual)	4.235	-
2010-11 (Actual)	2.558	-
2011-12 (Actual)	5.167	2.626
2012-13 (Actual)	2.352	3.803
2013-14 (Estimate)	0.135	2.612
Total	14.447	9.041

well as the Nature Conservation and Infrastructure Planning Division of Environmental Protection Department. We do not have separate breakdown of individual tasks.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB106****(Question Serial No.: 0046)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 107):

Regarding promotion of producer responsibility schemes (PRSs) and recycling work, please advise:

- a) The Government published *A Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste (2005-2014) (the Policy Framework)* and *Hong Kong: Blueprint for Sustainable Use of Resources 2013-2022 (the Blueprint)* in 2005 and 2013 respectively. In respect of *the Policy Framework* and *the Blueprint*, please set out the respective details of each project and activity (e.g. time, location, attendance, etc. of each public consultation, meeting with the trades and the groups), the expenditure and manpower involved, effectiveness and resources used and quantity of waste produced (e.g. paper, wood, plastic bags, food waste, etc.), as well as how these resources and waste were handled by the Administration respectively after completion of the projects and activities.
- b) *The Policy Framework* suggested implementing PRSs on 6 products. What is the work progress so far? What are the expenditure and manpower involved? What are the reasons for the delay of the work, as well as the respective additional expenditure and manpower incurred due to the delay? Please set out the information by each product.
- c) With regard to enhancement of the recycling rate in Hong Kong, what are the work plan and timetable of the Administration, as well as the expenditure and manpower involved?
- d) Regarding setting up one community green station in each of the 18 districts in Hong Kong, what are the work plan and timetable of the Administration, as well as the expenditure and manpower involved? Please set out the information by each green station.
- e) Since the implementation of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags, what were the shops or establishments registered for the Scheme in each quarter, the number of plastic bags disposed of, the amount of levy collected (equivalent to the number of shopping bags distributed), the number of inspections made by the Administration and the expenditure and manpower involved, as well as the number of prosecutions and penalties imposed? Please give the information by quarters.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- a) *A Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste (2005-2014) (the Policy Framework)* and *Hong Kong: Blueprint for Sustainable Use of Resources 2013-2022 (the Blueprint)* were published in December 2005 and May 2013 respectively. *The Policy Framework* and *the Blueprint* cover various waste management initiatives by the Government. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will also follow up on the initiatives listed in the two documents. We do not have a breakdown of different types of activities of each relevant

initiative. In general, when organising activities, the EPD adopts environmental and waste reduction measures which are consistent with the environmental measures advocated in the Government's internal circulars to show the Government's commitment in waste reduction.

- b) *The Policy Framework* proposes the implementation of producer responsibility schemes (PRs) on 6 products. The Government has started the relevant studies and has according to practical circumstances drawn up specific proposals for mandatory PRs on plastic shopping bags, electrical and electronic equipment and glass beverage bottles, which will be progressively implemented through legislation. The legislative progress of these 3 schemes is as follows:
- The Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags: The Legislative Council (LegCo) passed the Product Eco-Responsibility (Amendment) Ordinance 2014 on 19 March 2014 to extend the Scheme to the entire retail sector.
 - The mandatory PR on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE): We are now preparing legislative proposals with a view to tabling the bill to the LegCo for scrutiny this year.
 - The mandatory PR on glass beverage bottles: We reported the progress and work plan to the Panel on Environmental Affairs in November 2013.

Meanwhile, the Government will continue to support and promote various voluntary recycling programmes and other measures to gain experience for the implementation of mandatory PRs in future. The relevant work is carried out by the EPD's staff, and this is part of the work of the Department. We do not have a breakdown of the resources involved in individual activities.

- c) The Government published *the Blueprint* in May 2013, which maps out the comprehensive strategy, specific targets, policies and action plans for waste management for the coming 10 years. We hope that the recycling rate in Hong Kong can be increased to 55% by 2022. Apart from implementing various PRs and setting up community green stations (CGSs), the EPD will continue to encourage the public to reduce waste and separate the waste at source for facilitating recycling through publicity and educational programmes, with a view to enhancing the recycling rate in Hong Kong. These programmes include commendation schemes, media advertisements and broadcasts, workshops, forums and exhibitions, etc. At present, over 80% of the population in Hong Kong can find recycling bins near their living and work place, and they form an extensive community recycling network. On this basis, we will enhance our collaboration with government departments, the District Councils, schools, housing estates, property management companies, green groups and social services organisations on setting up more community collection points, facilitating more proactive community participation and promoting the habit of clean recycling. We have also launched "Waste Less", a free mobile application to provide information on the locations of the recyclable collection points in public places all over Hong Kong as well as the latest news and useful knowledge about waste reduction and recycling, so as to facilitate members of the public to participate in waste reduction and recycling. In addition, the Government has established the Steering Committee to Promote the Sustainable Development of the Recycling Industry, which is led by the Chief Secretary for Administration. The Steering Committee aims to step up efforts in promoting the development of the recycling industry, review the current situation of collection and disposal of local recyclables, and related policies and support measures, as well as study viable measures to support the recycling industry.

The EPD allocated about \$52.57 million to implement publicity and educational activities in 2013-14 to enhance the public's awareness of, as well as community participation in, waste reduction, separation and recycling, with a view to soliciting the public's support for various waste reduction policy initiatives. There were 43 staff members involved. In 2014-15, the estimated expenditure of the EPD for the related work is about \$64.7 million. The number of staff involved will increase to about 50.

Meanwhile, the Government will continue to support non-profit organisations in organising educational activities and encouraging the community recycling work through the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF). In 2013-14, the ECF granted a sum of \$59.89 million to various non-profit organisations for promoting waste reduction and recycling, as well as educational activities.

- d) The Government plans to set up one CGS in each of the 18 districts and will provide funding to non-profit organisations for their operation. The capital works will cost about \$400 million. The latest development for individual CGSs is tabulated below:

District	Latest development	Estimated schedule for commissioning	Estimated capital expenditure
Shatin	Site confirmed	2014	\$20.5 million
Eastern	Site confirmed	First half of 2015	\$27.3 million
Others	Preparation work started	To be commissioned by phases	About \$350 million in total

Staff from the EPD and the Architectural Services Department are responsible for the work of setting up the CGSs, which is part of the work of the departments. Separately, the EPD would create 16 permanent posts and 5 time-limited posts lasting for 3 years for the implementation of this initiative. As to the operating expenditure for each CGS, it will depend on the results of the open tender for appointing the operators.

- e) The Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags (Levy Scheme) came into operation on 7 July 2009. The quarterly information of a total of 18 quarters as at the end of December 2013 is set out at Annex 1. The estimated number of plastic shopping bags disposed of at landfills as shown in the annual landfill surveys conducted by the EPD is set out at Annex 2.

As at the end of December 2013, the EDP initiated a total of 7 prosecutions against registered retailers who contravened the Product Eco-responsibility Ordinance. All the prosecuted cases were convicted, with penalties ranging from \$1,500 to \$2,000 per conviction.

The work on the Levy Scheme is carried out by an EPD team comprising 10 members. The recurrent expenditure was about \$9.98 million for 2013-14. Other supporting work is undertaken by the EPD's staff, and this is part of their work. The EPD will review the implementation of the Levy Scheme from time to time and deploy manpower and resources as appropriate.

	Number of registered retail outlets ¹ (unit)	Levy income (HK dollar)	Number of plastic shopping bags distributed (unit)	Number of inspections(time)	Number of prosecutions (unit)
1 st quarter	3,014	\$6,731,449.5	13,462,899	592	0
2 nd quarter	3,015	\$6,381,439.5	12,762,879	293	0
3 rd quarter	3,041	\$6,707,654.5	13,415,309	172	0
4 th quarter	3,081	\$5,711,021.5	11,422,043	266	4
5 th quarter	3,167	\$6,271,514.5	12,543,029	233	0
6 th quarter	3,146	\$6,218,964.0	12,437,928	208	0
7 th quarter	3,205	\$6,534,949.0	13,069,898	228	0
8 th quarter	3,234	\$6,264,115.5	12,528,231	171	1
9 th quarter	3,266	\$6,957,957.0	13,915,914	141	0
10 th quarter	3,319	\$7,042,740.5	14,085,481	202	0
11 th quarter	3,328	\$7,228,115.0	14,456,230	178	1
12 th quarter	3,321	\$7,068,854.0	14,137,708	176	0
13 th quarter	3,372	\$7,785,414.0	15,570,828	153	0
14 th quarter	3,380	\$7,689,416.5	15,378,833	201	0
15 th quarter	3,338	\$7,978,207.0	15,956,414	151	0
16 th quarter	3,351	\$7,849,759.5	15,699,519	163	0
17 th quarter	3,420	\$8,595,012.0	17,190,024	132	1
18 th quarter	3,473	\$8,551,983.0	17,103,966	142	0

1. The number of registered retail outlets is up to the last day of each quarter.

Findings of the Landfill Surveys on Disposal of Plastic Shopping Bags
(Unit: Estimated Annual Disposal)

	2009		2010		2011		2012	
	Million/Year	%	Million/Year	%	Million /Year	%	Million/ Year	%
Regulated Retail Categories	657.34	14.05%	153.12	3.45%	146.96	3.23%	155.81	2.97%
Other Retail Categories	4021.19	85.95%	4290.62	96.55%	4397.23	96.77%	5091.61	97.03%
Total	4678.53	100.00%	4443.74	100.00%	4544.19	100.00%	5247.42	100.00%

Note:

Under the current phase of the Levy Scheme, plastic shopping bag means a bag (i) that is made wholly or partly of plastic; and (ii) there is a handle, handle hole, perforated line for tearing out a handle hole, carrying string or strap, or any other carrying device on, or attached to, it.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB107

(Question Serial No.: 0047)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 108):

Regarding the Environmental Protection Department's work on improving air quality, please advise on the following:

- a) What are the reasons for the increase by 406.4% of the estimated financial provision for 2014-15 over the original estimate for 2013-14?
- b) What are the details, expenditures and manpower involved for the relevant measures implemented by the Administration in each year from 2005 onwards respectively? What are their participation rates and effectiveness? Please set out by year and by each measure.
- c) Since the Pilot Green Transport Fund was open for application in 2011, how has the Fund been operated (e.g. the number of applications received, approved and rejected, the amount granted and the amount of balance)? Please set out the application details of each approved application (e.g. amount and technology), as well as the details of rejected applications (e.g. amount, technology and reasons for being rejected)?
- d) The SAR government has designated pilot low-emission zones since 2011 with the target of allowing only low-emission buses to run in these zones by 2015. What are the expenditure and manpower involved in the relevant work every year? Has any review been conducted on the pilot plan every year? If yes, what are the details and results of the review, and the expenditure and manpower involved? Has the Administration assessed whether the relevant work progress can effectively meet the target for 2015?
- e) Regarding the pilot low-emission zones, please set out by exhaust emission standards the number of vehicles of each franchised bus companies running in these zones in each year from 2011 onwards. Please set out respectively by year, franchised bus companies and exhaust emission standards.
- f) Please set out by exhaust emission standards the number of buses, the age of vehicles and the amount of pollutant emission of each franchised bus companies respectively in each of the past five years.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- a) The estimated financial provision under the Air Programme of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) in 2014-15 is 3.2558 billion higher than the original estimate for 2013-14. The increased provision is mainly due to the implementation of 3 non-recurrent programmes on improving roadside air quality. Their details are as follows:

Non-recurrent Programme	Original Estimate for 2013-14	Estimated Provision for 2014-15
Ex-gratia payment for phasing out pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles by 2020	---	\$3.36 billion
Trial of electric buses by franchised bus companies	\$90 million	\$130 million
Retrofitting Euro II & Euro III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices to reduce their emissions	---	\$20 million

- b) Details of the air quality improvement measures implemented by the Government since 2005 are set out in **Annex 1**. Together with the joint efforts of Hong Kong and Guangdong in reducing emissions, the air quality of Hong Kong has improved. As compared with 2005, the ambient concentration levels of sulphur dioxide and respirable suspended particulates reduced by 50% and 24% respectively in 2012. In the same period, roadside concentrations of sulphur dioxide fell by 55%, respirable suspended particulates by 29% and nitrogen oxides by 12%.
- c) As at February 2014, the Pilot Green Transport Fund (the Fund) received 114 applications, of which 78 were approved, 29 withdrawn and 7 rejected. The rejected applications involve trials of electric motorcycles or fuel saving/emission reduction devices. The reasons for rejection are that electric motorcycles are outside the scope of the Fund, and there is not sufficient data and information to support the stated fuel saving/emission reduction efficiency of the devices for trial. Among the 78 approved applications, 5 trials' subsidy recipients terminated the preparation for the trial. The details of the other 73 trials are set out in **Annex 2**. The Fund has earmarked about \$93 million (31% of the Fund) for the above trials. To facilitate the successful applicants to receive competitive tenders in the tendering exercise, we will not release the amount of subsidy for individual trial.
- d) The Government plans to set up pilot low emission zones (LEZs) for franchised buses at busy corridors in Causeway Bay, Central and Mong Kok, with the target of having only low-emission buses (i.e. those meeting the emission level of Euro IV or above) in these zones by 2015. The Government has requested the franchised buses companies to deploy low-emission buses to routes serving the pilot LEZs as far as practicable since 2011. As at end 2013, about 38% of franchised buses deployed to routes serving these zones are low-emission buses. Under the current bus replacement programmes and taking into account those Euro II and Euro III buses to be retrofitted with selective catalytic reduction devices to upgrade their emission performance, the franchised bus companies anticipated that the target of setting up pilot LEZs by 2015 can be achieved. Monitoring of the above project is an integral part of the work on improving air quality, and there is no separate breakdown on the expenditure involved.
- e) The number of buses deployed by each franchised bus company along busy corridors of the pilot LEZs, including Yee Wo Street, Des Voeux Road Central and Nathan Road, broken down by emission standards, are set out in **Annex 3**.
- f) The number of buses owned by each franchised bus company and their average ages, broken down by emission standards, in the past five years are set out in **Annex 4**.

Estimate of pollutant emissions from franchised buses in the period between 2009 and 2012:

Year	Respirable suspended particulates (RSP) (tonnes)	Fine suspended particulates (FSP) (tonnes)	Nitrogen oxides (NOx) (tonnes)	Volatile organic compounds (VOC) (tonnes)	Carbon monoxide (CO) (tonnes)
2012	70	60	6 200	130	800
2011	70	60	6 390	130	770

2010	80	70	6 490	130	820
2009	110	100	6 650	140	1 030
<p>Note:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The compilation of vehicular emission inventory involves collection, verification and analysis of data including number of vehicles, changes in overall emissions, traffic and meteorological conditions, etc. As such work is time-consuming, we expect to publish the 2013 Air Pollutant Emission Inventory in early 2015. 2. We have not compiled the estimation of pollutant emissions by bus companies, thus no emission information of individual bus company is available. 					

(A) Motor Vehicle Emission Reduction Measures and their Expenditures (in the period from 2005 to 2013)

Measures	Details	Expenditure and Manpower Involved	Participation Rate and Effectiveness
1. Implementation of Euro IV standard for unleaded petrol and Euro IV emission standards for newly registered vehicles	<p>Euro IV petrol specification was implemented in January 2005 to pave way for introducing in stages, starting from 1 January 2006, Euro IV emission standards for newly registered vehicles. Since 1 January 2007, all newly registered vehicles must comply with Euro IV emission standards.</p> <p>(Note: Euro IV became the statutory standard for motor vehicle diesel in 2002)</p>	This is an integral part of the EPD's work on improving air quality, and there is no separate breakdown on the expenditure involved.	<p>This item is a mandatory measure.</p> <p>Euro IV petrol has 67% less sulphur as compared with Euro III petrol, thus reducing sulphur dioxide emission by roughly the same extent.</p> <p>As compared with Euro III motor vehicles, Euro IV vehicles emit about 30% and 80% less nitrogen oxides (NOx) and particulates respectively for heavy duty vehicles. In the case of light duty diesel vehicles, the emission reduction is about 50% less for both NOx and particulates.</p> <p>As for petrol vehicles, a Euro IV model emits about 45%, 50% and 55% less NOx, hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide respectively.</p>
2. Incentivise the replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles by new commercial vehicles	Starting from 1 April 2007, a one-off grant is provided to encourage vehicle owners to replace early their pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles with new ones which meet the statutory emission standards for newly registered vehicles.	<p>The approved commitment for this scheme was \$3.2 billion.</p> <p>This is an integral part of the EPD's work on improving air quality, and there is no separate breakdown on the expenditure involved.</p>	About 17 000 applications have been approved under the scheme, accounting for about 30% of all eligible vehicles.
3. Encourage the use of environment-friendly vehicles	<p>Starting from April 2007, a 30% reduction in first registration tax (FRT), subject to a cap of HK\$50,000 per car, is offered to encourage people to buy environment-friendly petrol private cars. The concession in FRT and the cap have been raised to 45% and \$75,000 respectively since 2011.</p> <p>Starting from April 2008, the Government has also offered a similar tax incentive to encourage the</p>	This is an integral part of the EPD's work on improving air quality, and there is no separate breakdown on the expenditure involved.	<p>As at the end of January 2014, some 60 600 applications for environment-friendly petrol private cars had been approved since the implementation of the measure, accounting for about 22% of all newly registered private petrol cars.</p> <p>As at the end of January 2014, the number of newly registered environment-friendly commercial vehicles</p>

Measures	Details	Expenditure and Manpower Involved	Participation Rate and Effectiveness
	<p>use of environment-friendly commercial vehicles with emission performance better than the prevailing statutory requirements</p> <p>The qualifying standards for environment-friendly petrol private cars and environment-friendly commercial vehicles are reviewed annually in the light of technological advancement such that the tax incentive is available only to vehicles of outstanding environmental performance.</p>		<p>since the implementation of the measure was about 22 500.</p>
<p>4. Implement Euro V motor fuel standards</p>	<p>A concessionary duty rate for Euro V diesel (\$0.56 per litre) was introduced on 1 December 2007. Starting from 14 July 2008, the duty rate for Euro V diesel has been waived to further encourage drivers to use this more environment-friendly fuel.</p> <p>The statutory specifications of motor vehicle diesel and petrol were tightened to Euro V standard on 1 July 2010, to pave the way for the implementation of Euro V emission standards for newly registered vehicles.</p>	<p>This is an integral part of the EPD's work on improving air quality, and there is no separate breakdown on the expenditure involved.</p>	<p>Since 1 December 2007, all petrol filling stations in Hong Kong have been offering exclusively Euro V diesel. Euro V diesel became the statutory standard for motor vehicle diesel on 1 July 2010.</p> <p>Euro V diesel has 80% less sulphur than Euro IV diesel. Diesel vehicles use Euro V instead of Euro IV diesel can help reduce the particulate emission by 5%.</p>
<p>5. Incentivise the replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles by new commercial vehicles</p>	<p>Starting from 1 April 2010, a one-off grant is provided to encourage vehicle owners to replace early their Euro II diesel commercial vehicles with new ones which meet the statutory vehicle emission standards.</p> <p>The scheme was completed on 30 June 2013. Under a special arrangement, eligible vehicle owners who had ordered new vehicles for the replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles but the replacement vehicles had not arrived in time for completing the application for the grant before the deadline of the scheme were allowed to</p>	<p>The approved commitment for this scheme in 2010 was \$539 million. Later in 2013, an increase in commitment by \$120 million was approved by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council since the uncommitted balance was unable to meet the latest estimated funding required for applications received under the grant scheme.</p> <p>This is an integral part of the EPD's work on improving air quality, and there is no separate breakdown on the expenditure involved.</p>	<p>As at January 2014, about 7 300 applications have been approved under the scheme accounting for about 27% of all the eligible vehicles.</p> <p>Euro II diesel vehicles emit about 7.5 and 3.5 times more RSP and NOx respectively than Euro V ones. Expediting their replacement by new ones can bring early improvement to roadside air quality.</p>

Measures	Details	Expenditure and Manpower Involved	Participation Rate and Effectiveness
	retain their eligibility to apply for the grant until 30 June 2014. A total of 342 applications have been approved under this arrangement.		
6. Introduce Euro V emission standards for newly registered vehicles	Euro V emission standards became the statutory minimum requirement for newly registered vehicles in Hong Kong starting from 1 June 2012.	This is an integral part of the EPD's work on improving air quality, and there is no separate breakdown on the expenditure involved.	Compared with Euro IV vehicles, Euro V heavy duty diesel vehicles emit about 40% less NOx and Euro V light duty diesel vehicles about 80% less RSP and 30% less NOx. As regards Euro V petrol or liquefied petroleum gas vehicles, they emit about 30% less NOx than their Euro IV counterparts.
7. Retrofitting Euro II and Euro III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction (SCR) devices	The trial of retrofitting Euro II and III franchised buses with SCRs was completed in February 2013. In July 2013, the Government obtained funding approval for fully subsidizing the franchised bus companies to retrofit Euro II and III franchised buses with SCRs. The franchised bus companies are preparing for the conduct of the retrofit programme, which is expected to complete by the end of 2016.	A funding of \$400 million has been approved for the programme. The additional workload will be met by the creation of 4 time-limited posts (which will last up to the end of 2016, including 1 Senior Environmental Protection Officer, 1 Environmental Protection Officer, 1 Transport Officer I and 1 Motor Vehicle Examiner II) by the EPD and the Transport Department (TD).	If some 1 400 eligible Euro II and III buses are retrofitted with SCRs, we expect that the NOx emissions of the whole franchised bus fleet could be reduced by about 14%.
8. Pilot Green Transport Fund	The Pilot Green Transport Fund was set up on 30 March 2011 for application by the public transport sector and goods vehicle owners to test out green and innovative transport technologies.	The Government has earmarked \$300 million for the Fund. The total amount of subsidy approved thus far stands at about \$93 million. The additional workload will be met by the creation of four additional five-year time-limited posts (including 1 Senior Environmental Protection Officer, 1 Environmental Protection Officer, 1 Environmental Protection Inspector and 1 Assistant Clerical Officer), starting from 1 April 2011.	The Fund can promote a wider use of green and innovative transport technologies which could help improve roadside air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. As at end of February 2014, a total of 73 trials have been approved, involving 72 EVs (including 24 taxis, 11 coaches, 2 light buses and 35 goods vehicles), 53 hybrid vehicles (including 41 goods vehicles and 12 light buses), a set of solar power air-conditioning system as well as retrofitting engines for 4 buses.

Measures	Details	Expenditure and Manpower Involved	Participation Rate and Effectiveness
9. Trial of hybrid buses along busy corridors in Causeway Bay, Central and Mong Kok	The franchised bus companies (including KMB and Citybus/NWFB) have placed order to procure hybrid buses. From the current progress, the trial of the hybrid buses will commence in the second half of 2014.	Funding of \$33 million has been approved for this programme. The additional workload has been met by the creation of a three-year time-limited Senior Environmental Protection Inspector post.	According to the bus manufacturer, compared with conventional diesel buses, the estimated emission reductions achieved by the three-axle double-deck hybrid bus supplied to Hong Kong are: About 20% nitrogen oxides and nitrogen dioxide; about 40% particulates; and about 30% carbon dioxide (fuel consumption will also be reduced accordingly).
10. Setting up pilot low emission zones (LEZs)	Upon our request, the franchised bus companies, starting from 2011, have deployed as far as practicable low-emission buses (i.e. those meeting the emission level of a Euro IV or above) to routes serving the three pilot LEZs (i.e. the busy corridors in Causeway Bay, Central and Mong Kok). Our target is to have only low-emission franchised buses in these zones by 2015.	This is an integral part of the EPD's work on improving air quality, and there is no separate breakdown on the expenditure involved.	At busy corridors in Causeway Bay, Central and Mong Kok, franchised buses are contributing more than 40% of the total vehicular emissions. Furthermore, these districts are also congested with pedestrians. Therefore, setting up LEZs in these busy areas could bring significant improvement to the roadside air quality.
11. Trial of electric buses	The Government will fund the full cost of procuring 36 electric buses (including 8 supercapacitor buses and 28 battery-electric buses) by the franchised bus companies. The franchised bus companies are procuring the electric buses and the trial is anticipated to commence successively from end of 2014.	Funding of \$180 million has been approved for this programme. The additional workload will be met by the creation of three two-year time-limited posts in the EPD and TD (including one Environmental Protection Officer, one Senior Environmental Protection Inspector and one Motor Vehicle Examiner I).	As there is no tailpipe emissions from electric buses, replacing conventional diesel buses with electric buses will improve roadside air quality more effectively.
12. Phasing out pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles (DCVs)	The Government launched an ex-gratia payment scheme from 1 March 2014 to phase out some 82 000 pre-Euro IV DCVs by 2020 under an incentive-cum-regulatory approach. Moreover, the Government also limited the service life of DCVs newly registered on or after 1 February 2014 at 15 years.	The Legislative Council Finance Committee has approved about \$11.44 billion for implementation of the ex-gratia payment scheme which accepted applications from 1 March 2014. We created three three-year time-limited posts in 2013, including one Senior Environmental Protection Officer, one Environmental Protection Officer and one Environmental Protection Inspector.	Phasing out pre-Euro IV DCVs can reduce vehicular emissions of RSP and NOx by 80% and 30% respectively.

Measures	Details	Expenditure and Manpower Involved	Participation Rate and Effectiveness
13. Incentivise the replacement of catalytic converters and oxygen sensors on LPG taxis and light buses and tighten the control of emissions from LPG and petrol vehicles	<p>Providing a one-off subsidy for about 22 000 taxis and light buses, including the parts and replacement services, from October 2013 to March 2014.</p> <p>Upon completion, the Government will strengthen the control of emissions from petrol and LPG vehicles with the use of roadside remote sensing equipment and chassis dynamometers for emission testing.</p>	The Legislative Council Finance Committee has approved about \$150 million for implementation of the subsidy programme.	Replacement of worn-out catalytic converters and oxygen sensors can reduce emission of taxis/light buses by 90% and help reduce roadside air pollution.

(B) Power Plant Emission Reduction Measures and their Expenditures (in the period from 2005 to 2013)

Measures	Details	Expenditure and Manpower Involved	Effectiveness
14. Control of emissions from power sector	<p>2005 – 2009: Imposition and tightening of the emission caps on the power plants upon their licence renewals to require them to maximize the use of low sulphur coal and those generation units with the lowest emissions.</p> <p>2008: Linking the rate of return with their compliance with emission caps and encouraging power companies to use renewable energy under the Scheme of Control Agreement; stipulating stringent emission caps for power sector from 2010 onwards by the first Technical Memorandum (TM) issued under the Air Pollution Control Ordinance to require the power plants to retrofit emission control devices.</p> <p>2010: Promulgation of the Second TM to further tighten the emission caps for power sector from 2015 onwards.</p> <p>2012: Promulgation of the Third TM to further reduce the emissions of power sector from 2017 onwards.</p>	This is an integral part of the EPD's work on improving air quality, and there is no separate breakdown on the expenditure involved.	The sulphur dioxide (SO ₂), NO _x and RSP emissions of the power sector have been decreased from 77 100 tonnes, 46 400 tonnes and 2 320 tonnes in 2005 to 15 500 tonnes, 32 000 tonnes and 960 tonnes in 2012 respectively.

(C) Other Emission Reduction Measures and their Expenditures (in the period from 2005 to 2013)

Measures	Details	Expenditure and Manpower Involved	Effectiveness
15. Ultra low sulphur diesel (ULSD) for industrial and commercial processes	We have mandated the use of ULSD with sulphur content of not more than 0.005% by weight in industrial and commercial processes since 2008.	This is an integral part of the EPD's work on improving air quality, and there is no separate breakdown on the expenditure involved.	Mandating the use of ULSD in industrial and commercial processes brought immediate environmental benefit and reduced SO ₂ emission from these sectors by 99%.
16. Control of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from non-combustion products	Implementation of the Air Pollution Control (Volatile Organic Compounds) Regulation by phases starting from April 2007 to reduce emission from paints, printing inks, adhesives and sealants and selected consumer products.	To cope with the additional workload, one Environmental Protection Officer and one Environmental Protection Inspector were created to implement the surveillance and testing programmes.	The VOCs emission from regulated products has been reduced by 34% from 25 700 tonnes in 2007 to 17 000 tonnes in 2012.
17. Encourage ocean-going vessels to switch to low sulphur fuel while at berth in Hong Kong waters	The Government launched a three-year incentive scheme in September 2012, reducing 50% of the port facilities and light dues for the OGVs if they switch to fuels containing 0.5% sulphur or below while berthing in Hong Kong.	This is an integral part of the EPD's work on improving air quality, and there is no separate breakdown on the expenditure involved.	As at end of February 2014, a total of 4 592 calls (about 12%) of OGVs have joined this scheme. As at end of 2013, the fuel switch measure has reduced emission of about 880 tonnes of SO ₂ and 70 tonnes of RSP.
18. Tighten the quality of marine light diesel for the supply of local vessels to reduce marine emissions	The regulation that tightens the cap on sulphur content of locally supplied marine light diesel from 0.05% to 0.05% will take effect on 1 April 2014.	This is an integral part of the EPD's work on improving air quality, and there is no separate breakdown on the expenditure involved.	Through implementing this measure, SO ₂ and RSP emissions in Hong Kong can be reduced by 10% and 4% respectively.

Information about applications approved by the Pilot Green Transport Fund

Name of Applicant	Trial Product, Technology and Quantity
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	2 electric buses
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	2 electric van type light goods vehicles
Federal Express (Hong Kong) Limited	3 electric van type light goods vehicles
TNT Express Worldwide (HK) Limited	2 electric van type light goods vehicles
Chi Shing Transportation Company	1 electric van type light goods vehicle
Good Funds Services Limited	2 electric buses
Kwoon Chung Motors Company Limited	2 electric buses
International Trademart Company Limited	2 electric buses
Kwai Bon Transportation Limited	3 hybrid light goods vehicles
A. S. Watson Group (HK) Limited	1 hybrid light goods vehicle
MTR Corporation Limited	1 hybrid light goods vehicle
Kerry Distribution (Hong Kong) Limited	3 hybrid medium goods vehicles
Hong Kong Automobile Association	1 electric van type light goods vehicle
On Mei Tak Environmental Technology Limited	3 hybrid medium goods vehicles
Swire Beverages Limited	3 hybrid light goods vehicles
Swire Beverages Limited	3 hybrid medium goods vehicles
UPS Parcel Delivery Service Limited	2 hybrid light goods vehicles
Shun Hing Logistics Company Limited	2 hybrid light goods vehicles
S.F. Express (Hong Kong) Limited	3 hybrid light goods vehicles
Kwoon Chung Motors Company Limited	2 electric van type light goods vehicles
Sun Bus Limited	1 electric bus
Yan Yan Motors Limited	2 hybrid light buses
Teamwise Corporation Limited	2 hybrid light buses
Glory Success Transportation Limited	3 hybrid light buses
Hong Kong Metropolitan Bus Limited	1 hybrid light bus
Sunny Engineering Company	1 electric taxi
Shu Sang Taxi Company	2 electric taxis
Kam Tsang Taxi Company	1 electric taxi
Lai Sun Motors Company Limited	1 electric taxi
Discovery Bay Transit Services Limited	2 electric buses
Hong Kong & China Transportation Consultants Limited	3 hybrid light buses
Big Three Limited	1 hybrid light bus
China-Hong Kong Passenger Services Co. Limited	2 electric taxis
Fanling Motors Company Limited	2 electric taxis
Tai Po Motors Company	2 electric taxis
Wai Kit Trading International Limited	1 electric taxi
Chief Asia Group Limited	1 electric taxi
Ip Yiu Kwan	1 electric taxi
Gate Gourmet Hong Kong Limited	1 electric van type light goods vehicle
Kwok Kin Air Condition & Electrical Work Company Limited	1 electric van type light goods vehicle
Chun Dak Engineering (HK-Macau) Company Limited	1 electric van type light goods vehicle
CM Geotechnics Limited	1 electric van type light goods vehicle
Cinpek Engineering Limited	1 electric van type light goods vehicle

Name of Applicant	Trial Product, Technology and Quantity
BioCycle (Hong Kong) Limited	2 electric van type light goods vehicles
New Method Cleaning Services Limited	1 electric van type light goods vehicle
Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation	1 solar air-conditioning system
Hong Kong International School Association Limited	1 electric van type light goods vehicle
C & C Logistic Services Company Limited	1 electric van type light goods vehicle
Ray Ray Limited	1 electric van type light goods vehicle
Swire Beverages Limited	2 electric van type light goods vehicles
Mak Hang Kei (Hong Kong) Construction Limited	2 electric van type light goods vehicles
Geotech Engineering Limited	2 electric van type light goods vehicles
Hotel ICON Limited	2 electric light buses
Kam Lung Trading Company	1 hybrid light goods vehicle
Airport Authority Hong Kong	3 electric van type light goods vehicles
DHL Express (Hong Kong) Limited	1 electric van type light goods vehicle
DKSH Hong Kong Limited	1 hybrid light goods vehicle
DKSH Hong Kong Limited	2 hybrid medium goods vehicles
Kowloon Motor Bus Company (1933) Limited	4 buses engines retrofit
Cathay Pacific Catering Services (HK)Limited	1 electric van type light goods vehicle
Vegetable Marketing Organization	1 electric van type light goods vehicle
Taxixchange.com Limited	1 electric taxi
Yellow Taxi Group Limited	1 electric taxi
Union Winner Limited	2 electric taxis
Union Investment Holdings Limited	2 electric taxis
Jet Profit (HK) Investments Limited	2 electric taxis
Forest (Asia) Limited	2 electric taxis
E. Tech Management (HK) Limited	1 hybrid light goods vehicle
Welcome Construction Company Limited	3 hybrid light goods vehicles
Welcome Construction Company Limited	3 hybrid medium goods vehicles
China Prosper Engineering Limited	3 hybrid light goods vehicles
China Prosper Engineering Limited	3 hybrid medium goods vehicles
Hong Kong Automobile Association	1 electric van type light goods vehicle

The number of buses deployed by each franchised bus company along busy corridors including Yee Wo Street, Des Voeux Road Central and Nathan Road (by emission standards)

Bus company	Emission standard	End 2011	End 2012	End 2013
KMB	Pre-Euro	1	0	0
	Euro I	11	0	0
	Euro II	310	301	231
	Euro III	747	729	594
	Euro IV	63	43	41
	Euro V	220	282	486
	Sub-total	1352	1355	1352
CTB (1)	Pre-Euro	0	0	0
	Euro I	52	13	0
	Euro II	257	219	184
	Euro III	6	2	4
	Euro IV	19	13	9
	Euro V	69	156	211
	Sub-total	403	403	408
CTB (2)	Pre-Euro	0	0	0
	Euro I	0	0	0
	Euro II	61	59	45
	Euro III	0	0	0
	Euro IV	0	0	0
	Euro V	0	2	16
	Sub-total	61	61	61
NWFB	Pre-Euro	0	0	0
	Euro I	3	1	2
	Euro II	252	257	243
	Euro III	46	46	39
	Euro IV	33	28	22
	Euro V	33	33	49
	Sub-total	367	365	355

Remarks: KMB stands for the Kowloon Motor Bus Company (1933) Limited; CTB(1) for Citybus Limited (franchise for Hong Kong Island and Cross Harbour bus network); CTB(2) for Citybus Limited (franchise for Airport and Lantau bus network); NWFB for New World First Bus Services Limited.

The numbers of buses owned by each franchised bus company and their average ages, by emission standards, in the past five years

Bus company	Emission standard	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
		Number of buses	Number of buses	Number of buses	Number of buses	Number of buses
KMB	Pre-Euro	300	97	1	0	0
	Euro I	938	932	855	653	423
	Euro II	1 486	1 506	1 518	1 533	1 539
	Euro III	1 100	1 098	1 099	1 097	1 097
	Euro IV	55	98	109	106	106
	Euro V	0	88	308	429	679
	Sub-total	3 879	3819	3 890	3 818	3 844
	Average age	10.7	11.0	11.0	11.3	11.2
CTB(1)	Pre-Euro	44	15	0	0	0
	Euro I	309	270	241	154	44
	Euro II	368	370	370	354	341
	Euro III	10	10	10	10	9
	Euro IV	28	28	28	28	28
	Euro V	0	73	117	232	355
	Sub-total	759	766	766	778	777
	Average age	12.6	12.1	12.1	10.6	8.9
CTB(2)	Pre-Euro	0	0	0	0	0
	Euro I	4	4	5	2	0
	Euro II	168	168	165	163	133
	Euro III	0	0	0	0	0
	Euro IV	0	0	0	0	0
	Euro V	0	0	2	5	42
	Sub-total	172	172	172	170	175
	Average age	11.3	12.3	13.2	13.9	11.7
NWFB	Pre-Euro	32	11	0	0	0
	Euro I	86	80	65	55	35
	Euro II	475	480	481	479	479
	Euro III	74	75	75	75	75
	Euro IV	38	38	38	38	38
	Euro V	0	20	44	57	88
	Sub-total	705	704	703	704	715
	Average age	10.5	11.0	11.4	12.1	12.4
Long Win Bus	Pre-Euro	2	0	0	0	0
	Euro I	0	0	0	0	0
	Euro II	136	116	99	84	79
	Euro III	18	18	18	17	18
	Euro IV	11	31	31	32	32
	Euro V	0	0	15	32	43
	Sub-total	167	165	163	165	172
	Average age	10.0	9.5	9.2	8.8	9.0
New Lantao Bus	Pre-Euro	0	0	0	0	0
	Euro I	0	0	0	0	0
	Euro II	35	13	8	6	0
	Euro III	54	66	67	67	62
	Euro IV	15	15	15	17	17
	Euro V	0	9	14	18	29
	Sub-total	104	103	104	108	108
	Average age	6.6	5.5	5.9	6.5	6.4

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB108

(Question Serial No.: 0048)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Air
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 109):

Regarding the efforts of the Environmental Protection Department to improve air quality, please advise on the following:

- (a) In respect of the introduction of a regulation to mandate ocean-going vessels (OGVs) to switch fuel while at berth in Hong Kong, what are the action plan and timetable of the Administration? What are the expenditure and manpower involved?
- (b) Are there any statistics on the annual quantity of air pollutants emitted by OGVs in the past 5 years? If yes, what are the expenditure and manpower involved? Please list the information by year and vessel type (cruise vessels, oil tankers, container vessels, cargo vessels, etc.);
- (c) Regarding the installation of on-shore power supply (OPS) facilities at terminals, the Administration advised that it had put forth the proposal to the operator of Ocean Terminal, and commissioned the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department to undertake a technical feasibility study on the installation of OPS facilities at the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal. What are the progress, timetable as well as the expenditure and manpower involved? Has the Administration liaised proactively with the International Electrotechnical Commission to understand the progress of international standards, such as the progress of compliance in the installation of OPS facilities? If yes, what are the contact details, the expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) In 2013, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) consulted and received support from the Legislative Council and the trade on the legislative proposal of requiring ocean-going vessels (OGVs) to switch to low sulphur fuel (with sulphur content not exceeding 0.5%) while at berth in Hong Kong. The EPD is drafting the legislation with a view to implementing the requirement in 2015. Consultation and legislative work on the regulation are undertaken by the EPD under existing manpower and resources. The EPD will assess the resources required for enforcing the legislation and seek additional resources through the established mechanism.
- (b) Compilation of the Hong Kong Air Pollutant Emission Inventory (including the emissions from OGVs) is undertaken by the EPD under existing manpower and resources, and there is no separate breakdown on this area of work.

Emissions of major air pollutants from OGVs in Hong Kong from 2008 to 2012 are listed below:

Year	OGV type	Sulphur dioxide (tonnes)	Nitrogen oxides (tonnes)	Respirable suspended particulates (tonnes)
2008	Cruise vessels	1 100	1 560	93
	Oil tankers	644	385	53
	Container vessels	10 300	11 800	1 220
	General cargo vessels	355	400	41
	Others	762	831	80
	Total	13 100	15 000	1 490
2009	Cruise vessels	701	1 070	79
	Oil tankers	771	443	63
	Container vessels	9 560	11 100	1 140
	General cargo vessels	449	492	52
	Others	781	777	81
	Total	12 300	13 800	1 420
2010	Cruise vessels	788	991	74
	Oil tankers	784	442	63
	Container vessels	10 800	12 700	1 310
	General cargo vessels	323	346	37
	Others	873	887	93
	Total	13 600	15 400	1 580
2011	Cruise vessels	914	1 070	94
	Oil tankers	590	410	52
	Container vessels	11 000	13 900	1 360
	General cargo vessels	342	350	39
	Others	792	857	87
	Total	13 700	16 600	1 630
2012	Cruise vessels	814	995	87
	Oil tankers	639	427	56
	Container vessels	10 300	12 700	1 260
	General cargo vessels	314	302	35
	Others	857	937	94
	Total	12 900	15 300	1 540

(c) Regarding the installation of on-shore power supply (OPS) facilities at the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal, the Government engaged a consultancy service in November 2013 to conduct a technical feasibility study, which could help to work out the work details of OPS installation. The study is expected to complete in mid-2014, with an expenditure of about \$1.6 million to be absorbed by existing resources of the EPD.

In 2012, the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) released the first part of the OPS international standard (i.e. High Voltage Shore Connection System – General Requirements). IEC is expected to publish the remaining part of the standard (i.e. High Voltage Shore Connection Systems – Communication Interface Description) by the end of 2015. The consultant is keeping track of the latest OPS

standard development as part of the technical feasibility study, and no additional resources are required.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB109

(Question Serial No.: 0049)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 110):

Please provide the details of applications received, as well as cases approved and rejected under the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) (e.g. the name of organisations, reasons for rejecting the application and the amounts of fund granted) in each of the past 5 years. Please list by year and project the details of projects implemented, the expenditure and manpower involved, the effectiveness and number of participants or participating units. Please also list by year the percentage of projects of different environmental issues (e.g. sustainable development, treatment of sewage and waste, global warming) in the total number of projects in each year.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The number and details of applications received, projects approved and rejected by the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) over the past 5 years, including the details of the applicant organizations, approved projects, amount of fund granted, the manpower and expenditure involved are set out in the Appendix.

In the past 5 years, the total number of participants in ECF-funded projects has exceeded 20 million (with overlapping recipients), i.e. an average of over 4 million per year, and the number of recipient organizations was over 1 500. Post-project surveys were conducted to assess the effectiveness of ECF-funded activities and projects, in which over 85% of the respondents considered that their environmental knowledge and awareness were enhanced, whereas around 80% expressed that they would apply the knowledge acquired into practice in their daily life, and would pass on the green messages to their families and friends.

Generally speaking, the following vetting criteria are adopted by the ECF for selecting the most meritorious projects for funding support:

- (i) projects must contribute to the overall environment of Hong Kong, raise the environmental awareness of the local community, or mobilize the community to take action to improve the environment;
- (ii) the benefits must accrue to the district/local community as a whole, but not just to individuals, a single private organization or a consortium of private companies; and
- (iii) projects must be non-profit making in nature.

The unsuccessful projects either could not fully meet the above requirements, or the project proposals and expected results were less meritorious as compared to the other applications.

Details of Funding Applications Processed and Projects Funded by the Environment and Conservation Fund from 2009-10 to 2013-14 (as at end of December 2013)

* Projects approved or rejected in a particular year may include applications received in that year and outstanding applications carried forward from the previous year.

	Funding Scheme	Category	Applicant Organizations	No. of Applications (Percentage in the Total of the Year) (a). 2009 - 2010 (b). 2010 - 2011 (c). 2011 - 2012 (d). 2012 - 2013 (e). 2013 - 2014	No. of Approved and Rejected Projects *		Approved Funding (\$) * (Percentage in the Total of the Year) (a). 2009 - 2010 (b). 2010 - 2011 (c). 2011 - 2012 (d). 2012 - 2013 (e). 2013 - 2014	Project Details	Manpower and Expenditure Involved in Implementing the Approved Projects
					Approved Projects	Rejected Projects			
1	Environmental Education and Community Action Projects - General Projects	Environmental Education and Community Action	All non-profit making organizations in Hong Kong (such as universities, green groups, community bodies, schools, etc.)	(a). 46 (3.0%) (b). 32 (3.8%) (c). 29 (3.0%) (d). 40 (3.6%) (e). 23 (8.9%)	(a). 23 (3.4%) (b). 16 (2.1%) (c). 27 (4.4%) (d). 17 (2.2%) (e). 6 (2.0%)	(a). 20 (9.4%) (b). 9 (4.0%) (c). 7 (10.8%) (d). 17 (4.5%) (e). 10 (22.2%)	(a). 5,626,844.00 (1.8%) (b). 6,110,536.20 (1.5%) (c). 23,209,101.00 (7.2%) (d). 5,485,901.50 (1.8%) (e). 711,395.00 (0.5%)	Environmental educational programmes and activities include seminars and workshops, exhibitions at public areas, eco-tours, competitions, etc. for a wide spectrum of audience, such as the general public, youth, women groups and business sector, to enhance community awareness and knowledge of environmental issues and induce behavioural change towards a green lifestyle.	The manpower deployed on implementing the projects depended on the project duration and activities conducted. In general, the number of additional staff members employed ranged between 0 and 4, whereas the expenditure should not exceed 50% of the approved budget.

	Funding Scheme	Category	Applicant Organizations	No. of Applications (Percentage in the Total of the Year) (a). 2009 - 2010 (b). 2010 - 2011 (c). 2011 - 2012 (d). 2012 - 2013 (e). 2013 - 2014	No. of Approved and Rejected Projects *		Approved Funding (\$) * (Percentage in the Total of the Year) (a). 2009 - 2010 (b). 2010 - 2011 (c). 2011 - 2012 (d). 2012 - 2013 (e). 2013 - 2014	Project Details	Manpower and Expenditure Involved in Implementing the Approved Projects
					Approved Projects	Rejected Projects			
2	Environmental Education and Community Action Projects - Minor Works Projects	Minor Works	All non-profit making organizations in Hong Kong (such as universities, green groups, community bodies, schools, etc.)	(a). 264 (17.0%) (b). 223 (26.2%) (c). 241 (25.0%) (d). 281 (25.2%) (e). 150 (58.1%)	(a). 227 (33.6%) (b). 198 (26.0%) (c). 192 (30.9%) (d). 235 (30.5%) (e). 134 (44.7%)	(a). 25 (11.9%) (b). 10 (4.3%) (c). 11 (17.0%) (d). 7 (1.9%) (e). 12 (26.8%)	(a). 84,862,474.80 (27.7%) (b). 78,475,837.00 (18.9%) (c). 52,931,270.50 (16.3%) (d). 49,435,656.70 (16.1%) (e). 26,687,510.60 (19.7%)	Schools and non-government organizations (NGOs) set up environmental facilities such as green roof, renewable energy and energy efficiency installations and waste reduction facilities. Funding recipients also organized educational activities riding on the facilities for their students and service recipients to promote awareness towards these green technologies and induce behavioural change towards a green lifestyle.	The manpower deployed on implementing the projects depended on the project duration and activities conducted. In general, the number of additional staff members employed ranged between 0 and 4, whereas the expenditure should not exceed 50% of the approved budget.

	Funding Scheme	Category	Applicant Organizations	No. of Applications (Percentage in the Total of the Year) (a). 2009 - 2010 (b). 2010 - 2011 (c). 2011 - 2012 (d). 2012 - 2013 (e). 2013 - 2014	No. of Approved and Rejected Projects *		Approved Funding (\$) * (Percentage in the Total of the Year) (a). 2009 - 2010 (b). 2010 - 2011 (c). 2011 - 2012 (d). 2012 - 2013 (e). 2013 - 2014	Project Details	Manpower and Expenditure Involved in Implementing the Approved Projects
					Approved Projects	Rejected Projects			
3	Community Waste Recovery and Source Separation Projects	Community Waste Recovery and Source Separation	All non-profit making organizations in Hong Kong (such as universities, green groups, community bodies, residents' organizations, etc.)	(a). 21 (1.4%) (b). 36 (4.3%) (c). 37 (3.9%) (d). 24 (2.2%) (e). 25 (9.7%)	(a). 17 (2.5%) (b). 17 (2.2%) (c). 29 (4.7%) (d). 12 (1.6%) (e). 10 (3.3%)	(a). 7 (3.3%) (b). 5 (2.2%) (c). 8 (12.3%) (d). 8 (2.1%) (e). 10 (22.2%)	(a). 25,354,967.60 (8.3%) (b). 10,041,079.00 (2.4%) (c). 34,458,602.20 (10.7%) (d). 23,474,491.40 (7.7%) (e). 28,703,517.00 (21.3%)	Programmes include reduction and recycling of waste plastics, glass, used electrical and electronic equipment, food waste etc. to promote waste reduction and recovery in the community; and setting up waste separation facilities on floors of buildings to facilitate waste separation at source.	The manpower deployed on implementing the projects depended on the project duration and activities conducted. In general, the number of additional staff members employed ranged between 0 and 10.

	Funding Scheme	Category	Applicant Organizations	No. of Applications (Percentage in the Total of the Year) (a). 2009 - 2010 (b). 2010 - 2011 (c). 2011 - 2012 (d). 2012 - 2013 (e). 2013 - 2014	No. of Approved and Rejected Projects *		Approved Funding (\$) * (Percentage in the Total of the Year) (a). 2009 - 2010 (b). 2010 - 2011 (c). 2011 - 2012 (d). 2012 - 2013 (e). 2013 - 2014	Project Details	Manpower and Expenditure Involved in Implementing the Approved Projects
					Approved Projects	Rejected Projects			
4	On-site Meal Portioning Projects in Schools	On-site Meal Portioning in Schools	All schools which are government funded in Hong Kong (except government schools)	(a). 23 (1.5%) (b). 57 (6.7%) (c). 17 (1.8%) (d). 13 (1.2%) (e). 3 (1.2%)	(a). 22 (3.2%) (b). 40 (5.2%) (c). 18 (2.9%) (d). 15 (2.0%) (e). 4 (1.3%)	(a). 0 (0%) (b). 0 (0%) (c). 1 (1.5%) (d). 0 (0%) (e). 0 (0%)	(a). 28,937,613.23 (9.4%) (b). 51,799,697.70 (12.5%) (c). 21,795,706.92 (6.8%) (d). 20,484,231.30 (6.7%) (e). 4,971,770.00 (3.7%)	Schools carry out basic conversion works and install facilities for implementing on-site meal portioning to reduce food waste and avoid the use of disposable lunch boxes and cutleries.	These projects aimed to provide funding support for schools to carry out basic conversion works and install facilities for implementing on-site meal portioning. The daily operational expenses of schools in implementing on-site meal portioning were not covered by the funding scheme.

	Funding Scheme	Category	Applicant Organizations	No. of Applications (Percentage in the Total of the Year) (a). 2009 - 2010 (b). 2010 - 2011 (c). 2011 - 2012 (d). 2012 - 2013 (e). 2013 - 2014	No. of Approved and Rejected Projects *		Approved Funding (\$) * (Percentage in the Total of the Year) (a). 2009 - 2010 (b). 2010 - 2011 (c). 2011 - 2012 (d). 2012 - 2013 (e). 2013 - 2014	Project Details	Manpower and Expenditure Involved in Implementing the Approved Projects
					Approved Projects	Rejected Projects			
5	Food Waste Recycling Projects in Housing Estates	Food Waste Recycling in Housing Estates	Residents' organizations of private residential buildings	(a). NA (b). NA (c). 35 (3.6%) (d). 25 (2.2%) (e). 14 (5.4%)	(a). NA (b). NA (c). 11 (1.8%) (d). 3 (0.4%) (e). 24 (8.0%)	(a). NA (b). NA (c). 0 (0%) (d). 0 (0%) (e). 1 (2.2%)	(a). NA (b). NA (c). 9,330,947.00 (2.9%) (d). 3,100,175.60 (1.0%) (e). 24,364,045.00 (18.1%)	The funding scheme was launched in July 2011. Housing estates implement food waste recovery by setting up composters and organize education programmes on food waste reduction and separation at source.	The manpower deployed on implementing the projects by the recipient housing estates depended on the relevant details of the projects. In general, the number of additional staff members employed for food waste collection and treatment in individual projects was about 2.

	Funding Scheme	Category	Applicant Organizations	No. of Applications (Percentage in the Total of the Year)		No. of Approved and Rejected Projects *		Approved Funding (\$) * (Percentage in the Total of the Year)	Project Details	Manpower and Expenditure Involved in Implementing the Approved Projects										
				(a). 2009 - 2010	(b). 2010 - 2011	(c). 2011 - 2012	(d). 2012 - 2013				(e). 2013 - 2014	(a). 2009 - 2010	(b). 2010 - 2011	(c). 2011 - 2012	(d). 2012 - 2013	(e). 2013 - 2014				
6	Nature Conservation Management Agreement Projects	Nature Conservation	All non-profit making organizations in Hong Kong (such as green groups, community bodies, etc.)	(a). 2 (0.1%)	(b). 0 (0%)	(c). 2 (0.2%)	(d). 3 (0.3%)	(e). 0 (0%)	(a). 2 (0.3%)	(b). 0 (0%)	(c). 2 (0.3%)	(d). 3 (0.4%)	(e). 0 (0%)	(a). 9,626,836.65 (3.1%)	(b). 0 (0%)	(c). 14,785,250.64 (4.6%)	(d). 19,364,490.15 (6.3%)	(e). 0 (0%)	Under the management agreements, NGOs cooperate with landowners in enhancing conservation of priority sites of ecological importance.	The manpower deployed on implementing the projects depended on the project duration and activities conducted. In general, the number of additional staff members employed ranged between 0 and 4, whereas the expenditure should not exceed 50% of the approved budget.

	Funding Scheme	Category	Applicant Organizations	No. of Applications (Percentage in the Total of the Year) (a). 2009 - 2010 (b). 2010 - 2011 (c). 2011 - 2012 (d). 2012 - 2013 (e). 2013 - 2014	No. of Approved and Rejected Projects *		Approved Funding (\$) * (Percentage in the Total of the Year) (a). 2009 - 2010 (b). 2010 - 2011 (c). 2011 - 2012 (d). 2012 - 2013 (e). 2013 - 2014	Project Details	Manpower and Expenditure Involved in Implementing the Approved Projects
					Approved Projects	Rejected Projects			
7	Large-scale Environmental Education and Awareness Projects Coordinated by the Environmental Campaign Committee	Environmental Education and Awareness Programme	NA	NA	NA	NA	(a). 38,473,600.00 (12.6%) (b). 25,351,100.00 (6.1%) (c). 22,717,100.00 (7.0%) (d). 25,242,080.00 (8.2%) (e). 18,303,960.00 (13.6%)	Major programmes include “Student Environmental Protection Ambassador Scheme” and “Hong Kong Green School Award” for the school sector; “Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence” for the business sector; as well as community-wide programmes such as World Environment Day.	NA

	Funding Scheme	Category	Applicant Organizations	No. of Applications (Percentage in the Total of the Year) (a). 2009 - 2010 (b). 2010 - 2011 (c). 2011 - 2012 (d). 2012 - 2013 (e). 2013 - 2014	No. of Approved and Rejected Projects *		Approved Funding (\$) * (Percentage in the Total of the Year) (a). 2009 - 2010 (b). 2010 - 2011 (c). 2011 - 2012 (d). 2012 - 2013 (e). 2013 - 2014	Project Details	Manpower and Expenditure Involved in Implementing the Approved Projects
					Approved Projects	Rejected Projects			
8	Buildings Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes	Energy Conservation Projects	Owners' Corporations registered under the Building Management Ordinance (Cap. 344), owners' organizations or residents' organizations of residential, commercial, industrial buildings or composite buildings comprising any two of these three types of establishments in Hong Kong	(a). 1 078 (69.7%) (b). 263 (31.1%) (c). 384 (40.0%) (d). 279 (25.0%) (e). 0 (0%)	(a). 346 (51.1%) (b). 372 (48.6%) (c). 207 (33.4%) (d). 274 (35.6%) (e). 0 (0%)	(a). 142 (67.0 %) (b). 182 (80.2%) (c). 21 (32.3%) (d). 314 (83.7%) (e). 0 (0%)	(a). 75,884,926.15 (24.8%) (b). 203,013,255.28 (48.9%) (c). 90,848,912.00 (28.2%) (d). 106,339,191.50 (34.7%) (e). 0 (0%)	Residential, commercial, industrial buildings or composite buildings comprising any two of these three types of establishments carry out energy-cum-carbon audits to review the use of energy and quantify greenhouse gas emissions; and carry out improvement works to upgrade the energy efficiency performance of building services installations for communal use.	This funding scheme provides funding support for building owners to carry out energy-cum-carbon audits and energy efficiency projects. Employment of additional staff was normally not required.

	Funding Scheme	Category	Applicant Organizations	No. of Applications (Percentage in the Total of the Year) (a). 2009 - 2010 (b). 2010 - 2011 (c). 2011 - 2012 (d). 2012 - 2013 (e). 2013 - 2014	No. of Approved and Rejected Projects *		Approved Funding (\$) * (Percentage in the Total of the Year) (a). 2009 - 2010 (b). 2010 - 2011 (c). 2011 - 2012 (d). 2012 - 2013 (e). 2013 - 2014	Project Details	Manpower and Expenditure Involved in Implementing the Approved Projects
					Approved Projects	Rejected Projects			
9	Energy Conservation Projects for Non-government Organizations	Energy Conservation Projects	All non-profit making organizations in Hong Kong (such as green groups, community bodies, etc.)	(a). 76 (4.9%) (b). 200 (23.6%) (c). 166 (17.3%) (d). 416 (37.3%) (e). 15 (5.8%)	(a). 22 (3.2%) (b). 105 (13.7%) (c). 118 (19.0%) (d). 199 (25.9%) (e). 113 (37.7%)	(a). 2 (0.9%) (b). 2 (0.9%) (c). 3 (4.6%) (d). 10 (2.7%) (e). 2 (4.4%)	(a). 8,205,709.00 (2.7%) (b). 29,688,473.40 (7.2%) (c). 41,463,498.78 (12.9%) (d). 44,554,688.70 (14.5%) (e). 25,071,974.60 (18.6%)	NGOs carry out energy-cum-carbon audits in their premises to review the use of energy and quantify the greenhouse gas emissions; carry out improvement works to upgrade the energy efficiency performance; and organize educational activities to promote energy conservation and carbon reduction.	This funding scheme provides funding support for NGOs to carry out energy-cum-carbon audits and energy improvement projects. Employment of additional staff was normally not required. For educational projects under the scheme, the manpower requirement depended on the project duration and activities conducted. In general, the number of additional staff members employed ranged between 0 and 4, whereas the expenditure should not exceed 50% of the approved budget.

	Funding Scheme	Category	Applicant Organizations	No. of Applications (Percentage in the Total of the Year) (a). 2009 - 2010 (b). 2010 - 2011 (c). 2011 - 2012 (d). 2012 - 2013 (e). 2013 - 2014	No. of Approved and Rejected Projects *		Approved Funding (\$) * (Percentage in the Total of the Year) (a). 2009 - 2010 (b). 2010 - 2011 (c). 2011 - 2012 (d). 2012 - 2013 (e). 2013 - 2014	Project Details	Manpower and Expenditure Involved in Implementing the Approved Projects
					Approved Projects	Rejected Projects			
10	Environmental Research, Technology Demonstration and Conference Projects	Research and Conference	All non-profit making organizations in Hong Kong (such as universities, green groups, community bodies, schools, etc.)	(a). 37 (2.4%) (b). 36 (4.3%) (c). 50 (5.2%) (d). 34 (3.0%) (e). 28 (10.9%)	(a). 18 (2.7%) (b). 17 (2.2%) (c). 16 (2.6%) (d). 11 (1.4%) (e). 9 (3.0%)	(a). 16 (7.5%) (b). 19 (8.4%) (c). 14 (21.5%) (d). 19 (5.1%) (e). 10 (22.2%)	(a). 29,385,549.00 (9.6%) (b). 10,407,459.00 (2.5%) (c). 10,903,761.00 (3.4%) (d). 9,221,680.00 (3.0%) (e). 6,091,860.00 (4.5%)	Tertiary institutions and non-profit making bodies carry out research on environment-related topics to build up research capacity and knowledge base, with a view to developing or introducing new and innovative technologies and practices to protect our environment and conserve resources. They also organize conferences to facilitate knowledge exchange on major environment-related issues.	The manpower deployed on implementing the projects depended on the project duration and activities conducted. In general, the number of additional staff members employed ranged between 0 and 4, whereas the expenditure should not exceed 50% of the approved budget.

Funding Scheme	Category	Applicant Organizations	No. of Applications (Percentage in the Total of the Year) (a). 2009 - 2010 (b). 2010 - 2011 (c). 2011 - 2012 (d). 2012 - 2013 (e). 2013 - 2014	No. of Approved and Rejected Projects *		Approved Funding (\$) * (Percentage in the Total of the Year) (a). 2009 - 2010 (b). 2010 - 2011 (c). 2011 - 2012 (d). 2012 - 2013 (e). 2013 - 2014	Project Details	Manpower and Expenditure Involved in Implementing the Approved Projects
				Approved Projects	Rejected Projects			
Total:			(a). 1 547 (100 %)	(a). 677 (100%)	(a). 212 (100%)	(a). 306,358,520.43 (100%)	-	-
			(b). 847 (100 %)	(b). 765 (100%)	(b). 227 (100%)	(b). 414,887,437.58 (100%)		
			(c). 961 (100 %)	(c). 620 (100%)	(c). 65 (100%)	(c). 322,444,150.04 (100%)		
			(d). 1 115 (100 %)	(d). 769 (100%)	(d). 375 (100%)	(d). 306,702,586.85 (100%)		
			(e). 258 (100 %)	(e). 300 (100%)	(e). 45 (100%)	(e). 134,906,032.20 (100%)		

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB110

(Question Serial No.: 0055)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 111):

Regarding the consultation on the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, what are the current progress and timetable? What are the details (e.g. venues, time, attendances, representatives from both sides, etc.) of the consultation work (e.g. public consultations, industry meetings and meetings with various organizations, etc.)? Please list by each consultation exercise the manpower, expenditure and facilities involved.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Regarding the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP), a committee with a three-tier structure was set up by the Administration in May 2013 to steer the formulation of BSAP. This committee consists of the Steering Committee, three standing Working Groups (Terrestrial Biodiversity Working Group, Marine Biodiversity Working Group, and Awareness, Mainstreaming and Sustainability Working Group), and focus groups that operate under the relevant Working Group. Members include academics, biodiversity experts and representatives from green groups, relevant stakeholders, private and public sectors and relevant government departments.

Meetings or forums on different topics are being held or organised by various focus groups. Those who are interested in the topics and experienced in the relevant areas are invited to join the discussions or submit their comments. Since October 2013, 16 meetings and 1 industry forum have been held by the focus groups, and the consultation work is still in progress.

On the other hand, we are conducting a series of public awareness and engagement activities, including setting up a dedicated website (www.afcd.gov.hk/bsap), distributing promotional pamphlets, broadcasting APIs, organising roving exhibitions and public lectures, etc. We are gauging views on BSAP from the public and various stakeholders through these activities. A public consultation on the draft of BSAP will also be conducted in the first half of 2015.

The estimated expenditure for organising the relevant consultation activities in 2014-15 is \$1.8 million. Besides, the Administration has deployed \$3.1 million to the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department for the recruitment of the professional staff required on contract terms.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB111****(Question Serial No.: 0056)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 111):

Regarding the nature conservation work of the Environmental Protection Department, please advise:

- Regarding the work of overseeing and protecting country parks and enclaves, what was the frequency of patrolling and enforcement actions taken in each of the past five years? What were the expenditure and manpower involved in each year?
- What are the lots in the enclaves that have and have not been included in country parks so far and their details (e.g. year of inclusion, size of the lot, ecological value and number of residents before/after the inclusion)? Regarding the lots that have not been included, has the Administration planned to include them in country parks? If yes, what are the work progress and timetable, as well as the expenditure and manpower involved?
- Are there any statistics on the “destroy first, develop later” cases discovered by the Administration in each of the past five years? Please list by year the number and details (e.g. the location, extent of damage, the buildings involved etc.) of these cases, the follow up action taken by the Administration, the number of persons prosecuted, as well as the expenditure and manpower involved.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- Regular patrols of country parks and country park enclaves are carried out by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD). As monitoring country park enclaves is part of the patrolling duties of front-line staff, AFCD does not maintain specific breakdown for enclave patrolling. The number of enforcement actions conducted in country parks and enclaves by AFCD and the expenditure and manpower involved in the past five years are tabulated below:

Year	Number of enforcement actions	Expenditure (\$m)	Manpower
2009-10	770	30	106
2010-11	958	33	120
2011-12	907	42	124
2012-13	1 042	57	125
2013-14	795	56	126

* Covering the Forests and Countryside Ordinance (Cap. 96), the Wild Animals Protection Ordinance (Cap. 170) and the Country Parks Ordinance (Cap. 208).

- (b) Of the 54 enclaves not yet included as part of country parks or protected by statutory plans after the Sai Wan incident, 3 enclaves in Kam Shan, Sai Wan and Yuen Tun have been incorporated into the Kam Shan Country Park, Sai Kung East Country Park and Tai Lam Country Park respectively on 30 December 2013.

AFCD will assess the suitability of the remaining 51 enclaves for inclusion into country parks, based on a number of established principles and criteria such as conservation values, landscape and aesthetic values, recreation potential, size, proximity to existing country parks, land status and land use compatibility. For the size and condition of these enclaves, please refer to the Annex. As per the assessment results at this stage, AFCD considers that the enclaves of Fan Kei Tok, Sai Lau Kong and the site near Nam Shan are suitable for inclusion as part of country parks. The Department has sought advice on the proposal from the Country and Marine Parks Board and will proceed to solicit the views of relevant stakeholders in 2014-15. AFCD also considers, after assessment, that the 6 enclaves, namely Hoi Ha, Pak Lap, Pak Tam Au, So Lo Pun, Tin Fu Tsai and To Kwa Peng, are not suitable for inclusion as part of country parks. These enclaves are now covered by Outline Zoning Plans.

The assessments on suitability of country park enclaves for incorporation into country parks and designation are part and parcel of AFCD's work, and we do not maintain specific breakdown of relevant expenditure and manpower involved.

- (c) The Planning Department has carried out 90 patrols in the enclaves covered by Development Permission Area (DPAs) Plans since 2010. Enforcement Notices on two unauthorized developments were issued to five parties in 2011, requiring the parties concerned to terminate the excavation work. The parties concerned have complied and reinstated the sites as requested in the Reinstatement Notices issued by the Planning Department. Carrying out enforcement work on illegal developments within DPAs is part of the duties of the Planning Department. The Planning Department cannot provide specific breakdown of relevant expenditure and manpower involved in this area.

Country Park Enclaves (51 sites)	Area (hectares)	Suitability for Inclusion in Country Parks	
Fan Kei Tok	5	Suitable	
Sai Lau Kong	2		
Site near Nam Shan	6		
Tin Fu Tsai	53	Not suitable	
So Lo Pun	29		
Pak Lap	6		
Pak Tam Au	14		
To Kwa Peng	9		
Hoi Ha	8		
Mau Ping, Mau Ping Lo Uk, Mau Ping San Uk, Wong Chuk Shan	45		Assessment under way
Site near Chuen Lung	10		
Site near Tso Kung Tam	9		
Tsing Fai Tong	26		
Sheung Tong	10		
Sheung Fa Shan	26		
Ping Shan Chai	15		
Hung Shek Mun Tsuen	10		
Lai Tau Shek	10		
Sam A Tsuen	23		
Siu Tan	20		
Kop Tong, Mui Tsz Lam, Lai Chi Wo	91		
Kuk Po San Uk Ha, Kuk Po Lo Wai, Yi To, Sam To, Sze To, Ng To	64		
Fung Hang	9		
Yung Shue Au	18		
Chau Mei, Tai Tong, Chau Tau, Sha Tau	26		
Pak A	11		
Tung A	10		
Chek Keng	31		
Tai Tan, Uk Tau, Ko Tong, Ko Tong Ha Yeung	67		
Tung Sam Kei	4		
Ko Lau Wan, Mo Uk, Lam Uk, Lau Uk, Tse Uk	33		
Pak Sha O, Pak Sha O Ha Yeung	29		
Nam Sham Tung	5		
Lai Chi Chong	16		
Yung Shue O	32		
Cheung Sheung	16		
Tai Hom	5		
Wong Chuk Long	4		
Site near Wong Mau Kok	3		
Luk Wu, Upper Keung Shan, Lower Keung Shan, Cheung Ting, Hang Pui	155		
Tsin Yue Wan	4		
Ngau Kwo Tin	7		
Tei Tong Tsai	15		
Yi Tung Shan	7		
Man Cheung Po	2		
Site near Peaked Hill	5		
Tai Ho, Site near Wong Kung Tin	277		
Yi O	23		
Site near Ngau Wu Tok	5		
Site near Tai Po Mei	6		
Shui Mong Tin	2		

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB112

(Question Serial No.: 2513)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 113):

Regarding the Environment Bureau's Hong Kong: Blueprint for Sustainable Use of Resources 2013-2022, A Clean Air Plan for Hong Kong, A Food Waste & Yard Waste Plan for Hong Kong 2014 – 2022, please advise on the expenditure and manpower involved in the promotion of these projects (e.g. TV advertisements, light box advertisements at railway stations, etc.)

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The expenditure involved in promotion of the Environment Bureau's (ENB) Hong Kong Blueprint for Sustainable Use of Resources 2013-2022, A Clean Air Plan for Hong Kong and A Food Waste and Yard Waste Plan for Hong Kong 2014-2022 is about \$6,655,000 in total. ENB has not recruited additional manpower for promotion of the projects, which is undertaken by the relevant staff.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB113

(Question Serial No.: 2514)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 114):

Regarding the Steering Committee to Promote the Sustainable Development of the Recycling Industry, please advise:

- a) the details of the meetings held by the Committee since its establishment (e.g. the venue, time, number of participants, representatives, etc), as well as the expenditure and manpower involved;
- b) the membership and attendance of meetings of the Committee members;
- c) it is mentioned in the Policy Address this year that the Government has earmarked \$1 billion to launch a Recycling Fund. What is the work progress of the Committee on formulating the details of the operation of the Fund? What is the anticipated time of completion?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

a) & b)

The membership of the Steering Committee to Promote the Sustainable Development of the Recycling Industry (the Steering Committee) is as follows:

Chairman

Chief Secretary for Administration

Members

Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development or his representative

Secretary for Education or his representative

Secretary for the Environment or his representative

Secretary for Development or his representative

Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury or his representative

Secretary for Food and Health or his representative

Secretary for Labour and Welfare or his representative

Secretary for Transport and Housing or his representative

Director of Home Affairs or her representative

Director of Information Services or his representative

Secretary

Assistant Director of Environmental Protection

The Steering Committee held two committee meetings in August 2013 and January 2014, both with an attendance rate of 100%.

In addition, the Administration held two stakeholder engagement meetings in October and November 2013 to collect views from the recycling trade and relevant stakeholders on ways to promote the sustainable development of Hong Kong's recycling industry. The two stakeholder engagement meetings were attended by representatives from the industry, green groups, non-government organizations, community groups, academia, and various councils and committees.

The above-mentioned meetings were held in the Central Government Offices. The Environmental Protection Department took up the coordination work with existing manpower and resources and did not prepare separate accounts for the work of the Steering Committee.

- c) The Government has earmarked \$1 billion to set up a Recycling Fund in support of the sustainable development of the recycling industry. The Steering Committee will study the specific uses of the Recycling Fund in depth with a view to formulating effective, equitable and sustainable proposals. Reference will be made to the modes of financial assistance to the recycling industry in other regions and their effectiveness, and the unique situation of different types of recyclables in Hong Kong. We have maintained close liaison with the trade and relevant stakeholders, and a proposal on the specific uses of the fund is expected to be ready in the second half of this year for consultation with the Panel on Environmental Affairs of the Legislative Council.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB114

(Question Serial No.: 2515)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 115):

Regarding the waste reduction task forces of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD), please advise on:

- a) With regard to the waste reduction task forces for the public housing sector, the private housing sector, the hotel sector, the construction industry, the Government, the airport community and the recycling trade, what are the details of the meetings (e.g. locations, time, attendance, representatives, etc.) held by these task forces since their establishment, as well as the expenditure and manpower involved? Please list them by task force and meeting;
- b) Compared with the Steering Committee to Promote the Sustainable Development of the Recycling Industry set up by the current-term Government, what are the roles of the waste reduction task forces respectively?
- c) Did the Administration review the functions and roles of the waste reduction task forces? If yes, what are the details, expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

a) Between 1997 and 2000, based on the recommendations made in the Waste Reduction Framework Plan, the Government invited representatives from different sectors to form 7 waste reduction task forces which aimed to establish effective channels to directly liaise with the trades to obtain their feedbacks on the effectiveness of waste reduction measures and the assistance they needed in actual participation, with a view to formulating and promoting effective waste reduction plans and measures. These task forces comprised representatives from the then Environment, Transport and Works Bureau, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD), relevant government bureaux and departments. Members also included academic experts, as well as representatives from professional groups, environmental groups, public utilities, property management companies, relevant trade unions/associations and major stakeholders of various trades. The task forces held meetings in offices of government departments, trade unions or major stakeholders according to needs and development progress of the issues. The attendance of each task force was about 10 to 20. The liaison work of these task forces was undertaken by EPD officers. No additional expenditure or specific manpower was involved.

b) The Recycling Industry Waste Reduction Task Force was set up in the period of 1997 to 2000 to discuss details of actual operation of the industry, e.g. estimation of recycled materials quantities, agreement renewal of exporters of recycled materials for operation in Public Cargo Working Areas, trial on recycling of plastic bags etc. The Steering Committee to Promote the Sustainable Development of the Recycling Industry

chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration in 2013 aims to enhance coordination of work of the policy bureaux and step up promotion of the sustainable development of the recycling industry. The Steering Committee has reviewed the current local situation of collection and disposal of recyclables and the related policies and support measures, as well as identifying proactive approaches to facilitate development of the recycling industry, including exploring the setting up of a "Recycling Fund" and its mode of operation, improving the network of community collection points, and promote training and development of the work force. Compared with the previous waste reduction task forces, the present Steering Committee involves policy coordination at a higher level, wider participation of the industry and more comprehensive support. Meanwhile, EPD plans to set up a new dedicated Waste Reduction and Recycling Division, led by a new three-year Assistant Director of Environmental Protection post and composed of 55 non-directorate posts, including 33 posts deployed from other divisions of EPD, with the other 22 posts to be created on a time-limited basis, so as to enhance manpower support for development of relevant measures and promoting the sustainable development of the recycling industry.

c) The discussions and suggestions of the previous waste reduction task forces have been progressively realized as EPD's initiatives or plans, such as Construction Waste Disposal Charging Scheme launched in 2005, Source Separation of Waste Programme launched in the same year and the waste separation competitions, award presentation ceremonies and forum held each year subsequently, as well as educational and training programmes drawn up for various sectors, environmental procurement policy, internal guidelines on environmental protection and waste reduction measures, etc. EPD has been liaising closely with various sectors to engage trade members in promoting waste reduction. For example, EPD launched the Glass Container Recycling Programme for the hotel sector in 2008 in collaboration with the Hong Kong Hotels Association. More than 3,200 tonnes of waste bottles have been recovered so far. Meanwhile, the functions of the previous waste reduction task forces have been incorporated in the routine coordination meetings set up by EPD and relevant government departments on supporting waste reduction and recycling.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB115****(Question Serial No.: 3594)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 116):

Regarding the implementation of voluntary producer responsibility schemes, please advise:

- a) What were the work details, expenditure and manpower involved and effectiveness of the relevant measures in the past five years? Please list by year.
- b) The work plan in future and the expenditure and manpower involved.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

a. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) encourages the public to recycle waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), fluorescent lamps, rechargeable batteries and glass beverage bottles etc., through various measures, including recycling programmes funded by the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) and those self-financed by the trades. Apart from publicity and technical support, the EPD also provides logistics support and organises collection programmes at schools and housing estates. The relevant work is carried out by the EPD's staff, which is part of the work of the Department. In the past five years, the expenditure of relevant recycling initiatives under the ECF and the EPD and the quantity of various recyclable materials recovered are tabulated below:

Year	Expenditure (\$million)	Waste electrical equipment recovered (no.)	Computers recovered (no.)	Rechargeable batteries recovered (tonne)	Fluorescent lamps and tubes recovered (no.)	Glass bottles recovered (tonne)
2009	4	26 900	14 100	53	312 000	2 800
2010	6	22 000	21 100	61	350 000	4 500
2011	7.5	46 800	18 300	68	470 000	4 800
2012	8.5	49 000	39 600	60	550 000	7 000
2013	14	50 500	27 000	81	500 000	Under compilation

b. The EPD will continue to promote and support various recycling initiatives and enhance various kinds of collection services according to demand. Main focus of the work in the coming year is to prepare for the implementation of mandatory producer responsibility schemes (PRs) on WEEE and glass beverage bottles. The relevant work is part of the work of the Waste Management Policy Division (WMD) of the EPD, and is absorbed by existing resources. There are also staff members from other divisions to participate and provide assistance in their respective scope of work. In 2014-15, there are a total of 12 staff members of the WMD to promote and support various recycling initiatives. The estimated expenditure is about \$21 million. The WMD is responsible for waste management policy, including progressive implementation of the PRs.

However, we do not have breakdowns of manpower provision and resources involved in individual initiatives.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB116

(Question Serial No.: 3595)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 117):

Regarding the prosecutions instituted by EPD for offences, please advise on the following:

- a) The number of livestock waste control offences in 2014 is 12, higher than those in 2012 (3) and 2013 (1). What are the reasons? What are the additional expenditure and manpower involved respectively?
- b) The number of marine dumping offences in 2014 is 80, higher than those in 2012 (12) and 2013 (0). What are the reasons? What are the additional expenditure and manpower involved respectively?
- c) What plans are there to combat the significant increase in offences as stated above? What are the additional expenditure and manpower involved respectively?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- a) In the area livestock waste control, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) stepped up ambushes to the livestock farms near Tai Kong Po Tsuen in Yuen Long in 2013 to combat illegal discharge of wastewater. We successfully gathered evidence after investigations and issued a total of 9 summonses to prosecute the non-compliant farms. As the prosecutions initiated in 2013 for this batch of summonses will be concluded in 2014, we anticipate the number of completed prosecutions in 2014 will be 12, which is an increase over the number of prosecutions in 2012 and 2013. Control of livestock waste is part of EPD's routine integrated enforcement work, there is no breakdown of expenditure in this area and also no additional expenditure or manpower involved.
- b) The number of summonses for which prosecution will be concluded in 2014 is estimated to be 80. This is mainly because the EPD issued 72 summonses against illegal dumping of marine mud from a single works project in 2013. It is expected that these summonses will be concluded in 2014, and hence we anticipate an increase in the prosecution figure for 2014. There are 12 EPD staff who are responsible for, *inter alia*, processing applications for marine dumping permits and conducting inspections and enforcement work. As the control of marine dumping is part of the EPD's routine integrated enforcement work, there is no separate breakdown of expenditure in this area and also no additional expenditure or manpower involved.
- c) Although there is an estimated increase in the number of completed prosecutions for livestock waste control offences and marine dumping offences in 2014, the increase is mainly due to a number of summonses issued in a single action or case as mentioned above. The overall extent of non-compliance remains at a low level. The annual number of prosecutions often varies but this is part of the EPD's

routine integrated enforcement work. We will carry out the work with the existing manpower and resources and no separate funding or adjustment of manpower are required.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB117****(Question Serial No.: 3596)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 118):

Regarding the three landfills, please advise on:

- the number of complaints (e.g. complaints concerning wastewater, hygiene, odour, etc.) received by the Administration in each of the past five years. Please list by year and landfill;
- what improvement measures does the Administration have to address the issues involved in the above complaints? What are the expenditure and manpower involved, as well as the effectiveness of the measures?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- The environmental complaints related to Southeast New Territories (SENT), West New Territories (WENT) and Northeast New Territories (NENT) Landfill between 2009 and 2013 are tabulated below.

Environmental complaints related to SENT Landfill

Year	No. of complaints by type				
	air	noise	water	waste	miscellaneous
2009	549	0	1	0	2
2010	754	0	1	0	0
2011	1 120	0	0	0	0
2012	1 953	0	1	0	0
2013	2 462	1	3	0	0

Environmental complaints related to WENT Landfill

Year	No. of complaints by type				
	air	noise	water	waste	miscellaneous
2009	11	0	2	0	1
2010	9	0	0	0	0
2011	16	2	3	0	5
2012	18	4	2	0	10
2013	20	6	0	0	0

Environmental complaints related to NENT Landfill

Year	No. of complaints by type				
	air	noise	water	waste	miscellaneous
2009	0	0	0	0	0
2010	0	0	0	0	0
2011	1	0	0	0	0
2012	1	0	0	0	0
2013	2	0	3	0	2

- b) The design and operation of the three strategic landfills (i.e. SENT, WENT and NENT Landfill) are in compliance with very stringent environmental performance indicators and requirements as well as international standards. We oversee strictly the operation and environmental monitoring work of the landfill contractors to ensure that the contractors meet the stringent environmental performance specified in the contracts and the statutory requirements under the relevant pollution control ordinances.

Regarding the possible impacts of wastewater management at landfills to the surrounding environment including surface water and groundwater, the contractors have implemented various measures under the Environmental Protection Department's supervision, including building and operating wastewater treatment plants, ammonia stripping plants, sequencing batch reactors etc. for proper collection and treatment of wastewater from landfills to avoid any adverse impact on the water quality nearby. The expenditure of various wastewater management measures of the contractors is already included in the daily operation expenses of landfills.

On prevention and control of odour and hygiene, to further mitigate the potential odour nuisance caused to the surrounding areas, a number of additional measures have been implemented at the landfills, including minimising the size of tipping areas as far as practicable, compacting and covering the waste with construction waste as soon as possible; covering the tipping areas with a layer of soil and/or Posi-Shell Cover material (a cement-based cover material) at the end of the daily landfilling process; covering the non-active tipping areas with temporary impermeable liners or Posi-Shell Cover material; providing deodorisers; installing extra landfill gas extraction wells and mobile landfill gas flaring units; upgrading the wheel washing facility to full-body vehicle washing facility and installing temporary screen barriers etc. In the past five financial years (2009-10 to 2013-14), the expenditure for installing these facilities were \$6 million, \$21 million, \$34 million, \$5 million and \$7 million respectively and the relevant recurrent costs have been included in the operation costs. We will take forward these measures in light of actual needs and through redeployment of staff.

Furthermore, the odorous sludge will no longer be landfilled upon the full commissioning of the Sludge Treatment Facility by end 2014. Amendments to the Waste Disposal (Designated Waste Disposal Facility) Regulation were passed by the Legislative Council on 22 January 2014 to change the use of the SENT Landfill for receiving construction waste only. Subject to funding approval by the Finance Committee (FC) for the extension of the SENT Landfill, the Government will appoint a commencement date for the amended regulation. By then, not only will the odour issue of the SENT Landfill be resolved, the number of vehicular trips going to the landfill will also drop from about 1 000 to about 500 daily, which will further improve the environment.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB118

(Question Serial No.: 3603)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 119):

Regarding HKSARG's \$30 billion investment in waste recycling and treatment infrastructure facilities, please advise on:

- (a) the details and the expenditure and manpower involved in the projects relating to the \$30 billion investment;
- (b) the expected effectiveness of each project; and
- (c) the details and the expenditure and manpower involved in HKSARG's investment in waste recycling and treatment facilities in each of the past 5 years. Please list by year.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

(a) & (b) Regarding the HKSARG's \$30 billion investment in waste recycling and treatment facilities, the expenditure, manpower involved and expected effectiveness of the projects are shown in the table below:

Project	Estimated expenditure (at money-of-the-day price) (\$ million)	Manpower involved	Expected effectiveness
Southeast New Territories landfill extension	1,990	To help implement the three extension projects, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will follow up with the diversion in waste transfer, strengthen the communication with the local community, and monitor the equipment standards of refuse collection vehicles, etc. Starting from 2014, 16 time-limited posts for 2 years will be created.	Landfill projects are an essential part of Hong Kong's waste management strategy. The existing three strategic landfills are expected to be exhausted one by one by 2019, the timely extension of the three strategic landfills is most important and essential for providing stable and sufficient landfilling capacity so as to continue to provide Hong Kong with proper final waste disposal facilities to handle those waste (including non-recyclables, non-combustible waste, construction waste and post-treatment residues, etc.) that need to be disposed of after waste reduction.
Northeast New Territories landfill extension	7,320		
West New Territories landfill extension (consultants' fees and investigations)	40		
Integrated waste management facilities, phase 1	18,250	Apart from the existing manpower resources, 1 permanent post and 2.5 time-limited posts will be increased.	The facilities will treat 3 000 tonnes of municipal solid waste each day upon completion for commissioning in 2021/22.
Development of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) treatment and recycling facility	540	The works have been planned and will be handled by existing staff.	The WEEE treatment and recycling facility will have a designed capacity of 30 000 tonnes of WEEE per annum in support of the future mandatory producer responsibility scheme which will cover television sets, refrigerators, washing machines, air conditioners and computer products.
Organic waste treatment facilities phase 1	1,530		The facilities will treat 200 tonnes of food waste each day upon completion for commissioning in 2016
Community green stations (CGSs) in the 18 districts	400	Starting from 2014, 16 permanent posts and 5 time-limited posts lasting for 3 years will be increased.	With the CGSs in place, they will gradually help to enhance the quality and quantity of recyclables collected, and recover more recyclables of different types for local processing.
Total	30,070		

(c) The annual expenditure of the HKSARG on waste recycling and treatment facilities in the past five years is shown in the table below:

Waste recycling and treatment facilities	Financial year (\$ million)				
	2009-10 (Actual)	2010-11 (Actual)	2011-12 (Actual)	2012-13 (Actual)	2013-14 (Estimate)
Development of Southeast New Territories landfill ⁽¹⁾	15.400	53.025	44.429	22.335	24.808
Development of Northeast New Territories landfill ⁽¹⁾	4.214	19.153	7.022	10.671	24.141
Development of West New Territories landfill ⁽¹⁾	48.017	48.472	26.480	2.465	1.609
Sludge treatment facility	0.499	291.048	1,316.907	1,842.931	900.000
EcoPark	81.652	11.766	9.152	2.647	5.085
Provision of Grease trap waste treatment facility at a Refuse transfer station	-	4.246	-	-	-
Refurbishment and modification of Island East transfer station	14.613	10.474	-	-	-
Refurbishment and modification of Island West transfer station	-	-	-	-	28.659
Refurbishment and modification of West Kowloon transfer station	-	-	-	-	23.650
Refurbishment and modification of Outlying Islands transfer facilities					14.974
Total	164.395	438.184	1,403.990	1,881.049	1,022.926

Note(1): The works of the landfill development projects were conducted in phases during the operation of the landfills, and the expenditure on the facilities was paid in batches on an annual basis.

As for the manpower requirements involved in the facilities listed above, we cope with the manpower demand of these facilities by internal redeployment of staff according to the actual needs. To cope with the commencement of the Sludge treatment facility, we have increased staff cost by \$650,000 for creating 1 Senior Environmental Protection Inspector post and 1 Environmental Protection Inspector post in 2010-11; and \$850,000 for creating 3 Environmental Protection Inspector posts in 2013-14 to monitor the construction and operation of the project.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB119

(Question Serial No.: 3604)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 120):

Regarding "A Clean Air Plan for Hong Kong" (the Plan), please advise on the following:

- (a) For the 3 'S' Committee comprising the Secretaries for the Environment, Transport and Housing, and Development as referred to in the Plan, what are the details (e.g. venue, time, post title and number of attending officials, attendance, etc.) of the meetings and activities (e.g. public consultations, industry meetings and meetings with various groups, etc.) held since its establishment? What are the expenditure and manpower involved? Please list by each meeting or activity.
- (b) What are the membership of the Committee and the attendance rates of its meetings?
- (c) What are the expected work targets of the Committee, as well as its current progress and effectiveness?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The 3 "S" Meeting is an internal communication mechanism involving the Environment Bureau, Transport and Housing Bureau and Development Bureau. Its main purpose is to enhance communication, coordination and cooperation among the three policy bureaux and their respective departments regarding matters under their policy purviews. The meeting is held on a need basis and chaired by the Secretaries of the three bureaux in turns. Apart from the Secretaries of the three bureaux and other senior officials, the meeting will also be participated by officials of the departments concerned in view of issues for discussion. It does not involve any additional manpower, expenditure or resources.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB120****(Question Serial No.: 3605)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 121):

Regarding "A Clean Air Plan for Hong Kong", please advise:

- a) Hong Kong has set the emission reduction targets for 2015 and 2020 for various air pollutants. Please advise on what basis were these emission reduction targets set, with a breakdown by different air pollutants;
- b) Has the Administration assessed the changes in the local air quality, public health, as well as the morbidity, mortality and number of deaths induced by air pollution if the emission reduction targets for 2015 and 2020 are achieved? If yes, what are the details and results of the assessment, and the expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- a) In 2012, the Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection set up jointly by the governments of Hong Kong and Guangdong examined in detail the emission situation of both places in 2010, including the quantity of emissions, different characteristics of emission sources in the two places, the emission control measures implemented and their effectiveness, and the emission reduction potentials of various trades, etc. Hong Kong and Guangdong have agreed on the emission reduction targets/ranges for 2015 and 2020, which are detailed below:

Pollutant	Area	2015 emission reduction target* (%)	2020 emission reduction range* (%)
Sulphur dioxide	Hong Kong	-25%	-35% ~ -75%
	Pearl River Delta (PRD) Economic Zone	-16%	-20% ~ -35%
Nitrogen oxides	Hong Kong	-10%	-20% ~ -30%
	PRD Economic Zone	-18%	-20% ~ -40%
Respirable suspended particulates	Hong Kong	-10%	-15% ~ -40%
	PRD Economic Zone	-10%	-15% ~ -25%
Volatile organic compounds	Hong Kong	-5%	-15%
	PRD Economic Zone	-10%	-15% ~ -25%

* as compared with emissions in 2010

If both places reach the lower limit of the emission reduction targets by 2020, Hong Kong will broadly meet the new air quality objectives (AQOs).

- b) As estimated by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) in the consultancy study on the AQOs review concluded in 2009, about 4 200 hospital admissions would be avoided and 7 400 life years would be saved each year upon attainment of the new AQOs. Besides, in order to provide a more timely estimation on the potential health impact of air pollution, EPD commissioned in January 2014 the Chinese University of Hong Kong to conduct a 15-month study for formulation of a suitable method to assess the health and economic impacts of air pollution in Hong Kong. The health impacts will be updated with reference to the study findings. The expenditure of the study is about \$1.4 million.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB121

(Question Serial No.: 3606)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question(Member Question No.: 122):

Regarding the development of measures and strategies for combating climate change, please advise on:

- (a) What are the yearly total greenhouse gas emissions, the per capita emissions and carbon intensity in Hong Kong since 1990? Please list by year.
- (b) Please list the yearly greenhouse gas emissions in Hong Kong since 1990, with a breakdown by different emission sources and their percentages in the total emissions.
- (c) For the Inter-departmental Working Group on Climate Change set up by the Environment Bureau in 2007, what are the details (e.g. venues, time, attendances, attendees, etc.) of its work items or activities (e.g. public consultations, industry meetings and meetings with various groups, etc.), as well as the expenditure and manpower involved? Please list by work item or activity.
- (d) What are the frequency and details (e.g. venues, time, attendances, attendees, etc.) of meetings held by the Working Group since its establishment in 2007? What are the attendance rates of the 5 bureaux and 16 departments that form the Working Group?
- (e) In 2010, the Environment Bureau published the "Hong Kong's Climate Change Strategy and Action Agenda", which states that carbon intensity will be reduced by 50%-60% by 2020 as compared with the 2005 level in Hong Kong. Please list by year the current work details, progress and extent of emission reduction.

Asked by:Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- a) The yearly total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, per capita emissions and carbon intensity in Hong Kong for 1990 and onwards are set out in Annex 1.
- b) The yearly GHG emissions by emission source and their percentages in the total emissions for 1990 and onwards are set out in Annex 2.
- c) Apart from holding general meetings for attendance of all members of the Interdepartmental Working Group on Climate Change (the Working Group), the member bureaux and departments also carry out a host of activities to perform the duties of the Working Group. These include contributing to the preparing of the Hong Kong Chapter of the Second National Communication on Climate Change for reporting the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region's work on reducing GHG emissions and adapting to climate change to the United Nations; organizing or

participating in seminars or workshops on climate change awareness, including those aimed at enhancing our resilience to climate change impacts; and reviewing and reporting the progress made by the individual bureaux and departments in implementing policies and measures for mitigating and adapting to climate change. The expenditures and manpower involved are met by the recurrent expenditures of the bureaux and departments concerned.

- d) Since its establishment in 2007, the Working Group has held 10 general meetings and a number of sub-group meetings. The average attendance rate of the general meetings was 90%. The meetings were held at the Environment Bureau or the Environmental Protection Department, with representatives of various bureaux and departments attending.
- e) Saving the public consultations on proposals for the fuel mix for electricity generation being conducted, the Government has, following the completion of the public consultation on Hong Kong's Climate Change Strategy and Action Agenda in late 2010, proceeded with and continued to implement other GHG reduction measures and climate change adaptation measures in the Action Agenda, with a view to achieving the target of reducing the carbon intensity by 50% - 60% by 2020 as compared with the 2005 level. Reduction measures include enhancing energy efficiency, greening road transport, promoting the use of clean fuels for motor vehicles and turning waste to energy.

On energy conservation and enhancing energy efficiency, the Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance has come into full operation since September 2012 to enhance energy efficiency of key building services installations such as air-conditioning, lifts, electrical and lighting installations. The Government is also pursuing, among others, with the provision of a more energy-efficient district cooling system for the non-residential premises at Kai Tak Development Area. A Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme has also been implemented to encourage users to opt for more energy-efficient products. In addition, the Government is promoting carbon auditing in the community, which enables better understanding of energy consumption characteristics and details of carbon emissions. This will help identify more room for achieving energy saving and reducing GHG emissions. The Government also takes the lead in conducting energy-cum-carbon audits on about 120 public facilities in phases within 3 years starting from September 2012.

On greening road transport and promoting the use of clean fuels for motor vehicles, the Air Pollution Control (Motor Vehicle Fuel) (Amendment) Regulation 2009 came into force on 1 July 2010, providing for the specifications of biodiesel for motor vehicles, which has boosted drivers' confidence in biodiesel. Separately, we launched the \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund in March 2011, providing funding support to transport trades to try out green innovative transport technologies including electric and hybrid technologies.

As regards turning waste into energy, we have recovered landfill gas and gas generated during wastewater treatment process for conversion into alternative energy. Also, the construction of a sludge treatment facility has completed and the facility is scheduled for full commissioning in late 2014. The facility can turn thermal energy generated during sludge treatment process into electricity. The electricity so generated not only meets the internal electricity demands, any surplus thereof can also be transmitted to the grid.

According to the information shown in Annex 1, Hong Kong's carbon intensity in 2010 decreased by about 20% when compared to the level in 2005.

Total Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Per Capita Emissions
and Carbon Intensity in Hong Kong

Year	Total GHG emissions (kilotonnes CO ₂ -e)	Per capita emissions (tonnes CO ₂ -e)	Carbon intensity (kg CO ₂ -e per HK Dollar GDP)
1990	35,300	6.2	0.044
1991	38,800	6.7	0.045
1992	43,000	7.4	0.047
1993	43,400	7.4	0.045
1994	35,900	5.9	0.035
1995	36,900	6.0	0.035
1996	35,600	5.5	0.033
1997	34,100	5.3	0.030
1998	35,500	5.4	0.033
1999	33,300	5.0	0.030
2000	34,600	5.2	0.029
2001	34,700	5.2	0.029
2002	36,200	5.4	0.030
2003	39,600	5.9	0.032
2004	39,800	5.9	0.029
2005	42,000	6.2	0.029
2006	42,300	6.2	0.027
2007	43,600	6.3	0.026
2008	42,300	6.1	0.025
2009	42,700	6.1	0.026
2010*	41,500	5.9	0.023

Remarks

* Figures subject to final revision

Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Hong Kong by Emission Source

Year	GHG emissions(in kilotonnes CO ₂ -e)						
	Energy			Waste	Industrial processes and product use	Agriculture, forestry and other land use	Total
	Electricity generation#	Transport	Other end use of fuels@				
1990	22,900 (65%)	5,940 (17%)	4,560 (13%)	1,550 (4%)	215 (1%)	140 (0%)	35,300 (100%)+
1991	25,600 (66%)	6,470 (17%)	4,330 (11%)	1,600 (4%)	638 (2%)	123 (0%)	38,800 (100%)+
1992	29,200 (68%)	6,870 (16%)	4,530 (11%)	1,660 (4%)	651 (2%)	100 (0%)	43,000 (100%)+
1993	29,700 (68%)	6,970 (16%)	4,230 (10%)	1,760 (4%)	724 (2%)	87 (0%)	43,400 (100%)+
1994	21,900 (61%)	7,270 (20%)	4,030 (11%)	1,770 (5%)	830 (2%)	77 (0%)	35,900 (100%)+
1995	23,000 (62%)	7,180 (19%)	3,720 (10%)	1,940 (5%)	935 (3%)	85 (0%)	36,900 (100%)+
1996	21,800 (61%)	7,170 (20%)	3,630 (10%)	1,900 (5%)	952 (3%)	86 (0%)	35,600 (100%)+
1997	20,000 (59%)	7,340 (22%)	3,660 (11%)	2,010 (6%)	1,060 (3%)	75 (0%)	34,100 (100%)+
1998	22,100 (62%)	7,430 (21%)	3,370 (9%)	1,550 (4%)	977 (3%)	70 (0%)	35,500 (100%)+
1999	20,100 (60%)	7,570 (23%)	3,430 (10%)	1,120 (3%)	1,020 (3%)	85 (0%)	33,300 (100%)+
2000	21,200 (61%)	7,800 (23%)	3,500 (10%)	1,120 (3%)	977 (3%)	78 (0%)	34,600 (100%)+
2001	21,600 (62%)	7,640 (22%)	3,160 (9%)	1,260 (4%)	862 (2%)	85 (0%)	34,700 (100%)+
2002	23,400 (65%)	7,890 (22%)	2,810 (8%)	1,490 (4%)	503 (1%)	82 (0%)	36,200 (100%)+
2003	26,500 (67%)	7,810 (20%)	2,890 (7%)	1,800 (5%)	538 (1%)	74 (0%)	39,600 (100%)+
2004	26,400 (66%)	7,640 (19%)	3,060 (8%)	2,000 (5%)	636 (2%)	67 (0%)	39,800 (100%)+
2005	28,600 (68%)	7,480 (18%)	2,720 (6%)	2,220 (5%)	867 (2%)	73 (0%)	42,000 (100%)+
2006	28,500 (67%)	7,480 (18%)	2,730 (6%)	2,140 (5%)	1,380 (3%)	74 (0%)	42,300 (100%)+
2007	29,600 (68%)	7,640 (18%)	2,860 (7%)	2,170 (5%)	1,350 (3%)	52 (0%)	43,600 (100%)+
2008	28,000 (66%)	7,540 (18%)	3,020 (7%)	2,150 (5%)	1,590 (4%)	30 (0%)	42,300 (100%)+
2009	29,100 (68%)	7,250 (17%)	2,790 (7%)	2,190 (5%)	1,380 (3%)	24 (0%)	42,700 (100%)+
2010*	27,400 (66%)	7,390 (18%)	2,910 (7%)	2,190 (5%)	1,600 (4%)	33 (0%)	41,500 (100%)+

Remarks

* Figures subject to final revision

Including Towngas production which accounts for only about 1% of GHG emissions caused by energy production

@ Including use of fuel for combustion in commercial, industrial and domestic premises

+ Do not necessarily add up to 100 due to rounding

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB122****(Question Serial No.: 3607)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:123):

Regarding "indoor air quality certifications", please advise on:

- (a) The details of work, number of registrations and the expenditure and manpower involved in each of the past 5 years;
- (b) The plans in future to promote certification and the expenditure and manpower involved.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- a) The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has been striving to improve indoor air quality (IAQ), and encourage public and private buildings to join the Indoor Air Quality Certification Scheme for Offices and Public Places (the certification scheme).

To facilitate participation in the certification scheme, we set up the Indoor Air Quality Information Centre to provide information and technical support on IAQ, organise seminars in which professionals are invited to share with property managers of the Government and the private sector how to achieve good IAQ, broadcast promotional messages on radio and television and organise roving exhibitions, so as to enhance public awareness on IAQ and the scheme.

In addition, we have held the Indoor Air Quality Certificate Award Ceremony since 2006 to commend organisations' efforts in achieving good IAQ, thereby promoting the certification scheme and encouraging other organisations to join. In 2013, we also introduced the new IAQ labels, which are issued to certified buildings/premises for posting at prominent locations to make known to the public of such achievement, in order to promote the scheme.

Since the implementation of the certification scheme in September 2003, the number of certificates issued has increased from 86 in 2004 to 976 in 2013. In the past 5 years, the number of IAQ certificates issued has also grown by nearly 90%. The details are as follows:

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number of certificates	523	575	782	836	976

Three staff members of the EPD are responsible for the promotion and management of the certification scheme, including 2 Environmental Protection Officer Grade officers and 1 Environmental Protection Inspector. The expenditure involved in promoting the certification scheme and engaging professional organisations to implement related certification work by the EPD in the past 5 years is as follows:

Financial year	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Expenditure (\$)	1,300,000	1,610,000	1,930,000	2,390,000	2,600,000

- b) We will continue the promotion and publicity efforts for the certification scheme as well as the improvement of IAQ through various channels. Besides, with reference to the latest Indoor Air Quality Guidelines issued by the World Health Organization, we are studying the feasibility of revising Hong Kong's IAQ Objectives. The related work is absorbed by existing manpower of the EPD.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB123

(Question Serial No.: 3608)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 124)

What are the details, expenditure and manpower involved, effectiveness and number of participants of the air quality improvement measures implemented by the Administration in each year since 2005? Please list by year and project.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Details of the air quality improvement measures implemented by the Government since 2005 are set out in **Annex 1**. Together with the joint efforts of Hong Kong and Guangdong in reducing emissions, the air quality of Hong Kong has improved. As compared with 2005, the ambient concentration levels of sulphur dioxide and respirable suspended particulates reduced by 50% and 24% respectively in 2012. In the same period, roadside concentrations of sulphur dioxide fell by 55%, respirable suspended particulates by 29% and nitrogen oxides by 12%.

(A) Motor Vehicle Emission Reduction Measures and their Expenditures (from 2005 to 2013)

Measures	Details	Expenditure and Manpower Involved	Participation Rate and Effectiveness
<p>1. Implementation of Euro IV standard for unleaded petrol and Euro IV emission standards for newly registered vehicles</p>	<p>Euro IV petrol specification was implemented in January 2005 to pave way for introducing in stages, starting from 1 January 2006, Euro IV emission standards for newly registered vehicles. Since 1 January 2007, all newly registered vehicles must comply with Euro IV emission standards.</p> <p>(Note: Euro IV diesel became the statutory standard for motor vehicle diesel in 2002)</p>	<p>This is part of the EPD's routine duties (see note 1).</p>	<p>This item is a mandatory measure.</p> <p>Euro IV petrol has 67% less sulphur as compared with Euro III petrol, thus reducing sulphur dioxide emission by roughly the same extent.</p> <p>As compared with Euro III motor vehicles, Euro IV vehicles emit about 30% and 80% less nitrogen oxides (NOx) and particulates respectively for heavy duty vehicles. In the case of light duty diesel vehicles, the emission reduction is about 50% less for both NOx and particulates.</p> <p>As for petrol vehicles, a Euro IV model emits about 45%, 50% and 55% less NOx, hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide respectively.</p>
<p>2. Incentivise the replacement of pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles by new commercial vehicles</p>	<p>Starting from 1 April 2007, a one-off grant is provided to encourage vehicle owners to replace early their pre-Euro and Euro I diesel commercial vehicles with new ones which meet the statutory emission standards for newly registered vehicles.</p>	<p>The approved commitment for this scheme was \$3.2 billion.</p> <p>The programme is administered by Transport Department.</p>	<p>About 17 000 applications have been approved under the scheme accounting for about 30% of all eligible vehicles.</p>
<p>3. Encourage the use of environment-friendly vehicles</p>	<p>Starting from April 2007, a 30% reduction in first registration tax (FRT), subject to a cap of HK\$50,000 per car, is offered to encourage people to buy environment-friendly petrol private cars. The concession in FRT and the cap have been raised to 45% and \$75,000 respectively since 2011.</p>	<p>This is part of the EPD's routine duties (see note 1).</p>	<p>As at the end of January 2014, some 60 600 applications for environment-friendly petrol private cars had been approved since the implementation of the measure, accounting for about 22% of all newly registered private petrol</p>

Measures	Details	Expenditure and Manpower Involved	Participation Rate and Effectiveness
	<p>Starting from April 2008, the Government has also offered a similar tax incentive to encourage the use of environment-friendly commercial vehicles with emission performance better than the prevailing statutory requirements</p> <p>The qualifying standards for environment-friendly petrol private cars and environment-friendly commercial vehicles are reviewed annually in the light of technological advancement such that the tax incentive is available only to vehicles of outstanding environmental performance.</p>		<p>cars.</p> <p>As at the end of January 2014, the number of newly registered environment-friendly commercial vehicles since the implementation of the measure was about 22 500.</p>
4. Implement Euro V motor fuel standards	<p>A concessionary duty rate for Euro V diesel (\$0.56 per litre) was introduced on 1 December 2007. Starting from 14 July 2008, the duty rate for Euro V diesel has been waived to further encourage drivers to use this more environment-friendly fuel.</p> <p>The statutory specifications of motor vehicle diesel and petrol were tightened to Euro V standard on 1 July 2010, to pave the way for the implementation of Euro V emission standards for newly registered vehicles.</p>	This is part of the EPD's routine duties (see note 1).	<p>Since 1 December 2007, all petrol filling stations in Hong Kong have been offering exclusively Euro V diesel. Euro V diesel became the statutory standard for motor vehicle diesel on 1 July 2010.</p> <p>Euro V diesel has 80% less sulphur than Euro IV diesel. Diesel vehicles using Euro V instead of Euro IV diesel can help reduce the particulate emission by 5%.</p>
5. Incentivise the replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles by new commercial vehicles	<p>Starting from 1 July 2010, a one-off grant is provided to encourage vehicle owners to replace early their Euro II diesel commercial vehicles with new ones which meet the statutory vehicle emission standards.</p> <p>The scheme was completed on 30 June 2013. Under a special arrangement,</p>	The approved commitment for this scheme in 2010 was \$539 million. In 2013, an increase in commitment by \$120 million was approved by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council since the remaining balance was unable to meet the latest estimated funding required for applications received under the grant scheme	<p>As at January 2014, about 7 300 applications have been approved under the scheme accounting for about 27% of all the eligible vehicles.</p> <p>Euro II diesel vehicles emit about 7.5 and 3.5 times more RSP and NOx respectively than</p>

Measures	Details	Expenditure and Manpower Involved	Participation Rate and Effectiveness
	eligible vehicle owners who had ordered new vehicles for the replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles but the replacement vehicles had not arrived in time for completing the application for the grant before the deadline of the scheme were allowed to retain their eligibility to apply for the grant until 30 June 2014. A total of 342 applications have been approved under this arrangement.	The programme is administered by Transport Department.	Euro V ones. Expediting their replacement by new ones can bring early improvement to roadside air quality.
6. Introduce Euro V emission standards for newly registered vehicles	Euro V emission standards became the statutory minimum requirement for newly registered vehicles in Hong Kong starting from 1 June 2012.	This is part of the EPD's routine duties (see note 1).	Compared with Euro IV vehicles, Euro V heavy duty diesel vehicles emit about 40% less NOx and Euro V light duty diesel vehicles about 80% less RSP and 30% less NOx. As regards Euro V petrol or liquefied petroleum gas vehicles, they emit about 30% less NOx than their Euro IV counterparts.
7. Retrofitting Euro II and Euro III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction (SCR) devices	The trial of retrofitting Euro II and III franchised buses with SCRs was completed in February 2013. In July 2013, the Government obtained funding approval for fully subsidizing the franchised bus companies to retrofit Euro II and III franchised buses with SCRs. The franchised bus companies are preparing for the conduct of the retrofit programme, which is expected to complete by the end of 2016.	A funding of \$400 million has been approved for the programme. The additional workload will be met by the creation of 4 time-limited posts (which will last up to the end of 2016, including 1 Senior Environmental Protection Officer, 1 Environmental Protection Officer, 1 Transport Officer and 1 Motor Vehicle Examiner II) by the EPD and the Transport Department.	If some 1 400 eligible Euro II and III buses are retrofitted with SCRs, we expect that the NOx emissions of the whole franchised bus fleet could be reduced by about 14%.
8. Pilot Green Transport Fund	The Pilot Green Transport Fund was set up on 30 March 2011 for application by the public transport sector and goods vehicle owners to test out green	Government has earmarked \$300 million for the Fund. The total amount of subsidy approved thus far stands at about \$93 million. The additional workload has been	The Fund can promote a wider use of green and innovative transport technologies which could help improve roadside air quality and

Measures	Details	Expenditure and Manpower Involved	Participation Rate and Effectiveness
	and innovative transport technologies.	met by creating four additional five-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 2011.	reduce greenhouse gas emissions. As at end of February 2014, a total of 73 trials have been approved, involving 72 EVs (including 24 taxis, 11 coaches, 2 light buses and 35 goods vehicles), 53 hybrid vehicles (including 41 goods vehicles and 12 light buses), a set of solar power air-conditioning system as well as retrofitting engines for 4 buses.
9. Trial of hybrid buses along busy corridors in Causeway Bay, Central and Mong Kok	The franchised bus companies (including KMB and Citybus/NWFB) have placed order to procure hybrid buses. From the current progress, the trial of the hybrid buses will commence in the second half of 2014.	Funding of \$33 million has been approved for this programme. The additional workload has been met by creating a three-year time-limited Senior Environmental Protection Inspector post in 2011.	According to the bus manufacturer, compared with conventional diesel buses, the environmental benefits of the three-axle double-deck hybrid bus supplied to Hong Kong are: reduction in nitrogen oxides and nitrogen dioxide by 20%; particulates by 40%; and carbon dioxide as well as fuel consumption by 30%.
10. Setting up pilot low emission zones (LEZs)	Upon our request, the franchised bus companies, starting from 2011, have deployed as far as practicable low-emission buses (i.e. those meeting the emission level of a Euro IV or above) to routes serving the three pilot LEZs (i.e. the busy corridors in Causeway Bay, Central and Mong Kok). Our target is to have only low-emission franchised buses in these zones by 2015.	This is part of the EPD's routine duties (see note 1).	At busy corridors in Causeway Bay, Central and Mong Kok, franchised buses are contributing more than 40% of the total vehicular emissions. Furthermore, these districts are also congested with pedestrians. Therefore, setting up LEZs in these busy areas could bring significant improvement to the roadside air quality.
11. Trial of electric buses	The Government will fund the full cost of procuring 36 electric buses (including 8 supercapacitor buses and	Funding of \$180 million has been approved for this programme. The additional workload will be met by creating three two-year time-	As there is no tailpipe emission from electric buses, replacing conventional diesel

Measures	Details	Expenditure and Manpower Involved	Participation Rate and Effectiveness
	<p>28 battery-electric buses) by the franchised bus companies for trial. The franchised bus companies are procuring the electric buses and the trials are anticipated to commence successively from end of 2014.</p>	<p>limited posts in EPD and TD (including one Environmental Protection Officer, one Senior Environmental Protection Inspector and one Motor Vehicle Examiner I).</p>	<p>buses with electric buses will improve roadside air quality effectively.</p>
<p>12. Phasing out pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles (DCVs)</p>	<p>The Government launched an ex-gratia payment scheme from 1 March 2014 to phase out some 82 000 pre-Euro IV DCVs by 2020 under an incentive-cum-regulatory approach. Moreover, the Government also set a limit on the service life of DCVs newly registered on or after 1 February 2014 at 15 years.</p>	<p>The Legislative Council Finance Committee has approved about \$11.44 billion for implementation of the ex-gratia payment scheme which accepted applications from 1 March 2014.</p> <p>The additional workload will be met by creating three three-year time-limited posts in 2013, including one Senior Environmental Protection Officer, one Environmental Protection Officer and one Environmental Protection Inspector.</p>	<p>Phasing out pre-Euro IV DCVs can reduce vehicular emissions of RSP and NOx by 80% and 30% respectively.</p>
<p>13. Incentivise the replacement of catalytic converters and oxygen sensors on LPG taxis and light buses and tighten the control of emissions from LPG and petrol vehicles</p>	<p>Providing a one-off subsidy for 22,000 taxis and light buses, including the parts and replacement services, from October 2013 to March 2014.</p> <p>Upon completion, the Government will strengthen the control of emissions from petrol and LPG vehicles with the use of roadside remote sensing equipment and chassis dynamometers for emission testing.</p>	<p>The Legislative Council Finance Committee has approved about \$150 million for implementation of the subsidy programme.</p>	<p>Replacement of worn-out catalytic converters and oxygen sensors can reduce emission of taxis/light buses by 90% and help reduce roadside air pollution.</p>

(B) Power Plant Emission Reduction Measures and their Expenditures (from 2005 to 2013)

Measures	Details	Expenditure and Manpower Involved	Effectiveness
14. Control of emissions from power sector	<p>2005 – 2009: Imposition and tightening of the emission caps on the power plants upon their licence renewals to require them to maximize the use of low sulphur coal and those generation units with the lowest emissions.</p> <p>2008: Linking the rate of return with their compliance with emission caps and encouraging power companies to use renewable energy under the Scheme of Control Agreement; stipulating stringent emission caps for power sector from 2010 onwards by the first Technical Memorandum (TM) issued under the Air Pollution Control Ordinance to require the power plants to retrofit emission control devices.</p> <p>2010: Promulgation of the Second TM to further tighten the emission caps for power sector from 2015 onwards.</p> <p>2012: Promulgation of the Third TM to further reduce the emissions of power sector from 2017 onwards.</p>	This is part of the EPD’s routine duties (see note 1).	The sulphur dioxide (SO ₂), NO _x and RSP emissions of the power sector have been decreased from 77 100 tonnes, 46 400 tonnes and 2 320 tonnes in 2005 to 15 500 tonnes, 32 000 tonnes and 960 tonnes in 2012 respectively.

(C) Other Emission Reduction Measures and their Expenditures (from 2005 to 2013)

Measures	Details	Expenditure and Manpower Involved	Effectiveness
15. Ultra low sulphur diesel (ULSD) for industrial and commercial processes	We have mandated the use of ULSD with sulphur content of not more than 0.005% by weight in industrial and commercial processes since 2008.	This is part of the EPD's routine duties (see note 1).	Mandating the use of ULSD in industrial and commercial processes brought immediate environmental benefit and reduced SO ₂ emission from these sectors by 99%.
16. Control of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from non-combustion products	Implementation of the Air Pollution Control (Volatile Organic Compounds) Regulation by phases starting from April 2007 to reduce emission from paints, printing inks, adhesives and sealants and selected consumer products.	To cope with the additional workload, one Environmental Protection Officer and one Environmental Protection Inspector were created to implement the surveillance and testing programmes.	The VOCs emission from regulated products has been reduced by 34% from 25 700 tonnes in 2007 to 17 000 tonnes in 2012.
17. Encourage ocean-going vessels (OGVs) to switch to low sulphur fuel while at berth in Hong Kong waters	The Government launched a three-year incentive scheme in September 2012, reducing 50% of the port facilities and light dues for the OGVs if they switch to fuels containing 0.5% sulphur or below while berthing in Hong Kong.	This is part of the EPD's routine duties (see note 1).	As at end of February 2014, a total of 4 592 calls (about 12%) of OGVs have joined this scheme. As at end of 2013, the fuel switch measure has reduced emission of about 880 tonnes of SO ₂ and 70 tonnes of RSP.
18. Tighten the quality of marine light diesel for the supply of local vessels to reduce marine emissions	The regulation that tightens the cap on sulphur content of locally supplied marine light diesel from 0.5% to 0.05% will take effect on 1 April 2014.	This is part of the EPD's routine duties (see note 1).	Through implementing this measure, SO ₂ and RSP emissions in Hong Kong can be reduced by 10% and 4% respectively.

Note 1: The above measures are within the ambit of policy formulation and monitoring under EPD's Air Policy Division and are implemented by the staff of the Division. We have no separate breakdown on the resources for each individual measure.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB124****(Question Serial No.:3609)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:125)

What are the details, expenditure and manpower involved, effectiveness and number of participants of the waste management measures implemented by the Administration in each year since 2005? Please list by year and project.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Administration's expenditure and staffing establishments for implementing the waste management measures in each year since 2005 are as follows:

	Expenditure (\$million)	Staffing Establishment
2005-06 (Actual)	1,379.0	523
2006-07 (Actual)	1,381.4	529
2007-08 (Actual)	1,400.0	527
2008-09 (Actual)	1,507.6	531
2009-10 (Actual)	1,373.6	537
2010-11 (Actual)	1,328.6	543
2011-12 (Actual)	1,465.9	555
2012-13 (Actual)	1,682.6	567
2013-14 (Estimate)	1,790.0	577

The details and effectiveness of the waste management measures can be largely summarized into the 4 items below:

Promotion of public participation in waste reduction and recycling – Through various measures such as implementing the Programmes on Source Separation of Domestic Waste and Commercial & Industrial Waste, establishing a Community Recycling Network (currently comprising some 540 collection points), launching various specific recycling programmes and offering funding support to community recycling centres, over 80% of Hong Kong residents have now been provided with convenient recovery facilities near where they live and work for them to participate in source separation of waste in order to reduce waste disposal and provide recyclable materials for the recycling industry. The types of recyclable materials have also been expanded to cover waste paper, metal, plastics, rechargeable batteries, glass bottles, electric and electronic equipment, etc. Meanwhile, with continuous publicity and education efforts, allocation of considerable resources and promotional campaigns such as Green Hong Kong Campaign and Food Wise

Hong Kong Campaign, the overall public awareness and participation in waste reduction and recycling have been significantly enhanced, laying the foundation for further resource management measures. With the concerted effort of the public and various sectors, we are committed to lower the per capita disposal rate of municipal solid waste to one kilogram or less in 2017 or before.

Legislation for implementation of various waste management measures – the Construction Waste Disposal Charging Scheme that came into operation through legislation in 2005 has significantly reduced the disposal rate of construction waste by over 50%, alleviating the burden on landfills and extending their service life. The Waste Disposal (Amendment) Ordinance 2006 has tightened control on the disposal of imported waste. After the Building (Refuse Storage and Material Recovery Chambers and Refuse Chutes) (Amendment) Regulations 2008 were enforced in 2008, a refuse storage and material recovery room shall be provided on every floor of the domestic part of any new building, making it easier for residents to participate in source separation of waste. The Product Eco-responsibility Ordinance was enacted through legislation in 2008 and the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags, the first mandatory producer responsibility scheme under the Ordinance, was implemented in 2009, with the number of plastic shopping bags distributed by the registered retailers decreased by 90%. Moreover, with the Clinical Waste Control Scheme taking effect in 2011, the handling, collection and disposal of clinical waste have been substantially improved. Recently, we have also completed the legislation work for expanding the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags to all retail outlets.

Proper treatment and disposal of the waste generated in Hong Kong - Over the past several years, through strict management of the operation of waste facilities such as landfills, waste transfer stations, Chemical Waste Treatment Centre, composting plants and close monitoring of their environmental performance, regular upgrading of the infrastructural equipment of the facilities and enhancement of their operational performance as well as the retrofitting of all public and private refuse collection vehicles in Hong Kong to raise their hygienic level, the Administration has enabled proper and effective treatment of various types of waste generated daily and protected public health. In addition, the Sludge Treatment Facility is near completion and will gradually come into operation to meet the needs of the community and support the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme. Meanwhile, the Administration has provided land for development of local recycling industry through the EcoPark and short term tenancy sites and has provided open space and recreational facilities in the restored landfills for use by the public.

Planning and development of waste management strategy and infrastructure - To sustain the proper management of waste, the Administration conducted a series of forward-looking planning work including active study on the quantity-based municipal solid waste charging scheme and related public consultation to build consensus, preparation for extending the producer responsibility scheme to waste electric and electronic equipment, glass beverage bottles, etc., planning and development of landfill extension projects, the Integrated Waste Management Facilities, the Organic Waste Treatment Facilities, waste electrical and electronic equipment processing facilities, Community Green Stations, etc. to make timely preparation for improving our waste management infrastructure, and incorporation of the various policy initiatives and infrastructural facilities into the Hong Kong Blueprint for Sustainable Use of Resources 2013-2022 with a specific action timetable and a clear target of reducing waste disposal by 40%.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB125

(Question Serial No.:3610)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:126)

What are the details, expenditure and manpower involved, effectiveness and number of participants of the nature conservation measures implemented by the Administration in each year since 2004? Please list by year and project.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

In 2004, the Government announced the New Nature Conservation Policy (NNCP) to regulate, protect and manage natural resources that are important for the conservation of biological diversity of Hong Kong in a sustainable manner, taking into account social and economic considerations and for the benefit and enjoyment of the present and future generations of the community. Under this policy, we undertake the work on nature conservation through various measures, including (i) the management and protection of 24 country parks, 22 special areas, four marine parks, one marine reserve, the Hong Kong Wetland Park, HongKong Global Geopark of China and the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site; (ii) the enhancement of biodiversity and promotion of compatible use of country and marine parks; (iii) the identification of sites of high scientific value for listing as Sites of Special Scientific Interest; (iv) the provision of nature conservation advice on development proposals, planning studies and environmental impact assessments; as well as subsequent monitoring and auditing of ecological mitigation measures for these projects if approved under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499); (v) promotion of public awareness of nature conservation and enforcement of nature conservation legislation; (vi) the licensing control of international trade in endangered species and curbing of illegal trade in endangered species in Hong Kong; as well as (vii) collaborations with non-governmental organisations and private sectors on our work on this front.

Besides, we pursue to enhance the conservation of ecologically important sites in private ownership through the Management Agreement (MA) and Public-Private Partnership (PPP) schemes. These measures will continue to be carried out in 2014-15. In addition, we will continue to consult stakeholders on the draft Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan under the Convention on Biological Diversity in 2014-15.

The resources incurred by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) on nature conservation and relevant education, as well as for pursuing MA and PPP will be absorbed under Programme (2) ("Nature Conservation and Country Parks Programme") under Head 22 – AFCD. In 2014-15, the financial provision of this programme amounts to \$583 million. A total of 1 195 staff will be involved. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will continue to oversee AFCD's work in this aspect and relevant resources will be absorbed under Programme (6) ("Nature Conservation") under Head 44 – EPD. The financial provision under this programme will be \$8.7 million in 2014-15. A total of 6 staff will be involved.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB126

(Question Serial No.: 3611)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Air
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 127):

Regarding the plan to designate the entire Pearl River Delta waters as an Emission Control Area, please advise:

- a) Did the Administration conduct studies or communicate with governments of various regions in this regard? If yes, what were the details or the expenditure involved?
- b) What are the work progress so far, the work plan in future, and the expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Since early 2013, we have explained our vessel emission reduction measures to the governments of Guangdong Province and Shenzhen Municipality, and explored the possibility of collaboration. As regards setting up an emission control area in the Pearl River Delta (PRD) waters, we must obtain approval from the Central People's Government and complete the relevant assessments and studies in accordance with the requirements of the International Maritime Organization before materialising the plan. Since the work involved is complicated and time-consuming, we have made it our long-term target. We are exploring proactively with the governments of Guangdong and Shenzhen the feasibility of mandating ocean-going vessels to switch to cleaner fuel when berthing in the PRD waters. As this is an integral part of the work of improving air quality, we do not have a breakdown on the expenditure involved.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB127****(Question Serial No.: 3613)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 129):

Regarding the fuel for government vessels, please advise on:

- (a) the sulphur content of fuel of various government vessels in the past 5 years. Please list by vessel type and establishment;
- (b) the number and respective departments of government vessels using such fuel with respect to the sulphur content of fuel in the past five years. Please list by year;
- (c) the number of government vessels using fuel with a sulfur content of 0.05% or less in each of the past 5 years. Please list by year; and
- (d) the work details, effectiveness, and the expenditure and manpower involved in promoting the use of fuel with a sulfur content of 0.05% or less by government vessels in the past five years. Please list by year.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

To reduce air pollution, the Government has been taking the lead in adopting more stringent fuel specifications. In the past 5 years, all government vessels have been using Euro V diesel, which has sulphur content not exceeding 0.001%. The legislation which will come into effect on 1 April 2014 requires the sulphur content of locally supplied marine light diesel to be capped at 0.05%.

Government vessels mainly include major mechanized vessels, large high speed craft and other types of vessels. The fuel expenditure is absorbed by the provisions of respective departments.

The number and respective departments of government vessels in the past 5 years are as follows:

Government Department	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department	6	6	6	6	6
Civil Engineering and Development Department	3	3	3	3	3
Correctional Services Department	2	2	2	2	2
Customs and Excise	11	11	10	10	10

Department					
Environmental Protection Department	1	1	1	1	1
Fire Services Department	9	9	9	9	9
Department of Health	1	1	1	1	1
Hong Kong Police Force	60	52	52	52	52
Immigration Department	7	7	7	7	7
Marine Department	29	27	27	26	26
Water Supplies Department	2	2	2	2	2
Total	131	121	120	119	119

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB128****(Question Serial No.: 3614)**Head: (44) Environmental Protection DepartmentSubhead(No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (3) NoiseControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.: 130):

Regarding reduction of noise, please advise:

- a) What were the numbers of complaints against different types of noise received in each of the past five years? Please give a breakdown by year, cause of the noise problem (e.g. aircraft, public areas, construction works, etc.) and District Council district;
- b) What were the details of the measures taken by the Administration to address the noise problem, the effectiveness, expenditure and manpower involved in each of the past five years? Please list by year.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, KennethReply:

- a) The numbers of complaints against different types of noise received by EPD in each of the past five years are as follows:

2009

Types of Complaints	Industrial/ Commercial	Construction	Neighbourhood/ Public Areas	Traffic	Aircraft	Others, such as intruder alarm, etc.	Total
Central and Western	201	198	52	4	1	4	460
Eastern	227	111	68	19	0	1	426
Southern	52	13	14	6	1	0	86
Wan Chai	224	78	53	9	0	0	364
Kowloon City	166	30	38	14	0	3	251
Kwun Tong	128	56	31	18	0	1	234
Sham Shui Po	76	35	26	9	0	1	147
Yau Tsim Mong	67	53	26	31	0	1	178
Wong Tai Sin	140	96	59	28	0	4	327
Islands	203	53	34	19	0	1	310
Kwai Tsing	56	31	31	5	0	1	124
North	88	49	24	10	0	1	172
Sai Kung	153	45	45	40	1	1	285
Sha Tin	115	54	29	12	0	1	211

Tai Po	258	93	62	2	0	0	415
Tsuen Wan	69	40	22	8	0	1	140
Tuen Mun	388	91	53	14	0	2	548
Yuen Long	229	54	43	26	0	0	352
Total	2840	1180	710	274	3	23	5030

2010

Types of Complaints	Industrial/ Commercial	Construction	Neighbourhood/ Public Areas	Traffic	Aircraft	Others, such as intruder alarm, etc.	Total
Central and Western	233	195	38	6	0	3	475
Eastern	207	127	62	18	0	4	418
Southern	68	27	11	3	0	1	110
Wan Chai	264	96	22	3	0	3	388
Kowloon City	91	23	25	12	0	1	152
Kwun Tong	130	55	35	15	0	1	236
Sham Shui Po	88	28	19	12	0	1	148
Yau Tsim Mong	80	88	32	19	0	3	222
Wong Tai Sin	165	87	43	33	0	2	330
Islands	192	60	41	18	0	1	312
Kwai Tsing	52	49	8	3	0	0	112
North	97	35	25	4	0	0	161
Sai Kung	95	45	20	14	1	1	176
Sha Tin	122	63	30	17	0	3	235
Tai Po	254	146	33	3	0	1	437
Tsuen Wan	82	44	18	5	0	1	150
Tuen Mun	416	87	25	8	0	7	543
Yuen Long	233	61	30	22	0	1	347
Total	2869	1316	517	215	1	34	4952

2011

Types of Complaints	Industrial/ Commercial	Construction	Neighbourhood/ Public Areas	Traffic	Aircraft	Others, such as intruder alarm, etc.	Total
Central and Western	303	209	26	6	0	0	544
Eastern	215	97	47	15	0	1	375
Southern	52	23	9	10	0	0	94
Wan Chai	211	106	31	21	0	1	370
Kowloon City	79	50	37	10	0	1	177
Kwun Tong	156	49	30	9	0	2	246
Sham Shui Po	83	30	13	6	0	1	133
Yau Tsim Mong	83	69	24	26	0	0	202
Wong Tai Sin	172	70	29	35	0	1	307
Islands	153	73	22	12	0	1	261

Kwai Tsing	53	36	6	6	0	0	101
North	89	32	19	5	0	0	145
Sai Kung	95	40	25	10	0	2	172
Sha Tin	127	54	16	13	0	2	212
Tai Po	226	137	18	5	0	1	387
Tsuen Wan	84	35	20	6	0	2	147
Tuen Mun	318	98	31	12	0	2	461
Yuen Long	241	73	39	16	0	0	369
Total	2740	1281	442	223	0	17	4703

2012

Types of Complaints	Industrial/ Commercial	Construction	Neighbourhood/ Public Areas	Traffic	Aircraft	Others, such as intruder alarm, etc.	Total
Central and Western	176	205	37	4	0	2	424
Eastern	212	156	53	12	0	0	433
Southern	37	27	16	2	0	1	83
Wan Chai	174	117	40	9	0	2	342
Kowloon City	96	43	36	16	0	0	191
Kwun Tong	89	35	32	4	0	0	160
Sham Shui Po	95	33	32	9	0	2	171
Yau Tsim Mong	49	61	35	15	0	0	160
Wong Tai Sin	150	79	43	14	0	2	288
Islands	146	122	47	9	0	2	326
Kwai Tsing	54	53	17	4	0	2	130
North	91	39	14	3	0	2	149
Sai Kung	96	50	21	7	0	0	174
Sha Tin	145	50	31	10	0	1	237
Tai Po	230	102	27	4	0	0	363
Tsuen Wan	68	26	15	4	0	0	113
Tuen Mun	425	124	56	12	0	1	618
Yuen Long	206	84	55	22	0	0	367
Total	2539	1406	607	160	0	17	4729

2013

Types of Complaints	Industrial/ Commercial	Construction	Neighbourhood/ Public Areas	Traffic	Aircraft	Others, such as intruder alarm, etc.	Total
Central and Western	192	147	32	2	0	0	373
Eastern	181	106	55	8	0	1	351
Southern	42	24	16	0	0	0	82
Wan Chai	154	139	37	7	0	2	339
Kowloon City	95	40	30	8	0	1	174
Kwun Tong	99	47	24	5	0	0	175

Sham Shui Po	114	22	27	12	0	5	180
Yau Tsim Mong	60	45	19	8	0	3	135
Wong Tai Sin	144	63	32	19	1	3	262
Islands	170	55	30	6	0	1	262
Kwai Tsing	46	56	12	6	0	1	121
North	102	25	12	5	0	0	144
Sai Kung	117	43	13	3	0	0	176
Sha Tin	96	37	28	17	0	3	181
Tai Po	243	85	26	1	0	1	356
Tsuen Wan	87	42	15	2	0	0	146
Tuen Mun	477	101	52	17	0	4	651
Yuen Long	254	108	24	16	0	4	406
Total	2673	1185	484	142	1	29	4514

- b) To pre-empt and mitigate noise problems, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) provides input to various district planning and housing proposals, outline zoning plans and development plans of new development projects in accordance with the criteria and guidelines laid down in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines. Suitable mitigation measures would be incorporated into the design of development projects where necessary. In the past 5 years, EPD provided over 6,000 pieces of advice for planning and development projects in order to prevent or mitigate against noise issues. In parallel, through implementing the Noise Control Ordinance by serving Noise Abatement Notices and prosecuting against offences, EPD has improved the noise situation resulting from activities in 241 industrial / commercial and 384 construction cases. As handling of the above noise problems is part of EPD's routine integrated enforcement work, there are no separate breakdowns on the expenditure and manpower involved.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB129

(Question Serial No.: 3615)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Noise

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 131):

Regarding the measures taken to reduce noise, please advise on the following:

- a) What are the expenditure and manpower involved in the use of noise insulating fabric and full noise enclosures? What criteria are used to decide which acoustic treatment should be adopted?
- b) Has assessment been made on the functions of noise insulating fabric and its proper application to effectively insulate noise?
- c) Will adoption of full noise enclosures instead of noise insulating fabric be required in major infrastructure projects (such as railway projects, building works)?
- d) Were staff sent to inspect or monitor the effect of noise insulating fabric in each of the past five years? If yes, what were the expenditure and manpower involved? Please list by year.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- a) To meet the statutory noise standards set out in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Ordinance or the Noise Control Ordinance (NCO), site contractors are required to adopt appropriate effective noise abatement measures such as the use of noise insulating fabric or full noise enclosures. While the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is responsible for enforcing the appropriate ordinances, the use of such items is administered by the contractors concerned. We do not have the expenditure and manpower involved.
- b) The effectiveness of noise insulating fabric depends on the material used, thickness of the material and application design, as well as the noise climate of surrounding area of the site. As such, there is no conclusive result.
- c) Site contractors can adopt noise abatement measures they consider appropriate to meet the noise standards set out in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Ordinance or the Noise Control Ordinance (NCO). There is no mandatory requirement stipulating that full noise enclosures must be used for major infrastructure projects.
- d) EPD officers are regularly deployed to inspect and monitor the noise abatement measures adopted for projects. As this is routine integrated work of the Department, there are no separate breakdowns of the expenditure and manpower involved.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB130****(Question Serial No.: 3616)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (5) Environmental Assessment and Planning

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question(Member Question No.: 132):

Regarding the effectiveness of monitoring and auditing of ecological mitigation measures for the development projects approved under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance, what were the numbers of projects, expenditure and manpower involved and the effectiveness of environmental protection in each of the past five years? Please list by year and project.

Asked by:Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Among the environmental permits (EPs) issued by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance in the past five years, ecological mitigation measures are required to be implemented in 54 designated projects. The relevant ecological mitigation measures are now being implemented in accordance with the requirements of the EPs and no non-compliance has been found. As the vetting of ecological information in environmental monitoring and audit reports is part of EPD's routine work, the Department does not have separate breakdowns of the staff establishment and expenditure involved.

In the past five years, the designated projects requiring implementation of ecological mitigation measures and their number are provided in detail as follows.

Year 2009

Designated Projects Which Require Ecological Mitigation Measures	
1.	Dredging Works for Proposed Cruise Terminal at Kai Tak
2.	Roads D1(N) and D1(W) and Box Culvert at Whitehead
3.	Sludge Treatment Facilities– Feasibility Study
4.	Hang HauTsuen Channel at Lau Fau Shan
5.	Inter-reservoirs Transfer Scheme (IRTS) - Water Tunnel between KowloonByewash Reservoir and Lower ShingMun Reservoir
6.	Construction of a Secondary Boundary Fence and new sections of Primary Boundary Fence and Boundary Patrol Road
7.	Hong Kong Section of Guangzhou - Shenzhen - Hong Kong Express Rail Link
8.	Hong Kong - Zhuhai - Macao Bridge Hong Kong Link Road
9.	Hong Kong - Zhuhai - MacaoBridgeHong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities
10.	TuenMun - Chek Lap Kok Link
11.	Permanent and temporary reclamation works including associated dredging works in

	Wan Chai Development Phase II (WDII) area; Wan Chai East Sewage Outfall and Dredging for the Cross-harbour Water Mains from Wan Chai to TsimShaTsui
12.	Proposed Installation of Integrated Mobile Radio Base station at Nam Shan, Pui O, NT
13.	Improvement Works at Cheung Chau Tung Wan Beach, KwunYamBeach and Lo So ShingBeach

Year 2010

Designated Projects Which Require Ecological Mitigation Measures	
1.	Proposed Installation of Integrated Mobile Phone Base Station Nearby Fan Lau Country Trail, SouthLantauCountryPark, LantauIsland, New Territories
2.	Stream Improvement at Ta Kwu Ling associated with the Resite of Chuk Yuen Village
3.	Desilting Works at Hung ShuiKiu Channel, TuenMun
4.	Development of a BathingBeach at Lung Mei, Tai Po
5.	Black Point Gas Supply Project (First Phase)
6.	West New Territories (WENT) Landfill Extensions– Feasibility Study
7.	Development of a 100MW Offshore Wind Farm in Hong Kong
8.	Roadside Slope Improvement Works along Ma On Shan Tsuen Road within Ma On ShanCountryPark
9.	Major Restoration to the Residence of Ip Ting-sz, Lin Ma Hang Tsuen, Sha Tau Kok, N.T.
10.	Installation of Submarine Gas Pipelines and Associated Facilities from To Kwa Wan to North Point for FormerKaiTakAirport Development
11.	Liantang / Heung Yuen Wai Boundary Control Point and Associated Works
12.	South Island Line (East)
13.	Phase III Redevelopment of The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups Jockey Club Sai Kung Outdoor Training Camp

Year 2011

Designated Projects Which Require Ecological Mitigation Measures	
1.	Integration of Siu Ho Wan and SilverMineBay Water Treatment Works
2.	Sediment Removal at Yim Tin Tsai (East) Fish Culture Zone
3.	Restoration to Yan Tun Kong Study Hall at Ping Shan, Yuen Long, New Territories
4.	South-East Asia Japan Cable System (SJC) Hong Kong Segment
5.	Development of the Integrated Waste Management Facilities Phase 1
6.	Regulation of ShenzhenRiver Stage IV
7.	Asia Submarine-cable Express (ASE) - Tseung Kwan O
8.	Drainage Improvements in Southern Lantau

Year 2012

Designated Projects Which Require Ecological Mitigation Measures	
1.	Shatin to Central Link - Hung Hom to Admiralty Section
2.	Shatin to Central Link - MongKok East to Hung Hom Section
3.	Shatin to Central Link - Tai Wai to Hung Hom Section
4.	Upgrading of Remaining Sections of Kam Tin Road and Lam Kam Road
5.	EMSD Hong Kong Workshop at Sheung On Street, Chai Wan

Year 2013

Designated Projects Which Require Ecological Mitigation Measures	
1.	Decommissioning of the Magazine Site at Victoria Road for WestIsland Line
2.	Natural Terrain Hazard Mitigation Works at Study Area No. 12NW-C/SA1 above Leung Fai Tin along Clear Water Bay Road, Sai Kung
3.	Construction of Cycle Tracks and the associated Supporting Facilities from Sha Po Tsuen to ShekSheungRiver
4.	Drainage Improvement Works at Ngong Ping
5.	Tseung Kwan O – Lam Tin Tunnel and Associated Works
6.	Development of Organic Waste Treatment Facilities, Phase 2

7.	NENT - San Tin Highway and Fanling HighwayKwu Tung Section Widening (Between San Tin Interchange and PoShek Wu Interchange)
8.	NENT - Castle Peak Road Diversion
9.	NENT - Kwu Tung North New Development Area Road P1 and P2 and Associated New Kwu Tung Interchange and Pak Shek Au Interchange Improvement
10.	NENT - Kwu Tung North New Development Area Road D1 to D5
11.	NENT - Sewage Pumping Stations in Kwu Tung North New Development Area
12.	NENT - PoShek Wu Interchange Improvement
13.	NENT - Fanling Bypass Western Section
14.	NENT - Fanling Bypass Eastern Section
15.	NENT - Shek Wu Hui Sewage Treatment Works - Further Expansion at Fanling North New Development Area

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB131

(Question Serial No.: 3617)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (5) Environmental Assessment and Planning

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question(Member Question No.: 133):

Regarding environmental assessment and planning, please provide, by year and case, the number of appeals and judicial reviews filed against the Government on environmental impact assessment reports for government projects, planning proposals and development strategies, the points of contention, results of the judgments, and the manpower and expenditure involved in each of the past 5 years.

Asked by:Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

There were 3 applications for judicial review on the decision made by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) pursuant to the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (EIA Ordinance) in the past 5 years. The designated projects concerned, points of contention and results of the judgments are provided below. As handling judicial reviews is part of the current duties of EPD, we do not have separate breakdowns of expenditure and manpower involved.

Judicial Review on the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (2010)

In January 2010, a citizen of Hong Kong made an application for judicial review regarding the air quality impact of the EIA in respect of Hong Kong section of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge project. The Court of First Instance (CFI) ruled that the EIA report should include a "stand alone" analysis of the project and relevant mitigation measures, so as to allow the authority to consider whether the relevant impacts had been kept to the minimum. EPD subsequently lodged an appeal. The Court of Appeal was of the view that the EIA report had already met the requirements of the EIA study brief and the Technical Memorandum of the EIA Ordinance and also included considerations on minimizing the environmental impact from the project, therefore it was not necessary to further conduct a "stand alone" analysis on the impact of the project. EPD's appeal was allowed by the Court of Appeal in September 2011.

Judicial Review on the Development of the Integrated Waste Management Facilities (IWMF) (2012)

In February 2012, a citizen made an application for judicial review against the EPD's decision to approve the EIA Report on the IWMF Phase 1 project and to grant an environmental permit, challenging certain parts of the EIA Report as well as the role of the Director of EPD. The application was dismissed by the High Court in July 2013. The Applicant has lodged an appeal and the case will be heard by the Appeal Court in June this year.

Development of a Bathing Beach at Lung Mei, Tai Po (2013)

In June 2013, a local organization challenged that the ecology assessment in the EIA Report on the bathing

beach at Lung Mei, Tai Po was wrong or misleading, and made an application for judicial review regarding the Government's inaction to temporarily suspend, vary or cancel the environmental permit issued for the bathing beach at Lung Mei. The judicial review was heard on 18 February 2014 and the CFI's decision is being awaited.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB132****(Question Serial No.: 3619)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (5) Environmental Assessment and Planning

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 135):

Regarding environmental assessment and planning, please advise on the following:

- a) In 2014-15, the Administration will “incorporate environmental considerations into major policies and strategies at the earliest possible stage”. What are the determining criteria and details regarding “major policies and strategies”, “possible”, “earliest stage” and “considerations” of the work respectively, and what are the expected expenditures and manpower involved? Please list by each item.
- b) What were the details of the environmental considerations that the Administration incorporated into major policies and strategies at the earliest possible stage in each of the past five years? What were the additional expenditures and manpower involved? Please list by item.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- a) The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is responsible for reviewing the parts related to environmental implications in all policy documents submitted to the Executive Council or policy committees by bureaux and departments to ensure that relevant environmental factors have been considered at the formulation stage of such policies and strategies. EPD is also responsible for reviewing the parts related to environmental implications in all funding applications for public works submitted to the Legislative Council by bureaux and departments to ensure that relevant environmental factors have been considered and established environmental requirements and standards have been complied with at the design stage of such works. As the above is an integral part of the environmental assessment and planning work of EPD, we do not have a separate breakdown on the relevant expenditure and manpower establishment.
- b) The numbers of policy documents and funding motions reviewed by EPD for parts related to environmental implications in the past five years are listed below:

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
No.	295	265	312	295	287

As mentioned above, we do not have a separate breakdown on the relevant expenditure and manpower establishment.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB133

(Question Serial No.:3620)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (5) Environmental Assessment and Planning

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question(Member Question No.: 136):

Regarding the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance, will the Administration plan to review the effectiveness of the Ordinance in environmental protection in future and add more elements to make the assessments more comprehensive? If yes, what are the work plans, timetable, expenditure and manpower involved? Was there any such work in the past five years? If yes, what were the work details, expenditure, manpower and results? Please list by year.

Asked by:Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process in Hong Kong is regulated under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance. The Technical Memorandum on Environmental Impact Assessment Process (EIA – TM) issued under the Ordinance sets out unified technical guidelines and criteria for assessment procedures. The EIA process and requirements are open and transparent, and the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is required to give due consideration to comments from the public and the Advisory Council on the Environment before making any decisions. The EIA mechanism under the Ordinance has worked well on the whole for the past 10 years or more. As a continual improvement process, the EPD from time to time reviews the operation of the EIA mechanism with a view to enhancing its effectiveness and efficiency. The reviews have taken into account the experience in implementation, new professional developments, court decisions as well as feedbacks from various stakeholders. We have implemented a series of improvement measures, such as issuing guidance materials, providing advice at the early stage of EIA study, organizing training and seminars, etc. to strengthen technical support, enhance transparency in processing applications, and to better co-ordinate the work of various authorities in processing EIA report submissions from applicants with a view to meeting the requirements of the EIA Ordinance. As this is part of EPD's current duties, we do not have separate breakdowns of the expenditure and manpower involved.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB134

(Question Serial No.: 3621)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 137):

Regarding the new nature conservation policy, please advise:

- (a) Since the implementation of the new nature conservation policy, what are the details of each work item, the expenditure and manpower involved and the effectiveness? Please list by work item.
- (b) Has any review been conducted on the new nature conservation policy? If yes, what are the details and results of the review, the expenditure and manpower involved, and the follow-up actions?
- (c) Regarding the List of Priority Sites for Enhanced Conservation under the new nature conservation policy and since the implementation of the policy, what are the details, progress, effectiveness of the conservation work conducted at such sites, as well as the expenditure and manpower involved? Please list by site.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

a) In 2004, the Government announced the New Nature Conservation Policy (NNCP) to regulate, protect and manage natural resources that are important for the conservation of biological diversity of Hong Kong in a sustainable manner, taking into account social and economic considerations and for the benefit and enjoyment of the present and future generations of the community. Under this policy, we undertake the work on nature conservation through various measures, including (i) the management and protection of 24 country parks, 22 special areas, four marine parks, one marine reserve, the Hong Kong Wetland Park, Hong Kong Global Geopark of China and the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site; (ii) the enhancement of biodiversity and promotion of compatible use of country and marine parks; (iii) the identification of sites of high scientific value for listing as Sites of Special Scientific Interest; (iv) the provision of nature conservation advice on development proposals, planning studies and environmental impact assessments; as well as subsequent monitoring and auditing of ecological mitigation measures for these projects if approved under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499); (v) promotion of public awareness of nature conservation and enforcement of nature conservation legislation; (vi) the licensing control of international trade in endangered species and curbing of illegal trade in endangered species in Hong Kong; as well as (vii) collaborations with non-governmental organisations and private sectors on our work on this front. Besides, we pursue to enhance the conservation of ecologically important sites in private ownership through the Management Agreement (MA) and Public-Private Partnership (PPP) schemes. These measures will continue to be carried out in 2014-15. In addition, we will continue to consult stakeholders on the draft Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan under the Convention on Biological Diversity in 2014-15.

b) With reference to past experience and the progress of the MA Scheme and the PPP Scheme, in 2011 the Government reviewed and made the following enhancement arrangements. Firstly, to enhance the conservation of land which has ecological or aesthetic value, but has yet to be included into country parks, the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) has agreed to extend the scope of the MA scheme to cover private land in country park enclaves and within country parks. In addition, to ensure the sustainability of the pledged conservation programmes under PPP, project proponents would be required to donate upfront to the ECF a lump sum sufficient to generate recurrent incomes to support the pledged conservation programmes, and to identify competent bodies as their conservation agents to manage the concerned sites.

c) Under the NNCP promulgated in 2004, we have identified 12 priority sites of high ecological importance (Priority Sites) for enhanced conservation upon expert assessments. The Fung Yuen Priority Site, Long Valley and Ho Sheung Heung Priority Site, Ramsar Site Priority Site and Deep Bay Wetland outside Ramsar Site Priority Site have all along been managed under the MA Scheme funded under the ECF. The total number of bird species in Long Valley increased from 221 in 2005 to 295 in 2013, covering over 50% of the bird species in Hong Kong. The total number of butterfly species in Fung Yuen increased from 162 in 2005 to over 210 in 2013, covering about 90% of the butterfly species in Hong Kong. The MA project on fishponds approved in early 2012 has also brought about benefits to birds inhabiting in wetlands as the fishponds at Ramsar Site and Deep Bay Wetland are feeding sites for birds. In addition to the direct benefits to biodiversity, MA projects have also raised the public and local communities' awareness on nature conservation.

The resources incurred by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) on nature conservation and relevant education, as well as for pursuing MA and PPP will be absorbed under Programme (2) ("Nature Conservation and Country Parks Programme") under Head 22 – AFCD. In 2014-15, the financial provision of this programme amounts to \$583 million. A total of 1 195 staff will be involved. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will continue to oversee AFCD's work in this aspect and relevant resources will be absorbed under Programme (6) ("Nature Conservation") under Head 44 – EPD. The financial provision under this programme will be \$8.7 million in 2014-15. A total of 6 staff will be involved. We, however, do not have a breakdown of the manpower and expenditure involved in the above projects.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB135

(Question Serial No.: 3622)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 138):

Regarding the consultation on the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan drafted under the Convention on Biological Diversity, please advise:

(a) What are the current work details and progress?

(b) What are the details (e.g. venue, time, attendance, representatives) of the Administration's consultation exercises or activities (e.g. public consultation sessions, industry meetings, meetings with various groups)? Please list by exercise or activity.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Regarding the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP), a committee with a three-tier structure was set up by the Administration in May 2013 to steer the formulation of BSAP. This committee consists of the Steering Committee, three standing Working Groups (Terrestrial Biodiversity Working Group, Marine Biodiversity Working Group, and Awareness, Mainstreaming and Sustainability Working Group), and focus groups that operate under the relevant Working Group. Members include academics, biodiversity experts, and representatives from green groups, relevant stakeholders, private and public sectors and relevant government departments.

Meetings or forums on different topics are being held or organised by various focus groups. Those who are interested in the topics and experienced in the relevant areas are invited to join the discussions or submit their comments. Since October 2013, 16 meetings and 1 industry forum have been held by the focus groups, and the consultation work is still in progress.

On the other hand, we are conducting a series of public awareness and engagement activities, including setting up a dedicated website (www.afcd.gov.hk/bsap), distributing promotional pamphlets, broadcasting APIs, organising roving exhibitions and public lectures, etc. We are gauging views on BSAP from the public and various stakeholders through these activities. A public consultation on the draft of BSAP will also be conducted in the first half of 2015.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB136****(Question Serial No.: 3623)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:139):

Regarding the overseeing of the operation and management of the Geopark and country parks, please advise:

- a) how much resources and manpower were allocated to the conservation and overseeing work in each of the past five years? Please list by year and park;
- b) has the effectiveness of such work been reviewed?
- c) has consideration been given to expanding or reducing the scope of the Geopark or country parks? If yes, what are the details, work progress, and the expenditure and manpower involved? If there is any change to the scope of these parks, what corresponding changes does the Administration expect for the expenditure and manpower involved in the overseeing and management work?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- a) The expenditure and manpower involved in the conservation and overseeing work of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) in the Geopark and country parks in the past five years are listed in the table below.

Year	Expenditure(\$m)	No. of Staff*
2009-10	78	368
2010-11	101	368
2011-12	117	359
2012-13	131	335
2013-14	132	326

*The mobility of frontline staff has been relatively high in recent years. If necessary, some of the work will be undertaken by outsourced contractors. As relevant staff are provided by the contractors, we do not have a record of the actual number of staff involved in the outsourced work.

- b) AFCD will review the effectiveness of operation and management of the Geopark and country parks from time to time. The current major work include: (1) tree planting; (2) enhancement of ecological values of the country parks; (3) provision of recreational facilities; (4) prevention of hill fires; (5) patrolling and law enforcement; (6) cleansing and refuse collection; (7) setting up and maintenance of facilities such as tourist centres, geo-walks, exhibits, illustrations and signage; (8) organising educational and promotional activities; (9) facilitating participation of local communities; (10) promoting travel and network activities; (11) training Geopark Guides and (12) conducting geoscience studies, etc.

- c) In respect of enlarging the area of country parks, the Administration will incorporate selected country park enclaves into country parks. Assessments are being carried out. Three country park enclaves (i.e. sites at Fan Kei Tok, Sai Lau Kong and near Nam Shan) have been assessed to be suitable for designation as country parks. The Department will consult stakeholders on the proposal before starting the relevant statutory procedures. In 2014-15, AFCDC has earmarked \$0.8 million for such work, including deployment of two officers.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB137****(Question Serial No.: 3624)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 140):

Regarding improving the quality of locally supplied marine diesel, please advise:

- the quantity of diesel supplied in the local market and their sulphur content in each of the past five years. Please list by year and sulphur content;
- the quantity of air pollutants emitted by local vessels and their percentage in the total amount of air pollutants in each of the past five years. Please list by year.
- Will the Government consider making use of remote sensing equipment to monitor the emission performance of vessels? If yes, what are the details, work timetable, as well as the expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- In the period from 2009 to 2013, the annual quantity of marine diesel supplied in the local market is as follows:

Year	Light Diesel Oil with Sulphur Content not more than 0.5% Million Litre	Light Diesel Oil with Sulphur Content not more than 0.001% Million Litre
2009	5,460	1.4
2010	4,300	2.6
2011	3,190	5.6
2012	1,820	3.8
2013	1,760	16.1

Note: Apart from local vessels, cross-border vessels and ocean-going vessels will also purchase marine diesel in Hong Kong for use in the waters outside Hong Kong. In recent years, China has strengthened control over mainland vessels purchasing duty-not-paid diesel oil (including Hong Kong's marine diesel) from outside the territory for use in the mainland. The quantity of marine diesel sold in the local market has therefore decreased.

- According to the Hong Kong Emission Inventory compiled by the Environment Protection Department (EPD), the major air pollutant emissions by local vessels and their percentages in Hong Kong's total air pollutant emissions in the period from 2008 to 2012 are as follow:

Year	Air Pollutant Emissions by Local Vessels			Percentage in Hong Kong's Total Emissions		
	Sulphur Dioxide (Tonne)	Nitrogen Oxides (Tonne)	Respirable Suspended Particulate (Tonne)	Sulphur Dioxide (%)	Nitrogen Oxides (%)	Respirable Suspended Particulate (%)
2008	3,140	17,700	647	5%	15%	9%
2009	3,180	18,500	668	5%	16%	10%
2010	3,360	19,600	684	9%	18%	11%
2011	3,730	22,300	755	12%	19%	12%
2012	3,550	21,200	718	11%	18%	12%

- c) EPD is now studying the technical feasibility of using remote sensing device to monitor the emission of ocean-going vessels to tie in with the requirement for ocean-going vessels to switch to cleaner fuel while at berth. The relevant studies are absorbed by EPD's existing manpower and resources.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB138

(Question Serial No.: 3625)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 141):

Regarding the enforcement actions under the Motor Vehicle Idling (Fixed Penalty) Ordinance, please advise on the following:

- a) Since the Ordinance came into effect, what are the expenditure and manpower involved in the enforcement actions per month? Please list by month and staffing establishment.
- b) Since the Ordinance came into effect, what are the numbers of warnings and prosecutions made as well as the amount of penalty imposed by enforcement staff per month? Please list by month.
- c) Since the Ordinance came into effect, what are the numbers of government vehicles warned, prosecuted or fined respectively? Please list by month.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Motor Vehicle Idling (Fixed Penalty) Ordinance (the Ordinance), which came into operation on 15 December 2011, prohibits drivers from idling a vehicle engine for more than 3 minutes in any 60-minute period. It empowers Traffic Wardens (TW) and Environmental Protection Inspectors (EPI) to issue fixed penalty notices (FPNs) with a fine of \$320 to offending drivers. The TWs will issue FPNs to drivers who contravene the idling prohibition in their daily patrol duties. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will co-ordinate enforcement-cum-publicity activities with TWs at idling engine black spots.

- a) To support the work, the Hong Kong Police Force has created 18 TW posts, the total number of which is about 276. For EPD, we have about 381 EPIs who are also empowered to issue FPNs, and the EPIs will take joint enforcement actions with TWs at the black spots. Expenditure on related work of the EPD is absorbed by existing provisions under the "Air Programme".
- b) The Ordinance empowers law enforcement officers to issue FPNs to drivers who violated the Ordinance without issuing warning. As a transitional arrangement, during the first month of implementation, law enforcement officers would first give a verbal warning to drivers in breach of the law and would only issue a FPN when the warning was ignored. During the first month, law enforcement officers had given 457 warnings. All drivers being warned had switched off their engines immediately.
- b) From the commencement of the Ordinance to the end of February 2014, law enforcement officers have timed 3 332 vehicles with idling engines. Among them, 96 drivers who violated the Ordinance (i.e. not switching off their engines within 3 minutes) had been issued with FPNs. The remaining drivers either

switched off the engines or drove their vehicles away immediately. The monthly figures on vehicles timed with idling engines and FPNs issued during the period are as follows:

Month	Number of timing procedures against vehicles with idling engines	Number of \$320 FPNs issued
January 2012	-	0
February 2012	-	0
March 2012	19	0
April 2012	20	0
May 2012	71	0
June 2012	117	0
July 2012	108	0
August 2012	218	2
September 2012	253	0
October 2012	192	1
November 2012	121	1
December 2012	85	3
January 2013	134	1
February 2013	102	1
March 2013	94	1
April 2013	147	10
May 2013	199	5
June 2013	212	11
July 2013	171	11
August 2013	231	12
September 2013	223	15
October 2013	214	7
November 2013	139	5
December 2013	114	3
January 2014	79	3
February 2014	69	4
Total	3 332	96

Note: Statistics have not been kept for timing idling vehicles in January and February 2012.

- c) The Ordinance is also applicable to government vehicles. From the enforcement of the Ordinance in December 2011 to the end of February 2014, no government vehicles have been warned or prosecuted.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB139

(Question Serial No.: 3626)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 143):

Regarding the promotion of slow steaming of vessels, please advise on the following:

- a) What are the details, expenditure and manpower involved, and the effectiveness of the work in each of the past three years;
- b) Will study and consultation with the sector on this matter be conducted; if yes, what are the details, schedule as well as the expenditure and manpower involved;
- c) What are the future work plan as well as the expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Slow steaming helps vessels to save fuel and reduce emissions. As the port traffic in Hong Kong is very busy, speed restriction for vessels has already been put in place for some shipping lanes and designated zones for the purpose of marine traffic management. We have to study the matter from various perspectives including navigational safety, marine traffic density and cost effectiveness, and to explore the feasibility of slow steaming. We plan to discuss the relevant proposals with the shipping industry and the departments concerned upon implementation of measures to upgrade quality of local marine diesel and mandate ocean-going vessels to switch to cleaner fuel while berthing. Such work will be absorbed by existing manpower and resources of the Environmental Protection Department.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB140

(Question Serial No.: 3760)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 169):

Regarding the setting up of a \$1 billion Recycling Fund as announced in the 2014 Policy Address, please advise:

- (a) What are the operational details of the Fund? If it is not yet finalized, what is the timetable for the drawing up of details?
- (b) Has consideration been given to increasing provision to the Fund in order to step up promotion of the industry?
- (c) It is reported that many new companies have registered as recyclers to become a member of the trade as soon as possible, so that they can apply for the Fund subsequently. Has the Administration looked into this with the industry? If yes, what are the details and number of newly registered recyclers?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Government has earmarked \$1 billion to set up a Recycling Fund in support of the sustainable development of the recycling industry. The Steering Committee to Promote the Sustainable Development of the Recycling Industry, chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration, will study the specific uses of the Recycling Fund in depth with a view to formulating effective, equitable and sustainable proposals. Reference will be made to the modes of financial assistance to the recycling industry in other regions and their effectiveness, and the unique situation of different types of recyclables in Hong Kong. We have maintained close liaison with the trade and relevant stakeholders, and a proposal on the specific uses of the fund is expected to be ready in the second half of this year for consultation with the Panel on Environmental Affairs of the Legislative Council.

After the Recycling Fund has come into operation, timely reviews will be conducted on its effectiveness, including the effects on raising the industry's standards of operation and the quantity and quality of recyclables treated in Hong Kong. In the light of the actual operation and effectiveness of the fund, we will consider the way forward including any capital injection.

As always, recycling trade associations receive enquiries on membership application from time to time from existing and new companies. Companies interested in undertakings in recycling are welcome to join the business and contribute to the sustainable development of Hong Kong's recycling industry.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB141****(Question Serial No.: 3761)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 170):

Regarding operation of waste recycling yards, please advise on:

- a) Did the Administration look into the operating environment and situation of the waste recycling yards and the incidents and problems (e.g. fire, theft, leakage of pollutants, etc.) they encountered in each of the past three years? Please list by year and incident;
- b) In connection with the above incidents, the numbers of people arrested, the numbers of people prosecuted, the numbers of people convicted, the legislation suspected to have been breached and the maximum penalties in each of the past three years. Please list by year;
- c) How will the \$1 billion Recycling Fund announced in this year's Policy Address facilitate the operation of the recycling yards? Has consideration been given to establishing a licensing mechanism for the recycling industry?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- a) We estimate there are roughly 200 recycling sites engaged in the recycling and storage of waste electrical appliances, scrap plastics, scrap metals, scrap paper and waste tyres, and they are mainly located in the rural parts of Yuen Long and North District. The number of these establishments however fluctuates in response to the market demand, as does their mode of operation. The number of incidents and violations related to these recycling sites in the past 3 years are summarised below.

Waste Recycling Sites	Year 2011	Year 2012	Year 2013
Fire Call	14	20	18
Violation against environmental ordinances	0	2	0

The Government has not kept any statistics on theft in relation to waste recycling sites, and is not able to provide relevant figures.

- b) For those fire calls indicated in the table above, investigation carried out by the Fire Services Department is still in progress for one of the cases which took place at the end of 2013. Investigations for the rest of the cases confirmed that no fire safety regulations have been breached. As regards the two cases of violation against environmental laws, the Environmental Protection Department has initiated prosecution under the Water Pollution Control Ordinance (WPCO) and the Noise Control Ordinance (NCO) respectively, and both offenders had been convicted by the court. The maximum penalty for the WPCO

offence is a fine of HK\$ 200,000 and 6 months' imprisonment on first conviction; and the maximum penalty for the NCO offence is a fine of HK\$100,000 on first conviction.

- c) The Government has earmarked \$1 billion to set up a Recycling Fund in support of the sustainable development of the recycling industry. The Steering Committee to Promote the Sustainable Development of the Recycling Industry, chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration, will study the specific uses of the Recycling Fund in depth with a view to formulating effective, equitable and sustainable proposals. Reference will be made to the modes of financial assistance to the recycling industry in other regions and their effectiveness, and the unique situation of different types of recyclables in Hong Kong. We have maintained close liaison with the trade and relevant stakeholders, and a proposal on the specific uses of the fund is expected to be ready in the second half of this year for consultation with the Panel on Environmental Affairs of the Legislative Council.

The Government and the recycling industry are jointly studying the establishment of a certification scheme for recyclers. Moreover, the EPD and the Occupational Safety and Health Council are working on the provision of tailor-made courses for the workforce of the recycling industry to upgrade the safety and environmental standards of recycling operations.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB142****(Question Serial No.: 3783)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 622):

Regarding the staffing provision for Programme (1) of the Environmental Protection Department, there is an increase of 70 posts in 2014-15. Please list the salary expenditure, ranks and duties of the new posts to be created in various divisions, as well as the salary expenditure, ranks, duties and number of posts of various divisions in each of the past three years.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

In 2014-15, it is estimated that there will be an increase of 70 new posts in the Environmental Protection Department under Programme (1), with an estimated staff establishment of 647. The estimated salary expenditure for the 70 new posts is \$40.98 million.

Posts	No.	Functions
1 SEPO, 3 EPO/AEPOs, 1 EPI	+5	To set up a Household Food Waste Section to carry out studies and planning for the collection of household food waste
2 SEPOs, 5 EPO/AEPOs, 1 SEPI, 2 EPIs	+10	To set up a Strategic Waste Facilities Planning Group to carry out planning for and development of sustainable waste management facilities in Hong Kong (All posts are time-limited for five years from 2014/15 to 2018/19)
1 ADEP, 2 SEPOs, 6 EPO/AEPOs, 2 SEPIs, 4 EPIs, 1 EOII, 1 CO, 1 ACO, 2 CAs, 1 PSI	+21	To set up a new division to provide support and implement the policies and initiatives formulated by the Steering Committee to support the sustainable development of the recycling industry (All posts are time-limited for three years from 2014/15 to 2016/17)
1 SEPO,	+2	To develop government green procurement policy and the related

Posts	No.	Functions
1 EPO/AEPO		measures (All posts are time-limited for three years from 2014/15 to 2016/17)
1 Senior Stat, 1 Stat, 1 StatO II / Stu SO	+ 3	To set up a Statistics Unit to provide professional statistical support and oversee the compilation of waste statistics in Hong Kong
2 SEPOs, 6 EPO/AEPOs, 2 SEPIs, 4 EPIs, 2 ACOs	+16	To implement the Waste Diversion Plan, engage local stakeholders of the three landfill projects and implement stringent control on refuse collection vehicles (All posts are time-limited for two years from 2014/15 to 2015/16)
1 SEPO, 3 EPO/AEPOs, 1 SEPI, 3 EPIs, 2 A/AA*	+10	To set up a Territory-wide network of Community Green Stations and develop the new mandatory Producer Responsibility Scheme (* The two posts are time-limited for three years from 2014/15 to 2016/17)
1 TA, 1 AOI 1SEO 1EO I	+ 4	To support the operation of Environment and Conservation Fund and monitor its investment return
1 EO I	+1	To enhance the management and operation of recruitment and promotion exercises
1 EPO/AEPO 1 OA	-2	To be deleted for overall redeployment
Net Increase:	+70	

The salary expenditure and number of staff under Programme (1) in the past three years are as follows:

Year	Salary expenditure (\$m)*	No. of staff
2011-12	289.4	555
2012-13	310.1	567
2013-14 revised estimate	326	577

*Salary expenditure includes salary, allowance and job-related allowances. Contributions to MPF and CSPF are not included.

Staff under Programme (1) are responsible for drawing up plans at strategic and district levels; providing facilities for proper treatment and disposal of waste, including municipal waste and other wastes. They will also enforce relevant legislations, carry out control on illegal disposal of waste, formulate new proposals to cope with the changing demands for waste management, and provide advice on assessment and remediation of contaminated land. They will also promote and encourage waste reduction and recycling in collaboration with the community.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB143****(Question Serial No.: 3784)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (297) Fees for operation of waste facilities

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 623):

Regarding the provision of \$1,623,630,000 for contract payments for the operation of waste facilities including the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre, refuse transfer stations, landfills and for administering the charging schemes therefor, please provide a breakdown of the provision. As the provision is \$333,503,000 (25.9%) higher than that for 2013-14, what is the breakdown of the additional expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The estimate for 2014-15 for the operation of waste facilities and the increase in expenditure over 2013-14 are shown in the table below:

Waste facilities	Operation cost 2014-15 Estimate (\$million)	Increase in operation cost over the 2013-14 revised estimate (\$million)
Landfills	654.463	38.183 ⁽¹⁾
Refuse transfer stations	500.427	106.220 ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾
Chemical Waste Treatment Centre	225.261	15.486 ⁽¹⁾
Sludge treatment facility	133.772	133.772 ⁽³⁾
Closed landfills	65.390	27.203 ⁽¹⁾⁽⁴⁾
Organic waste treatment facilities	32.517	11.508 ⁽⁵⁾
Others (including waste recycling facilities, low-level radioactive waste storage facility, etc.)	11.800	1.131
Total	1,623.630	333.503

Note (1): Attributable to the price fluctuation as required in accordance with the contract provisions of waste facilities.

Note (2): Attributable to the implementation of the Waste Diversion Plan.

Note (3): Attributable to the commencement of trial operation of the Sludge treatment facility.

Note (4): Attributable to the aftercare service at closed landfills which were previously funded under the Capital Works Reserve Fund.

Note (5): Attributable to the implementation of the operational and environmental enhancement of the Animal Waste Composting Plant.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB144****(Question Serial No.: 3785)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 624):

Regarding voluntary producer responsibility schemes, what are the effectiveness, expenditure and manpower involved and work details of each project in each year since the implementation of the schemes? Please list by year and project. Does the Administration have plans to regulate through legislation? If yes, what are the work details, timetable, and expenditure and manpower involved in each project?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) encourages the public to recycle waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), fluorescent lamps, rechargeable batteries and glass beverage bottles etc., through various measures, including recycling programmes funded by the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) and those self-financed by the trades. Apart from publicity and technical support, the EPD also provides logistics support and organises collection programmes at schools and housing estates. The relevant work is carried out by the EPD's staff, which is part of the work of the Department. In the past five years, the expenditure of relevant recycling initiatives under the ECF and the EPD and the quantity of various recyclable materials recovered are tabulated below:

Year	Expenditure (\$million)	Waste electrical equipment recovered (no.)	Computers recovered (no.)	Rechargeable batteries recovered (tonne)	Fluorescent lamps and tubes recovered (no.)	Glass bottles recovered (tonne)
2009	4	26 900	14 100	53	312 000	2 800
2010	6	22 000	21 100	61	350 000	4 500
2011	7.5	46 800	18 300	68	470 000	4 800
2012	8.5	49 000	39 600	60	550 000	7 000
2013	14	50 500	27 000	81	500 000	Under compilation

The EPD will continue to promote and support various recycling initiatives and enhance various kinds of collection services according to demand. Main focus of the work in the coming year is to prepare for the implementation of mandatory producer responsibility schemes (PRs) on WEEE and glass beverage bottles. The relevant work is part of the work of the Waste Management Policy Division (WMD) of the EPD, and is absorbed by existing resources. There are also staff members from other divisions to participate and provide assistance in their respective scope of work. In 2014-15, there are a total of 12 staff members of the WMD to promote and support various recycling initiatives. The estimated expenditure is about \$21 million. The WMD is responsible for waste management policy, including progressive implementation of the PRs. However, we do not have breakdowns of manpower provision and resources involved in individual initiatives.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB145

(Question Serial No.: 3789)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 627):

Regarding the implementation of measures to improve regional air quality in collaboration with the Guangdong authorities, please advise on the work details, expenditure, manpower and results achieved in each of the past five years, as well as the agenda and timetable for future work. Has such work been reviewed?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Improvement of regional air quality has been one of the important work foci in environmental collaboration between Hong Kong and Guangdong. The governments of the two sides set up a Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection (the Joint Working Group) in 2000, with several special panels under the Joint Working Group to follow up on issues of mutual concern, including improving air quality of the Pearl River Delta (PRD) Region, promoting cleaner production, etc. The work under the Joint Working Group has been reviewed on an annual basis. Please refer to Annex A for major collaboration programmes on improving regional air quality in the past 5 years, including the expenditure and manpower involved and the results achieved.

In 2014-15, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) and relevant Guangdong departments will continue to co-operate in implementing measures to improve regional air quality and operating a joint air quality monitoring network for the PRD Region. The EPD will also collaborate with Guangdong and Macao to enhance the regional air quality monitoring network and commence a joint study on fine suspended particulates for the region. The EPD will continue to promote the adoption of cleaner production technologies and practices in Hong Kong-owned factories in Guangdong Province. A provision of some \$34 million has been earmarked under the Air Programme of the EPD for implementing various cross-boundary air co-operation projects, including around \$25 million for promoting cleaner production and \$9 million for conducting a regional fine suspended particulates study.

Collaboration projects or programmes on improving air quality
between Hong Kong and Guangdong from 2009-10 to 2013-14

Title of project/ programme	Work details, expenditure and manpower involved	Progress and results achieved
PRD Regional Air Quality Management Plan (the Plan)	The Plan includes emission reduction and control measures which target at main emission sources, including power plants, vehicles and industrial facilities, etc., and regional air quality monitoring. Implementing and monitoring progress of the Plan is part of our air quality improvement work. There is no separate breakdown on the expenditure involved.	The Plan is an ongoing collaboration project, drawn up in December 2003 and regularly updated. From 2006 to 2012, the annual average levels recorded by the PRD Regional Air Quality Monitoring Network for sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and respirable suspended particulates decreased by 62%, 17% and 24% respectively. This indicates that improvements in regional air quality have been brought about by the emission reduction measures implemented by Guangdong and Hong Kong in recent years.
Study on post-2010 emission reduction plan for PRD Region (the Study)	To review the current air pollutants emission situation in the PRD Region, estimate emission levels for 2010-2020, consider possible emission reduction measures, and make suggestions on post-2010 emission reduction initiatives for the region. The study was conducted by the Air Policy Division of the EPD. There is no separate breakdown on the resources involved.	The Study began in October 2009 and concluded in November 2012. Hong Kong and Guangdong have endorsed the emission reduction targets/ranges in the PRD Region for 2015 and 2020, and will continue to implement various emission reduction measures.
Cleaner Production Partnership Programme (the Programme)	The Programme was launched in April 2008. It encourages and facilitates Hong Kong-owned factories in the PRD Region to adopt cleaner production technologies and practices through funding support and technology promotion activities, thereby contributing to improving regional air quality. The Programme is implemented with a provision of \$140 million from the Government.	In light of the environmental benefits brought about by the Programme and the positive feedback from the industries, the Government has extended the 5-year Programme by 2 years till 31 March 2015. As at the end of February 2014, the Programme has approved about 2 300 funding projects and organised nearly 340 technology and awareness promotion activities.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB146

(Question Serial No.: 3790)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 628):

On enhancing the joint air quality monitoring network with the authorities of Guangdong and Macao, what were the work details, the expenditure and manpower involved and the effectiveness of the Administration in each of the past 5 years, and the future action agenda and timetable? Has such work been reviewed?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Pearl River Delta Regional Air Quality Monitoring Network (the Network) was jointly established by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) and the Guangdong Environmental Monitoring Center (GDEMC) from 2003 to 2005. The Network, which came into operation on 30 November 2005, has been issuing the Regional Air Quality Index to the public every day.

To ensure the operation of the Network complies with stringent quality assurance (QA)/quality control (QC) requirements, the GDEMC and EPD have jointly set up the Guangdong-Hong Kong Quality Management Committee for the PRD Regional Air Quality Monitoring Network (the Quality Management Committee, QMC) to review and evaluate, on a quarterly basis, the set-up of the Network, its performance in QA/QC and the operation of its data transmission system.

The QMC is conducting studies on enhancing the Network, which include setting up additional monitoring stations, adding new monitoring parameters as well as the overall calculation and reporting of the regional air quality index. At the same time, we will negotiate with the authorities of Macao the detailed arrangement under which Macao joins the Network. We expect to report the study findings within 2014.

Exploring ways to enhance the Network is part of the overall air quality improvement work. We do not have a separate breakdown on the expenditure in this area.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB147

(Question Serial No.: 3797)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 629):

Regarding the implementation of the ban on all forms of asbestos, what are the Administration's future work plans, expenditure and manpower involved? Has assessment been conducted on the impact of the measures to be implemented? What are the number of people and buildings as well as the quantity of asbestos involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Amendments to the Air Pollution Control Ordinance and the Factories and Industrial Undertakings (Asbestos) Regulation were passed by the Legislative Council on 22 January 2014 to ban the import, transshipment, supply and use of all forms of asbestos and asbestos-containing materials, and to ban work with asbestos in industrial undertakings. These requirements will come into operation on 4 April 2014.

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) and the Labour Department (LD) have commenced the publicity work, including the promotion of statutory requirements to importers and trades that use asbestos materials, and related organisations. On the enforcement of the statutory asbestos-ban, the EPD will work with the Customs and Excise Department to conduct spot checks on suspect imported cargo, and also testing of, where necessary, potential asbestos-containing goods such as construction, fire resistant and thermal insulating materials as well as metalware and vehicle parts on the market, in order to monitor any illegal import or use of asbestos and asbestos-containing materials in Hong Kong. After the legislation comes into effect, the LD will step up the inspections of related work locations and take enforcement action when necessary to ensure compliance by the responsible person.

The regulation work of asbestos forms part of the routine integrated enforcement duties of the EPD and the LD, so there is no separate breakdown of the expenditure on this area.

Suitable replacement materials and non-asbestos substitutes are available on the market, there is thus no need to rely on asbestos products. Statistics indicate that the quantities of imports and re-exports of asbestos products have been declining steadily over the past decade or so. Therefore, the implementation of the ban measure will not have any significant impact on the local economy. The measure aims to stop asbestos-containing materials and products from entering the local market and to ban the supply and use of these products in Hong Kong, with no effect on extant asbestos materials in the existing buildings.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB148

(Question Serial No.: 3798)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (5) Environmental Assessment and Planning

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 630):

Regarding environmental assessment and planning, the estimate for 2014 in major planning studies and strategic planning studies is higher than the actual figures for 2012 and 2013. What are the reasons and details, as well as the additional expenditure and manpower involved? Please list by item.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The actual numbers of major planning studies and strategic planning studies were 38 and 40 in 2012 and 2013 respectively; while the estimate for 2014 is 43. A slight upward adjustment has been made to the 2014 figures because we see a rising trend of the numbers of major planning studies and strategic planning studies in 2012-13. The actual figures will be worked out by end of 2014. As this is an integral part of the environmental assessment and planning work of the Environmental Protection Department and no additional expenditure is required, we do not have a breakdown of the relevant expenditure and manpower.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB149****(Question Serial No.: 3799)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (5) Environmental Assessment and Planning

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 631):

Regarding the adoption of good environmental practices in planning and designing new development projects, what were the work details, the expenditure and manpower involved and the effectiveness in each of the past five years? Please list by year and project. What are the Administration's specific plans for the future? Does the Administration have any guidelines or statutory regulations based on which various government departments can make their policy decisions? If yes, what are the details? If no, are there any plans to devise such guidelines? What are the expenditure and manpower involved, the work details and the timetable?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Through implementation of the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (EIAO), the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) reviews various engineering development projects or proposals, reviews and considers relevant applications, and avoids or reduces potential adverse environmental impacts arising from engineering development projects by adopting good environmental practices. For planning, EPD participates in the review of various new development projects or proposals at the planning and design stages, and advises on land use applications submitted under the Town Planning Ordinance, outline zoning plans, development plans, district planning or housing proposals as well as preliminary work on various major planning and strategic planning studies, so as to avoid or reduce potential adverse environmental impacts arising from new development projects.

As for processing of applications submitted under the EIAO, detailed statutory requirements and criteria have been set out in the Technical Memorandum on Environmental Impact Assessment Process issued under the Ordinance. For planning, detailed environmental requirements and criteria have also been set out in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines.

The table below shows the statistics on EPD's relevant work in the past five years:

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Applications processed under the EIAO	157	113	93	105	126
Reviewing and giving technical environmental advice (on outline zoning plans, development plans etc.)	84	83	110	134	151
Reviewing and giving technical environmental advice on district planning or housing proposals (housing proposals, applications made under Section 16 of the Town Planning Ordinance)	891	1 171	1 317	1 190	1 333
Major planning studies and strategic planning studies	45	44	39	38	40

As the above is an integral part of the work of the Environmental Assessment Division under EPD, we do not have a breakdown on the relevant expenditure and manpower.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB150

(Question Serial No.:4985)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (4) Water

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 394):

On completion of the major works of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme Stage 2A by the end of this year, the water quality of Victoria Harbour proper will further improve. To enhance the quality of the coastal waters of Victoria Harbour, the Environmental Protection Department will commission a consultancy study with the long-term objective of enhancing the leisure and amenity value of the coastal areas of Victoria Harbour. What are the contents, scope, allocation of fund and timetable of the consultancy study? Which departments will take part in the study?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Following completion of the major works of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme Stage 2A by the end of 2014, the water quality of Victoria Harbour will further improve. Near shore pollution in Victoria Harbour will become our priority water quality problem. We plan to first carry out a consultancy study to work out practical options and a programme, to improve the environment of our popular waterfront areas by tackling near shore pollution. We will consult stakeholders in the next few months on the scope and details of the consultancy study. We will prepare the budget estimate for funding application within the next Legislative Council session. Relevant government departments such as Buildings Department, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and Drainage Services Department will be consulted throughout the consultancy study for formulation of practicable improvement measures.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB151****(Question Serial No.: 5983)**Head: (44) Environmental Protection DepartmentSubhead(No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (2) AirControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.:616):

Regarding promoting the use of electric vehicles (EVs), please advise:

- a) What were the numbers of EVs running in Hong Kong in each of the past five years?
- b) What were the charging facilities available for use in Hong Kong in each of the past five years? Please list by year and 18 District Councils.
- c) Regarding promoting the use of EVs, what were the details (e.g. venue, time, attendance, government representatives etc), expenditure and manpower of activities (e.g. industry meetings, public consultations, meeting with various groups etc) held by the Administration in each of the past five years? Please list by year and each consultation exercise.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, KennethReply:

- a) The accumulated number of electric vehicles (EVs) running in Hong Kong from 2009 to 2013 is as follows:

Year	Accumulated no. of EVs (including Government Vehicles)
2009	28
2010	96
2011	242
2012	411
2013	592

- b) The Government has installed about 500 standard charging facilities in 18 car parks administered by the Transport Department and Government Property Agency. The commercial sector has also installed over 500 charging facilities. There are also 10 quick chargers distributed in various districts of Hong Kong with one charger within around 20 kilometers. The geographical distribution of these chargers is provided in the **Annex**.

- c) From 2009 to 2013, the Environment Bureau and Environmental Protection Department have organized different types of activities for promoting the use of EVs, including the international conference on EVs held in Hong Kong, promotional activities for Government charging facilities, joining the launching ceremony of new EVs, organizing briefings on the Pilot Green Transport Fund to encourage the trade to try out EVs, participating the trade's forum for discussion of EV's charging standards, etc. Since there were many activities which came in different scales and forms, we cannot provide the details of individual activities. As these promotional activities were within the routine areas of responsibilities of the Environment Bureau, Environmental Protection Department and relevant departments, they were absorbed by existing manpower and resources. The Department has not provided a separate breakdown of the expenditures and staffing establishments in this area.

Distribution of Public Charging Facilities for EVs (By District)

District	No. of Charging Points	District	No. of Charging Points
Central & Western	166	Islands	11
Eastern	120	Kwai Tsing	20
Southern	6	North	37
Wan Chai	112	Sai Kung	30
Kowloon City	5	Sha Tin	63
Kwun Tong	58	Tai Po	15
Sham Shui Po	43	Tsuen Wan	47
Wong Tai Sin	61	Tuen Mun	21
Yau Tsim Mong	155	Yuen Long	43

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB152

(Question Serial No.: 5984)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:617):

Regarding promoting the use of electric vehicles (EVs), please advise:

- a) What are the membership, appointment criteria, members' attendances since the establishment of the steering committee to promote the use of EVs?
- b) What are the work details (e.g. venue, time, attendance, accountable officials present, etc) of the Committee, as well as the expenditure and manpower involved?
- c) What is the number of meetings held by the Committee so far? Please provide the agenda of each meeting and the timetables of future meetings.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- a) Chaired by the Financial Secretary, the Steering Committee on the Promotion of Electric Vehicles was established in 2009. Below are the membership lists for the recent 3 terms:

First term (From 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2011)	Second term (From 14 June 2011 to 13 June 2013)	Third term (From 14 June 2013 to 30 June 2015)
<u>Chairman</u> Financial Secretary	<u>Chairman</u> Financial Secretary	<u>Chairman</u> Financial Secretary
<u>Membership</u> Mr Charles Nicholas BROOKE Ir Prof CHAN Ching-chuen Mr Adrian CHENG Chi-kong Prof Peter Ronald HILLS Dr York LIAO Mr TSO Kai-sum Dr Patrick WANG Shui-chung Mr Michael WONG Yick-kam Mr Thomas Jefferson WU Mr Trevor YANG Mrs Betty YUEN SO Siu-mai Secretary for the Environment or representative	<u>Membership</u> Mr Charles Nicholas BROOKE Ir Prof CHAN Ching-chuen Prof Tony CHAN Fan-Cheong Mr Adrian CHENG Chi-kong Prof Peter Ronald HILLS Dr York LIAO Mr TSO Kai-sum Mr Michael WONG Yick-kam Mr Thomas Jefferson WU Mr Trevor YANG Mrs Betty YUEN SO Siu-mai Secretary for the Environment or	<u>Membership</u> Mr Charles Nicholas BROOKE Ir Prof CHAN Ching-chuen Prof Peter Ronald HILLS Mr Edmond HO Tat-man Dr York LIAO Mr Paul POON Prof Timothy W. TONG Mr WAN Chi-tin Mr Michael WONG Yick-kam Mr Thomas Jefferson WU Mr Trevor YANG Secretary for the Environment

First term (From 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2011)	Second term (From 14 June 2011 to 13 June 2013)	Third term (From 14 June 2013 to 30 June 2015)
Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury or representative Secretary for Transport and Housing or representative Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development or representative Secretary for Development or representative	representative Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury or representative Secretary for Transport and Housing or representative Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development or representative Secretary for Development or representative	or representative Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury or representative Secretary for Transport and Housing or representative Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development or representative Secretary for Development or representative

Members of the Committee are appointed by the Financial Secretary, and are drawn from relevant sectors such as property developers, transport trade, power companies, research and development organisations and green groups. The Committee makes recommendations on the strategy and specific complementary measures on the wider use of electric vehicles in Hong Kong. Overall, the attendance of the members is about 80%.

b) and c) Since its establishment, the Committee has held 9 meetings in total. The work associated with the Committee is part of the normal duties of the Environment Bureau, the Environmental Protection Department and the relevant departments. We do not have a breakdown on the manpower or expenditures involved. The Committee holds an average of about 2 meetings per annum. The first meeting in this year will be held in mid-2014.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB153****(Question Serial No.: 1079)**Head: (44) Environmental Protection DepartmentSubhead(No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (2) AirControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.: 56):

As mentioned in the Budget Speech, the Government has earmarked \$11.4 billion for the ex-gratia payment scheme to phase out all the 82 000 pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles (DCVs) by 2020.

How many Euro I, II and III DCVs were de-registered in the past five years respectively? What was the age distribution of the vehicles?

Were there any new replacement vehicles of the same class?

Please provide the information in the following table:

Number of Euro DCVs de-registered

Year	Number of DCVs de-registered		
	Euro I	Euro II	Euro III
2013-14			
2012-13			
2011-12			
2010-11			
2009-10			

Age distribution of Euro I DCVs de-registered

Year	Age distribution (%)		
	16 years or above	13 years - below 16 years	below 13 years
2013-14			
2012-13			
2011-12			
2010-11			
2009-10			

Age distribution of Euro II DCVs de-registered

Year	Age distribution (%)		
	16 years or above	13 years – below 16 years	below 13 years
2013-14			
2012-13			
2011-12			
2010-11			
2009-10			

Age distribution of Euro III DCVs de-registered

Year	Age distribution (%)		
	16 years or above	13 years – below 16 years	below 13 years
2013-14			
2012-13			
2011-12			
2010-11			
2009-10			

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Kam-lam

Reply:

According to the information of the Transport Department, the numbers of DCVs de-registered in the recent 5 financial years are as follows:

Year	Number of DCVs de-registered		
	Euro I	Euro II	Euro III
2013-14 (as at end February)	534	1 029	150
2012-13	700	2 700	178
2011-12	627	2 399	154
2010-11	1 000	1 757	150
2009-10	2 366	474	208

In general, vehicle owners will buy a new or second-hand replacement vehicle after de-registering their DCVs taking into account their own circumstances and needs. For new vehicles, we welcome vehicle manufacturers to introduce into the local market vehicles that comply with the statutory standards on vehicle emissions and road safety. All major vehicle manufacturers from Europe, Japan, Korea and the Mainland have introduced their commercial vehicles into the local market.

The age distribution of de-registered Euro I DCVs is as follows:

Year	Age distribution (%)		
	16 years or above	13 years – below 16 years	below 13 years
2013-14 (as at end February)	67.2%	32.8%	0%
2012-13	39.7%	59.4%	0.9%
2011-12	13.1%	64.3%	22.6%
2010-11	0%	69.1%	30.9%
2009-10	0%	53.9%	46.1%

The age distribution of de-registered Euro II DCVs is as follows:

Year	Age distribution (%)		
	16 years or above	13 years – below 16 years	below 13 years
2013-14 (as at end February)	3.1%	61.3%	35.6%
2012-13	0%	49.7%	50.3%
2011-12	0%	42.6%	57.4%
2010-11	0%	23.1%	76.9%
2009-10	0%	0%	100%

The age distribution of de-registered Euro III DCVs is as follows:

Year	Age distribution (%)		
	16 years or above	13 years – below 16 years	below 13 years
2013-14 (as at end February)	0%	0%	100%
2012-13	0%	0%	100%
2011-12	0%	0%	100%
2010-11	0%	0%	100%
2009-10	0%	0%	100%

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB154****(Question Serial No.: 1080)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:17):

It is pointed out in the Budget Speech that the Government has, for years, been promoting the use of electric vehicles by exempting them from First Registration Tax. Please advise on the numbers of registered electric vehicles in the past five years respectively.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Kam-lam

Reply:

The accumulated numbers of registered electric vehicles (EVs) in Hong Kong in the past five years are as follows:

	Accumulated Number of Registered EVs *	Accumulated Number of EVs in Government Fleet	Accumulated Total
2009	16	12	28
2010	74	22	96
2011	209	33	242
2012	336	75	411
2013	436	156	592

* Not including government vehicles

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB155

(Question Serial No.:2880)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 38):

Would the Administration inform of the expenditure earmarked for extending the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Kam-lam

Reply:

For the purpose of preparing for the extension of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags to cover the entire retail sector on 1 April 2015, the Environmental Protection Department has earmarked \$8 million to carry out relevant publicity and public education programmes for the implementation of the scheme in 2014-15.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB156****(Question Serial No.: 1749)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 23):

It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014-15 under Programme (1) Waste that the Administration will continue to take forward the extension of the three strategic landfills, namely the West New Territories Landfill, Southeast New Territories Landfill and Northeast New Territories Landfill. In this connection, will the Administration inform the Committee of the specific timetable for extending the landfills in 2014-15? What are the specific estimated expenditure and manpower for the publicity, consultation and lobbying work next year? As the residents in certain districts still strongly oppose to the extension of the landfills, has the Administration planned to increase the frequency and expenditure of publicity, consultation and lobbying work in the districts?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Kin-por

Reply:

The updated timetable and work progress of the three strategic landfills are as follows:

Project	Estimated expenditure (at money-of-the-day price) (\$ million)	Anticipated time of completion/ commissioning	Work progress (at March 2014)
Southeast New Territories Landfill Extension	1,990	Late 2016	We are seeking the support of the Panel on Environmental Affairs of the Legislative Council (LegCo EAP) to submit the extension project to the LegCo Public Works Sub-committee (LegCo PWSC) for consideration. We plan to seek funding approval from the Finance Committee of the LegCo (LegCo FC) in the second quarter of 2014 together with the other two landfill extension projects. Subject to the funding approval, we will immediately commission consultant to commence the contract procurement work.

Northeast New Territories Landfill Extension	7,320	2017	We plan to seek funding approval from the LegCo FC in the second quarter of 2014 together with the other two landfill extension projects. Subject to the funding approval, we will immediately commence the prequalification of tenderers process.
West New Territories Landfill Extension (part upgrade to Category A)	40	Late 2014 ⁽¹⁾	We plan to seek funding approval from the LegCo FC in the second quarter of 2014 together with the other two landfill extension projects. Subject to the funding approval, we will immediately commission consultant to commence the study.

Note (1): This refers to the date of commencement of the consultancy study.

We understand the concerns of the local community over the extension of the three strategic landfills. To address the concerns and demands of the local community, we have attended meetings of the District Councils, rural committees and working groups, closely communicated with the local community and other stakeholders and actively addressed the concerns and demands of the community. Apart from continuing the relevant work in the future, in order to strengthen communication with the District Councils, local community and other stakeholders on management of waste disposal facilities in the districts and other related matters, we have set up a District Liaison Group for the Environmental Planning and Management of Waste Facilities (The Liaison Group) in each of Tuen Mun/Yuen Long, Sai Kung and the North District, with a view to enhancing communication with the local community and monitoring the management and operations of the waste disposal facilities within the districts. The first meeting of The Liaison Group of Tuen Mun/Yuen Long was held on 26 February 2014 at which the future work direction of The Liaison Group was set. The Liaison Group of Sai Kung and North District will start to work as soon as possible.

We will carry out the promotional, consultation and lobbying work by the existing manpower of the Environmental Protection Department according to the actual needs. We have not kept separate statistics on the figure of such work as well as the estimated expenditure.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB157****(Question Serial No.: 1750)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 24):

In the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014–15 under Programme (1), the Administration mentions that the Environmental Protection Department will roll out a subsidy scheme to assist owners of private refuse collection vehicles to retrofit their vehicles to a fully enclosed design. In this connection, how many applications does the Administration expect to receive for the subsidy scheme? What are the expenditure and manpower establishment for the scheme in the coming year, as well as the implementation schedule and details of relevant measures?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Kin-por

Reply:

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) estimate that about 330 refuse collection vehicles (RCVs) will join the “RCV Retrofitting Subsidy Scheme” to become fully enclosed.

On 15 November 2013, the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council approved the funding application of \$18.8 million to implement the above subsidy scheme. The estimated cashflow for the subsidy scheme is as follows –

Financial year	(\$ million)
2013-14	1.7
2014-15	17.1
Total	18.8

The manpower requirement to implement the above subsidy scheme is met through existing staff in EPD.

EPD launched the subsidy scheme on 10 January 2014 and is now accepting applications from RCV owners. The application deadline is 30 September 2014. The details of the scheme are as follows:

1. All private RCVs registered with the Transport Department before 1 January 2014 that have not participated in the RCV Retrofitting Pilot Scheme are eligible to join the subsidy scheme.
2. Participating RCV owners are allowed to choose their preferred retrofitting workshops for the retrofitting works.
3. For each RCV, the owner has to submit a retrofitting application with the proposed design and preferred retrofitting workshop to EPD. The proposed design of retrofitting works and the workshop have to be approved by Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) before commencement of the retrofitting works.

4. The completed retrofitting work will have to be examined and certified by EMSD to ensure compliance with the functional requirement before payment of the subsidy.
5. The ceiling level of subsidy is \$53,300. The subsidy will be paid directly to the retrofitting workshop to meet the actual cost of the retrofitting works and a one-year all-inclusive warranty for the retrofitting work will be provided by the workshops to the RCV owners.
6. EMSD provides engineering and technical support for the subsidy scheme including drawing up specifications, reviewing capability of workshops, assessing costs, formulating subsidy levels, examining completed work, etc.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB158

(Question Serial No.: 1751)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 25):

As indicated in "Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014-15" of Programme (1), the Government will continue to take forward the extension of the three strategic landfills. Regarding the compensation package provided for local residents as a result of the landfill extension, would the Administration set out the details of the currently proposed compensation package? What are the feedbacks and views obtained by the Administration during consultation with local residents on the compensation package? Has the Administration considered increasing provisions to enhance the compensation package?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Kin-por

Reply:

We understand the concerns of the local community on the extension of the three strategic landfills. To respond to their views and requests, the Administration has implemented the following corresponding measures:

- (i) Apart from implementation of various improvement measures at each landfill to prevent odour and environmental nuisance, we have also further taken enhancement measures over the past few months. They include: provision of subsidy for retrofitting private refuse collection vehicles (RCVs) such that they will be equipped with a metal tailgate cover and a waste water sump tank; control of RCVs through enactment of legislation; stepping up of monitoring through enforcement by joint actions of the relevant government departments against RCVs found to be causing hygiene, overloading, flytipping or other problems; reducing the fee for using some of the refuse transfer stations and implementing the waste diversion plan, so as to optimize the utilization of the refuse transfer station network; amending the relevant regulation to designate the Southeast New Territories Landfill to receive only construction waste; and implementing the closure of the Tseung Kwan O fill bank on Sundays and public holidays since 1 January 2014.
- (ii) Study on provision of community and rural improvement facilities, including enhancement of air quality monitoring facilities; greening or community facilities, water supply to remote villages and irrigation water supply to farmlands, etc., and make a better use of restored landfills for recreational, environmental or other community uses; and
- (iii) To strengthen communication with District Councils, the local community and other stakeholders on management of waste disposal facilities in the districts and other related matters, we have set up a District Liaison Group for the Environmental Planning and Management of Waste Facilities in each of Tuen Mun/Yuen Long, Sai Kung and the North District, with a view to enhancing communication with the local community and monitoring the management and operations of the waste disposal facilities within the districts.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB159****(Question Serial No.: 4312)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:30):

Regarding the Pearl River Delta Regional Air Quality Monitoring Network, would the Government provide the following information:

1. What are the air pollutants being monitored and the relevant standards? What were the numbers of exceedance days in each over the past five years?
2. What are the measures implemented under the Pearl River Delta Regional Air Quality Management Plan and what is the associated expenditure?
3. Has consideration been given to working with relevant Mainland authorities to conduct environmental impact assessment (EIA) on large-scale infrastructure facilities in Hong Kong or the Mainland? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply:

1. The air pollutants monitored under the Pearl River Delta Regional Air Quality Monitoring Network (the Regional Air Quality Monitoring Network) include sulphur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), ozone (O₃) and respirable suspended particulates (PM₁₀). Reference are made to Class 2 National Ambient Air Quality Standards (GB 3095 - 1996 – revised version) (Class 2 NAAQS), which are applicable to residential, mixed commercial/residential, cultural, industrial and village areas.

The numbers of exceedance days in respect of various pollutants monitored under the Regional Air Quality Monitoring Network during 2008 and 2012 are listed below:

Pearl River Delta Regional Air Quality Monitoring Network Numbers of exceedance days over the past 5 years (day) ^{Note 1}					
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
SO₂	50	7	11	1	0
NO₂	46	33	33	21	14
PM₁₀	97	95	74	54	36
O₃ ^{Note 2}	159	163	165	189	138

Note 1: Class 2 NAAQS standards adopted are as follows:

SO₂ (daily average) : 0.15 mg/ m³

NO₂ (daily average) : 0.12 mg/ m³

PM₁₀ (daily average) : 0.15 mg/ m³

O₃(hourly average) : 0.20 mg/ m³

Standards were exceeded for more than one type of pollutants on some exceedance days listed in the table

Note 2: Only hourly average standard is available for O₃. Figures in the table refer to the numbers of exceedance days in which the standard was exceeded in any one hour or above.

2. The Pearl River Delta Regional Air Quality Management Plan (the Management Plan) includes regional air quality monitoring conducted by the governments of Hong Kong and Guangdong and their emission reduction and control measures which target at the main emission sources (including power plants, vehicles and industrial facilities etc.). The governments of the two sides set up a Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection (the Joint Working Group) in 2000, with several special panels under the Joint Working Group to review the collaboration work on an annual basis. Please refer to the Annex for key emission reduction measures of Hong Kong in the Management Plan and the associated expenditures.
3. There have been exchanges between the EPD and relevant departments of the Mainland on environmental impact assessments (EIAs) for large-scale cross-boundary infrastructure projects. Examples of large-scale infrastructure projects with EIAs completed in the past included the Hong Kong Shenzhen Western Corridor and the Shenzhen River Regulation Project, etc.

Key measures and expenditures of Hong Kong in
the Pearl River Delta Regional Air Quality Management Plan

Emission Reduction measures	Expenditure
The Government has issued the Technical Memorandum for Allocation of Emission Allowances in Respect of Specified Licences, and substantially reduced the emission caps of sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and respirable suspended particulates for the electricity sector from 2015	No capital and operating expenditure involved
Retrofitting Euro II and Euro III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices	A funding of \$400 million has been approved for the Government to implement this programme
Phasing out some 82 000 pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles by 2020	A funding of about \$11.44 billion has been approved for the Government to implement this programme
Trial of hybrid buses	A funding of \$33 million has been approved for the Government to implement this programme
Trial of electric buses	A funding of \$180 million has been approved for the Government to fully fund the procurement of 36 electric buses by franchised bus companies for trial run on different routes
The Pilot Green Transport Fund was set up in 2011 to encourage the transport trade to test out green and innovative transport technologies	A funding of \$300 million has been approved for the Government to set up the Pilot Green Transport Fund
In August 2013, the Government began to provide a one-off subsidy for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) taxis and light buses to replace worn-out catalytic converters and oxygen sensors. Upon completion, the Government will strengthen the control of emissions from petrol and LPG vehicles	A funding of about \$150 million has been approved for the Government to implement this programme
The Government launched a three-year incentive scheme in September 2012, reducing 50% of the port facilities and light dues for ocean going vessels if they switch to low sulphur fuels while berthing in Hong Kong	As at the end of February 2014, the amount of port facilities and light dues forgone is about \$25 million since the implementation of the incentive scheme
Study on installation of on-shore power supply facilities at the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal	The EPD has allocated \$1.6 million for engaging the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department to conduct the technical feasibility study
New legislation on locally supplied marine light diesel will be implemented in April 2014	No capital and operating expenditure involved
The 5-year Cleaner Production Partnership Programme, which commenced in April 2008, has been extended by 2 years till 31 March 2015	A funding of \$140 million has been approved for the Government to implement this programme

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB160

(Question Serial No.: 4313)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Air
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 31):

Regarding the Cleaner Production Partnership Programme, would the Government provide the following information:

1. Please list in table form the number of projects completed, the reduction in emissions and the expenditure involved since the inception of the Programme;
2. Please list in table form the number of projects in progress or under preparation, the anticipated reduction in emissions and the expenditure involved;
3. Has the Administration reviewed the effectiveness of the Programme? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons? Will consideration be given to extending the Programme to areas beyond Guangdong Province? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply:

1. In April 2008, the Environment Bureau launched a five-year Cleaner Production Partnership Programme (the Programme) in collaboration with the Economic and Information Commission of Guangdong Province (the former Economic and Trade Commission of Guangdong Province) to encourage and facilitate Hong Kong-owned factories operating in the Pearl River Delta (PRD) 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 cleaner production demonstration projects and engage verification services on effectiveness of improvement projects. The Programme also organises awareness promotion and publicity activities such as seminars, workshops, briefings and factory visits to enhance the factories' knowledge about cleaner production, as well as produces promotional materials and operates a dedicated website on cleaner production through the Hong Kong Productivity Council. In light of the environmental benefits brought by the Programme and the positive feedback from the industries, the Government has extended the Programme for two years to 31 March 2015. The geographical coverage has also been widened to cover the entire Guangdong Province.

From the launch of the Programme in 2008 till the completion of its first five-year term in 2013, a total of 2 024 funding applications were approved and 301 awareness promotion activities were organised. Please refer to **Table 1** for details. The expenditure involved in implementing the Programme was around \$93 million. While the Programme is primarily an awareness promotion and technical support initiative, the projects supported by the Programme as well as the follow-up investment in cleaner production

improvement measures made by the participating enterprises have also brought about significant reduction of emissions/discharges to the PRD region. Please refer to **Table 2** for details.

Table 1: Number of Projects Completed in the First Five-Year Term of the Programme

Initiatives	Number
On-site Assessment	1 119
Demonstration Project	149
Verification Service	756
Awareness Promotion	301

Table 2: Emission/Discharge Reduction in the First Five-Year Term of the Programme

Pollutants	Emission/Discharge Reduction (tonnes/year)
Volatile Organic Compounds	3 400
Sulphur Dioxide	4 400
Nitrogen Oxides	2 500
Carbon Dioxide	660 000
Effluent discharges	10 000 000

- In the two-year extension period, the targets of the Programme are to approve about 440 funding applications and organise some 70 technology promotion activities. Please refer to **Table 3** for details. The total budget for implementing the extension programme is \$50 million. We will take stock the reduction of emissions/discharges upon completion of the Programme.

Table 3: Targets of the Programme in the Two-Year Extension Period

Initiatives	Number
On-site assessment	250
Demonstration Project	90
Verification Service	80 – 120
Awareness Promotion	60 – 80

- We submitted a report to the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs in August 2013 on the results of the first five-year term of the Programme. We will take stock the achievements of the Programme again after completion of the two-year extension period. As most of the Hong Kong-owned factories are clustered in Guangdong Province, and the environmental quality of Guangdong Province is closely related to that of Hong Kong, the Programme will continue to provide support to Hong Kong-owned factories in Guangdong Province, taking into account the efficiency of resource deployment.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB161

(Question Serial No.: 4314)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 32):

Regarding country park enclaves, would the Administration provide the following information:

- (a) How many country park enclaves are there currently in Hong Kong? Please list in detail the locations and approximate areas of the enclaves.
- (b) Please list in detail how many of the enclaves have been covered by Outline Zoning Plans or Development Permission Area plans, and the relevant progress.
- (c) Please list in detail the measures taken by the Administration to protect country park enclaves, and the manpower arrangement and expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply:

- (a) & (b) Of the 77 country park enclaves, 23 have already been covered by Outline Zoning Plans (OZPs) under the Town Planning Ordinance (Cap. 131) before 2010. Of the remaining 54 enclaves (the locations by country parks and areas of these enclaves are shown in Annex), Sai Wan, Kam Shan and Yuen Tun have been incorporated into Sai Kung East Country Park, Kam Shan Country Park and Tai Lam Country Park respectively since 30 December 2013. Another 25 enclaves have been covered by 18 Development Permission Area Plans gazetted under the Town Planning Ordinance (including Sai Wan which was incorporated as part of the country park and 6 enclaves which have been covered by OZPs).
- (c) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) and the Planning Department carry out assessments on the enclaves having regard to their situations. Relevant factors such as conservation values, landscape and aesthetic values, geographical locations, existing scale of human settlement and development pressures are taken into consideration to determine whether an enclave should be included as part of a country park under the Country Parks Ordinance or covered by a statutory plan under the Town Planning Ordinance. As the assessment on suitability of country park enclaves for incorporation into country park and designation is part and parcel of AFCD's work, we do not maintain a specific breakdown of relevant expenditure and manpower involved.

Annex

Country Park	Item	Name of site	Area (hectares)
Ma On Shan	1	Mau Ping, Mau Ping Lo Uk, Mau Ping San Uk and Wong Chuk Shan	45
Kam Shan	2	Kam Shan	1
Tai Mo Shan	3	Site near Chuen Lung	10
	4	Site near Tso Kung Tam	9
Tai Lam	5	Tin Fu Tsai	53
	6	Tsing Fai Tong	26
	7	Sheung Tong	10
	8	Sheung Fa Shan	26
	9	Yuen Tun	19
Pat Sin Leng	10	Ping Shan Chai	15
Plover Cove	11	Hung Shek Mun Tsuen	10
	12	Lai Tau Shek	10
	13	Sam A Tsuen	23
	14	Sai Lau Kong	2
	15	Siu Tan	20
	16	Kop Tong, Mui Tsz Lam and Lai Chi Wo	91
	17	So Lo Pun	29
	18	Kuk Po San Uk Ha, Kuk Po Lo Wai, Yi To, Sam To, Sze To and Ng To	64
	19	Fung Hang	9
	20	Yung Shue Au	18
	21	Fan Kei Tok	5
	22	Chau Mei, Tai Tong, Chau Tau and Sha Tau	26
Sai Kung East and Sai Kung West	23	Pak A	11
	24	Tung A	10
	25	Pak Lap	6
	26	Pak Tam Au	14
	27	To Kwa Peng	9
	28	Chek Keng	31
	29	Tai Tan, Uk Tau, Ko Tong and Ko Tong Ha Yeung	67
	30	Tung Sam Kei	4
	31	Ko Lau Wan, Mo Uk, Lam Uk, Lau Uk and Tse Uk	33
	32	Sai Wan	17
	33	Hoi Ha	8
	34	Pak Sha O and Pak Sha O Ha Yeung	29
	35	Nam Sham Tung	5

	36	Lai Chi Chong	16
	37	Yung Shue O	32
	38	Cheung Sheung	16
	39	Tai Hom	5
	40	Wong Chuk Long	4
	41	Site near Wong Mau Kok	3
Lantau South, Lantau North and Lantau North (Extension)	42	Luk Wu, Upper Keung Shan, Lower Keung Shan, Cheung Ting and Hang Pui	155
	43	Tsin Yue Wan	4
	44	Ngau Kwo Tin	7
	45	Tei Tong Tsai	15
	46	Yi Tung Shan	7
	47	Man Cheung Po	2
	48	Site near Nam Shan	6
	49	Site near Peaked Hill	5
	50	Tai Ho and Site near Wong Kung Tin	277
	51	Yi O	23
Tai Po Kau Special Area	52	Site near Ngau Wu Tok	5
	53	Site near Tai Po Mei	6
Ma Shi Chau Special Area	54	Shui Mong Tin	2
Total			1 355

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB162

(Question Serial No.:1805)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 657):

Regarding the promotion of the use of electric vehicles (EVs), would the Administration advise on the following:

1. Please list in table form the numbers of the EVs with the First Registration Tax (FRT) waived, of which how many were purchased by the Government, individuals and companies, the total value of the EVs involved and the amount of tax waived over the past ten years;
2. Are EVs used in Hong Kong required to be type-approved by the Transport Department (TD)? Please list the types of EVs type-approved by TD recently.
3. Please list the corresponding numbers of EVs currently in use in Hong Kong according to their purchase prices (\$100,000, \$100,000-\$200,000, \$200,000-\$300,000, \$300,000-\$400,000, \$400,000-\$500,000, \$500,000-\$600,000, \$600,000-\$700,000, \$700,000-\$800,000, \$800,000-\$900,000, \$900,000-\$1 million, \$1 million or above).
4. Will the Administration consider setting a cap on the tax waived in respect of the FRT of EVs so that expensive EVs can be taxed? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

1. A total of 603 EVs were imported into Hong Kong from 2004 to 2013, of which 165 (with a total value of about \$60 million) are owned by the Government and no payment of FRT is required. The remaining 438 EVs were purchased by individuals or groups/companies and were exempted from the FRT. The relevant details are set out in Annex 1.
2. All vehicles (including EVs) have to go through the vehicle construction approval process of the Transport Department (TD) to ensure that the vehicles are roadworthy before they can be registered and licensed in Hong Kong under the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap.374). The models of EV type-approved by TD are set out in Annex 2.
3. As at end of February 2014, there were a total of 452 registered EVs, the distribution of which according to their dutiable value is set out in Annex 3.
4. At present, the technology of EVs is still under development and vehicle owners have yet to establish their confidence in the use of them. Furthermore, the high research and development costs and low vehicle production volume of EVs have resulted in their prices being far higher than conventional

vehicles. Therefore, the waiver of FRT for EVs is an important element in promoting the use of EVs. Based on these considerations, we are of the view that a cap on the tax waived in respect of the FRT of EVs should not be set up at this stage so as not to hinder the development of EV technology. Since the waiver of FRT for EVs is time-limited, the Government will carefully examine factors such as technological development of EVs, the EV market situation, the drivers' attitude towards EVs when considering whether the waiver arrangement should be continued, to ensure that the public money is well spent.

Table 1: Details of EVs with the FRT waived from 2004 to 2013 are as follows:

Year	No. of EVs with FRT waived		Sum of Dutiable Value (\$'000)	Total Amount of Tax Waived (\$'000)
	Owned by Individuals	Owned by Non-individuals (organizations, institutions, etc.)		
2004-2008	0	0	0	0
2009	0	1	60	20
2010	7	55	33,000	23,000
2011	19	118	72,000	53,000
2012	25	103	63,000	42,000
2013	9	101	63,000	15,000

Classes and models of EV typed-approved by TD
(as of end February 2014)

Class of Vehicle	Model
Private Car	Euauto MyCar
	Mitsubishi iMiEV
	Nissan LEAF
	Tesla Roadster
	Daimler Smart fortwo
	Renault Fluence Z.E.
	BYD e6
Motorcycle	Vectrix VX-1
	Brammo Enertia
	Brammo Enertia Plus
	Brammo Enertia Empulse
	Brammo Enertia Empulse R
	Proton 750
	Proton 850
Zero S (ZF9)	
Light Goods Vehicle	Micro-vett Electric Doblo (based on Fiat Doblo)
	Smith Edison (based on Ford Transit)
	Renault Kangoo
	Mitsubishi Minicab MiEV
Medium Goods Vehicle	Smith Newton
Light Bus	Smith Edison
Bus	BYD K9
	Shandong Yixing Great Dragon HC-150-120
	Shandong Yixing Feiyan HC-150-105
	Wuzhoulong FDG6102EVG
Taxi	BYD e6

The distribution of EVs currently registered in Hong Kong according to their dutiable value:

Dutiable Value	No. of Registered EVs
Less than \$100,000	38
\$100,000 to less than \$200,000	12
\$200,000 to less than \$300,000	18
\$300,000 to less than \$400,000	112
\$400,000 to less than \$500,000	195
\$500,000 to less than \$600,000	1
\$600,000 to less than \$700,000	0
\$700,000 to less than \$800,000	0
\$800,000 to less than \$900,000	0
\$900,000 to less than \$1million	10
\$1 million or above	66

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB163****(Question Serial No.: 3479)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 203):

Regarding the cooking fumes produced by restaurants and the food manufacturing sector, would the Administration provide the following:

1. the number of complaints received and substantiated in the past five years, with a breakdown by District Council district;
2. the number of cases in which notices were issued by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) against excessive emission of cooking fumes to require necessary remedial actions to be taken;
3. the expenditure and establishment of EPD in controlling emission of cooking fumes from restaurants and the food manufacturing sector in the past five years; and
4. has EPD proactively inspected restaurants on excessive emission of cooking fumes? If yes, what is the figure? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

1. The number of complaints received by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) against the emission of oily fumes and cooking odour from restaurants and catering businesses in 2009-2013 is given in Annex A.

In handling the complaints, the EPD will advise the operators of restaurants and catering businesses to take notice of and adopt measures to improve their air pollution control equipment and carry out maintenance work, etc. Among all complaints, the number of those that required further follow-up action by the EPD, such as warnings, issuing statutory notices to require improvement or referring the case to other departments for follow-up, is given in Annex B.

2. The number of statutory notices issued by the EPD relating to the emission of oily fumes and cooking odour from restaurants and catering businesses in accordance with the Air Pollution Control Ordinance in 2009-2013 is as follows:

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number of statutory notices	14	4	7	16	19

3. Processing of complaints against oily fumes and cooking odour from restaurants and catering businesses and the follow-up actions are part of the regular pollution control duties of the EPD, and there is no further breakdown on the expenditure and establishment involved.

4. Besides carrying out inspections in response to complaints, the EPD also conducts proactive inspections to restaurants and catering businesses to prevent air pollution. The number of inspections completed by the EPD in 2009-2013 is as follows:

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number of inspections	3 855	3 823	3 304	3 147	3 309

Annex A

Complaints against emission of oily fumes and cooking odour from restaurants and catering businesses in 2009-2013

District Council	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Central & Western	108	68	73	71	112
Wan Chai	128	108	103	89	73
Eastern	161	115	93	104	87
Southern	26	39	26	20	19
Yau Tsim Mong	174	154	168	142	168
Sham Shui Po	112	111	89	124	70
Kowloon City	101	74	66	90	83
Wong Tai Sin	59	31	32	23	14
Kwun Tong	41	44	32	25	31
Tsuen Wan	42	46	42	62	49
Tuen Mun	21	24	32	36	18
Yuen Long	70	77	88	72	81
North	28	13	17	24	20
Tai Po	27	17	33	14	31
Sai Kung	23	32	38	41	30
Sha Tin	68	79	54	46	61
Kwai Tsing	61	34	21	37	22
Islands	15	26	26	14	14
Total	1 265	1 092	1 033	1 034	983

Annex B

Complaints against emission of oily fumes and cooking odour from restaurants and catering businesses in 2009-2013 (follow-up action required)

District Council	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Central & Western	30	13	19	8	24
Wan Chai	6	3	7	3	1
Eastern	20	9	5	2	4
Southern	0	3	4	4	1
Yau Tsim Mong	43	34	37	40	35
Sham Shui Po	39	30	24	18	8
Kowloon City	9	4	7	6	5
Wong Tai Sin	14	5	3	1	0
Kwun Tong	0	1	0	0	1
Tsuen Wan	8	16	8	10	11
Tuen Mun	1	2	2	3	1
Yuen Long	18	23	23	18	28
North	15	5	8	12	5
Tai Po	3	3	3	5	9
Sai Kung	3	3	7	7	2
Sha Tin	23	36	20	20	31
Kwai Tsing	6	5	2	5	2
Islands	1	8	7	4	7
Total	239	203	186	166	175

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB164****(Question Serial No.: 4816)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 281):

How many complaints against illegal land filling were received in each of the past five years? How many of them were substantiated? What were the site areas involved? How many prosecution cases were recorded? Among these cases, how many were convicted and fined? What was the amount of fine involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

The complaints against illegal land filling of waste handled by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) are summarised as below:

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Complaints received by EPD	188	187	116	110	121
Number of substantiated complaints	49	59	52	54	62
Number of prosecutions under the Waste Disposal Ordinance*(WDO)	2	12	1	2	1
Number of convictions under WDO*	1	8	1	2	1
Total fine under WDO*	\$3,000	\$26,400	\$4,000	\$6,000	\$6,000

* The prosecutions were initiated against deposition of waste on private land without the permission of the owner or legal occupier. Enforcement against violation of land use or planning requirements is taken up by other relevant government departments.

We do not have statistics on the areas of the sites involved in these cases.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB165****(Question Serial No.: 6378)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:220):

1. How much of the food waste in Hong Kong comes from the hotel sector? What were the figures in the past five years?
2. It is mentioned in paragraph 52 of the Budget that the Government will “invest about \$30 billion in waste recycling and treatment facilities”. Would the Administration advise on the number of waste recycling yards in Hong Kong? How many recycling yards are there for waste paper, metal, plastic, WEEE products respectively?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

1. The quantities of food waste disposed of in the landfills of Hong Kong in the past five years are tabulated below. We do not have statistics of the food waste of individual industrial and commercial sectors:

Year	Domestic Food Waste (Tonnes)	Industrial and Commercial Food Waste (Tonnes)
2012	925 200	296 100
2011	922 700	385 400
2010	874 900	306 600
2009	845 300	351 900
2008	786 200	310 000

The data for 2013 cannot be released for the time being as compilation is not yet completed.

2. The Financial Secretary has mentioned in the Budget Speech that about \$30 billion will be invested in waste recycling and treatment facilities. The funding covers the development of the Integrated Waste Management Facilities Phase I, extension of landfills, waste electrical and electronic equipment treatment and recycling facility, organic waste treatment facility, and Community Green Stations in 18 districts.

With regard to recycling yards, there are, at present, approximately 240 waste recycling/storage yards in Hong Kong. Most of these facilities are located in private land and are used to store and process waste electronic equipment, plastics, metal, papers and tires. The categories and quantities of waste items processed and operation of the yards vary depending on market trend.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB166****(Question Serial No.: 6093)**Head: (44) Environmental Protection DepartmentSubhead(No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) WasteControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.: 216):

It is mentioned in page 199 of the Estimates of Expenditure that the Department will “continue to plan and implement the development of Community Green Stations (CGSs) in each of the 18 districts”. In this connection, would the Administration inform this Committee of: the number of CGSs at present, with a breakdown by District Council District?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-cheReply:

The Government plans to set up one community green station (CGS) in each of the 18 districts and will provide funding for their operation by non-profit organisations. The latest development for each of the CGSs is tabulated below:

District	Latest development	Estimated schedule for commissioning	Estimated capital expenditure
Sha Tin	Site confirmed	2014	\$20.5 million
Eastern	Site confirmed	First half of 2015	\$27.3 million
Others	Preparation work started	To be commissioned by phases	About \$350 million in total

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB167****(Question Serial No.: 6098)**Head: (44) Environmental Protection DepartmentSubhead(No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (2) AirControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.:217):

According to Programme (2) of the Estimates of Expenditure, the financial provision for 2014-15 is 256.5% higher than that for the previous year. Would the Administration inform this Committee of the details of such increase?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-cheReply:

The financial estimate under the Air Programme of the Environmental Protection Department in 2014-15 is \$4,056.9 million, an increase of \$2,918.8 million as compared with the revised estimate for 2013-14. The increase in estimated provision is mainly due to the implementation of three non-recurrent programmes on improving roadside air quality. Their details are as follows:

Non-recurrent Programmes	Revised Estimate for 2013-14	Estimate for 2014-15
Ex-gratia payment for phasing out pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles before 2020	\$280 million	\$3.36 billion
Trial of electric buses by franchised bus companies	\$20 million	\$130 million
Retrofitting Euro II & Euro III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices to reduce their emissions	\$6 million	\$20 million

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB168

(Question Serial No.: 6099)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:218):

It is mentioned in the Estimates of Expenditure that the Department will “continue to promote reduction of food waste under the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign”. In this connection, would the Administration advise this Committee on:

- (a) the number of participating organisations or enterprises, listed by District Council District;
- (b) the number of participants in training workshops.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

The Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign is a territory-wide food waste reduction campaign. Since the launch of the Campaign, we have promoted a food wise and waste less culture through various schemes and activities, with a view to encouraging behavioural changes and reducing food waste in various sectors of the community.

As at 15 February 2014, 330 organisations have signed the Food Wise Charter, pledging for food waste reduction. An updated list of signees from a wide spectrum of enterprises including trade associations, business groups and food /hotels chains with business across Hong Kong can be viewed at <http://www.foodwisehk.gov.hk/pdf/FoodWiseCharterSignatoryList.pdf>. Roving exhibitions will be organized across the territories to spread the waste less message

About 450 Food Wise Hong Kong Ambassadors had participated in waste reduction training workshops to help disseminate the Food Wise message.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB169****(Question Serial No.: 6437)**Head: (44) Environmental Protection DepartmentSubhead(No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) WasteControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.:576):

How many tonnes of municipal waste were generated on average in Hong Kong each year between 2008 and late 2013? How much of them was food waste?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-cheReply:

The disposal quantities of municipal solid waste and food waste in Hong Kong from 2008 to 2013 are as follows:

2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Municipal solid waste	Municipal solid waste	Municipal solid waste	Municipal solid waste	Municipal solid waste	Municipal solid waste
[Food waste]	[Food waste]	[Food waste]	[Food waste]	[Food waste]	[Food waste]
9,021	8,963	9,114	8,996	9,278	9,547
[2,995]	[3,280]	[3,237]	[3,584]	[3,337]	[--]

Remarks:

1. The solid waste composition statistics in 2013 is being compiled.
2. All figures shown are in tonnes per day.
3. The quoted disposal quantities of municipal solid waste have already included the quantities of food waste quoted in square brackets. For example, for the disposal quantity of municipal solid waste in 2008, out of the 9,021 tonnes disposed, 2,995 tonnes were food waste.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB170****(Question Serial No.: 6438)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 577):

What was the total amount of food waste on average each year between 2008 and late 2013? How much of them came from the “retail sector” (food premises such as restaurants, fast food shops and hotels), “catering sector” (including food premises, hotels) and “food manufacturers”, “food wholesalers and distributors” , “domestic premises” and “markets managed by FEHD”?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

The quantities of food waste disposed of in landfills of Hong Kong each year from 2008 to 2012 are as follow:

Year	Domestic Food waste (Tonnes)	Industrial and Commercial Food Waste (Tonnes)
2012	925 200	296 100
2011	922 700	385 400
2010	874 900	306 600
2009	845 300	351 900
2008	786 200	310 000

Figures of 2013 are still in compilation and cannot be provided at this stage.

We do not have statistics of food waste generated by individual industrial and commercial trades.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB171

(Question Serial No.: 6439)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 579):

What are the Government's measures or policies to encourage recovery of edible food from the business sector or the community for redistribution to those in need?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

To take forward the Chief Executive's pledge to promote food waste reduction, the Government has launched the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign to promote food waste reduction. One of the objectives is to facilitate food donation to charitable organisations by establishments with surplus food. Hence, members of the Food Wise Hong Kong Steering Committee include food recipient organisations. Information on food donation is provided on the website. In the food waste reduction workshops held regularly, organisers would invite representatives from food recipient organisations to speak on the salient points and ways of food donation to the relevant sectors (e.g. hotel sector) and encourage donation. On suitable festive occasions, e.g. Mid-autumn Festival and Chinese New Year, the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign will encourage the public to donate surplus festive food to food recipient organisations through festive promotion and tips.

The Government also aims to strengthen support for the work of NGOs to increase the collection of surplus food from the C&I sector, such as supermarkets, fresh food markets, restaurants, clubs and hotels. NGOs are also welcome to apply for funding under the Environment and Conservation Fund to support food donation projects that can help reduce waste to landfill.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB172

(Question Serial No.: 6460)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 613):

It is stated in the 2014-15 Budget that the Government will promote the use of electric vehicles (EVs) through measures such as introduction of such vehicles into the Hong Kong market, promotion of installation of charging facilities and increasing the number of EVs in the government fleet. Please inform this Committee of:

1. the number of EVs in Hong Kong at present;
2. the number of charging facilities in 18 districts respectively;
3. the number of EVs to be purchased in future and the estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

1. As at the end of February 2014, there were 611 electric vehicles (EVs) running in Hong Kong, 159 of which were owned by government departments.
2. There are currently about 1 000 standard chargers and 10 quick chargers in Hong Kong. The geographical distribution of the EV charging facilities is set out at **Annex**.
3. In 2014-15, the Government will continue to procure more EVs. We are reviewing with relevant departments on the number of EVs to be procured, having regard to the supply of various types of EVs in the market and the operational needs of the departments.

Distribution of public charging facilities for electric vehicles (by district)

District	Numbers of chargers		District	Numbers of chargers	
	Standard charger	Quick charger (Japanese CHAdeMO system)		Standard charger	Quick charger (Japanese CHAdeMO system)
Central and Western	165	1	Islands	10	1
Eastern	119	1	Kwai Tsing	20	--
Southern	4	2	North	36	1
Wan Chai	112	--	Sai Kung	30	--
Kowloon City	5	--	Shatin	62	1
Kwun Tong	57	1	Tai Po	15	--
Sham Shui Po	43	--	Tsuen Wan	47	--
Wong Tai Sin	61	--	Tuen Mun	21	--
Yau Tsim Mong	154	1	Yuen Long	42	1

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB173

(Question Serial No.: 6468)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:239):

The Financial Secretary has indicated that about \$30 billion will be invested in waste recycling and treatment facilities. The Government is also providing support for the long-term and sustainable development of the recycling industry through multifarious measures such as setting up a Recycling Fund, enhancing training, and promoting green procurement.

Please advise:

1. What are the targets of the Recycling Fund and how will the subsidies be provided?
2. Given the high recycling costs, will the Government provide financial and policy concessions for the environmental waste recycling trade in Hong Kong by, for example, tax reductions, granting of land at affordable costs, to promote sustainability of the recycling industry?
3. How much resources will be allocated by the Government for public education to raise public environmental awareness and promote green practices, so that the government policy on waste reduction at source can be implemented smoothly?
4. Apart from the three existing landfills, will the Government spend resources on developing the fourth landfill by, for example, making use of a deserted island?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

1. To promote the sustainable development of the recycling industry, the Government has earmarked \$1 billion to set up a Recycling Fund. The Steering Committee to Promote the Sustainable Development of the Recycling Industry, chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration, will study the specific uses of the Recycling Fund in depth with a view to formulating effective, equitable and sustainable proposals. Reference will be made to the modes of financial assistance to the recycling industry in other regions and their effectiveness, and the unique situation of different types of recyclables in Hong Kong. We have maintained close liaison with the trade and relevant stakeholders, and a proposal on the specific uses of the fund is expected to be ready in the second half of this year for consultation with the Panel on Environmental Affairs of the Legislative Council.
2. Current measures of the Government to support the recycling industry include: (1) the "Source Separation of Waste Programme", which increases the supply of recyclable materials by encouraging the public to separate waste at source; (2) providing suitable sites on Government land on short-term lease for

exclusive bidding by recyclers; (3) building the EcoPark to help the long-term development of recycling trade through the provision of land at a reasonable cost; (4) taking the lead in the implementation and promotion of green procurement to increase demand for recycled and green products; (5) launching the "Producer Responsibility Schemes" to fund the collection and treatment of designated products by charging a levy on those products; (6) encouraging the development of recycling technologies and acquisition of waste recycling facilities through the Innovation and Technology Fund and the Environment and Conservation Fund; and (7) planning to allocate suitable berths in the Public Cargo Working Areas for the exclusive use of the recycling industry to ensure the provision of stable export facilities. On the above basis, the Government will continue to enhance relevant strategies, measures and facilities in order to promote the sustainable development of the recycling industry.

3. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD)'s expenditure on promotion and education work to enhance public awareness on waste reduction, waste separation and recycling and enhance community participation in 2014-15 is about \$64.7 million. About 50 EPD's staff are involved in carrying out the relevant work.
4. At present, the three strategic landfills located at Tseung Kwan O, North District and Tuen Mun receive waste from nearby districts and their respective refuse transfer stations. The three landfills and refuse transfer stations form a balanced waste management network which provides an efficient and least polluting waste management service to the public.

Land resources are very valuable in Hong Kong, and land suitable for landfilling purpose is scarce. Our proposed extension of the three strategic landfills is the outcome of detailed studies. To transport waste to the outlying islands for landfilling involves various comprehensive planning factors, such as the ecological and environmental impact, engineering considerations and transportation support, etc., and it is certainly not an easy task. It is also a big challenge which requires long term considerations and careful assessments. To reduce our reliance on landfilling in the long run, we will embark on preparatory work this year for a strategic study on future waste management facilities. The study will look into various issues such as types, scale, technology, locality and timing of new strategic and regional facilities and services needed with a view to drawing up a strategic master plan of waste management facilities for the future.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB174

(Question Serial No.: 6578)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:243):

The Financial Secretary has indicated that about \$30 billion will be invested in waste recycling and treatment facilities, and that the Government is pressing ahead with the provision of organic waste treatment facilities, community green stations, and waste electrical and electronic equipment processing facilities. At present, much of the waste disposed is domestic food waste. This results in the consumption of our precious landfilling space and wastage of organic waste. Please advise:

Will the Government allocate more resources to encourage and subsidise installation of food waste composters in housing estates to turn residents' food waste into organic fertilisers on a daily basis in order to meet the targets of waste reduction, sustainable development and environmental education?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

A Food Waste Recycling Projects in Housing Estates was launched under the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) in July 2011. To enhance awareness and to encourage participation in food waste recovery, \$50 million has been reserved to subsidise installation and operation of on-site food waste treatment facilities in housing estates and encourage housing estates to organise education and publicity campaigns in conjunction with non-government organisations. Since the launching of the scheme, funding has been granted to a total of 37 estates and facilities in 11 estates have been operational so far. We will examine and review the effectiveness of the various projects and follow up on the future development of this scheme.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB175

(Question Serial No.: 6643)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 580):

Regarding food donation, will the Government study the formulation of legislation with exemption clauses like the Good Samaritan Law in USA?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

As the donated food is not for sale, it is not subject to control under the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance. Nevertheless, we note that under current food donation programmes, donors and recipients are able to work out through negotiation the relevant arrangements in respect of liability and food safety. As such, the concern of food donors about any potential liability that may arise from food donations can be overcome. An appropriate mechanism developed through practice would enable edible leftovers to be donated to people in need.

Furthermore, in August 2013, the Government's Centre of Food Safety issued a set of food safety guidelines for food recovery, where it sets out food safety principles that should be applied to food donated to charity, regardless of the types and sources of food.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB176

(Question Serial No.: 5487)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 63):

Regarding the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF),

- (a) What are the annual fund allocations for strengthening household participation in waste separation, food waste recovery and recycling as well as the numbers of applications involved in the past 3 years (i.e. 2011, 2012 and 2013)?
- (b) Please list in table form the total numbers of domestic units, housing estates and single-block buildings which participated in waste separation in the past 3 years (i.e. 2011, 2012 and 2013).
- (c) Please list in table form the total numbers of domestic units, housing estates and single-block buildings which participated in food waste recovery in the past 3 years (i.e. 2011, 2012 and 2013).
- (d) Please list in table form the total numbers of domestic units, housing estates and single-block buildings which participated in recycling in the past 3 years (i.e. 2011, 2012 and 2013).
- (e) How does the Administration plan to further promote and encourage the community to use the ECF for the promotion of environmental protection activities?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

- (a) The Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) provides funding to set up waste separation facilities at domestic housing estates and buildings. It also supports non-government organisations (NGOs) and schools to undertake projects to promote food waste recovery and recycling in the community. The funds approved to projects in the areas of source separation of waste, food waste reduction and recovery as well as waste recycling in 2011 to 2013 are provided in the table below -.
- (b), (c) and (d)

The relevant statistics in the past three years are provided below:

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14 (as at end of December 2013)
<u>Source separation of domestic waste</u>			
No. of Projects	1	1	1
Total Provision (\$ million)	0.01	0.05	0.01
No. of Participants*	about 93 housing estates and 87 buildings covering about 132 000 households	about 93 housing estates and 90 buildings covering about 132 000 households	about 93 housing estates and 92 buildings covering about 133 000 households
<u>Food waste reduction and recovery</u>			
No. of Projects	44	19	31
Total Provision (\$ million)	47.32	24.00	36.69
No. of Participants*	about 10 housing estates, 80 schools and 11 community groups	about 15 housing estates, 95 schools and 20 community groups	about 25 housing estates, 100 schools and 2 community groups
<u>Waste recycling</u>			
No. of Projects	13	10	6
Total Provision (\$ million)	18.26	23.00	21.34
No. of Participants*	about 560 housing estates, 530 buildings, 160 schools, 70 community groups and 660 shops/companies	about 610 housing estates, 1 070 buildings, 220 schools, 120 community groups and 890 shops/companies	about 650 housing estates, 1 310 buildings, 230 schools, 160 community groups and 990 shops/companies

* The figures include the number of participants of approved projects in that year and on-going projects that were approved in previous years.

- (e) As our long term commitment to environmental protection and conservation, we have injected \$5 billion to ECF in June 2013 as an endowment to generate investment returns for long term sustained support for community green actions. Major areas of projects being supported recently under the ECF include waste reduction and recovery (e.g. food waste), energy conservation, research on environmental technologies, nature conservation, and environmental education programmes related to the above areas. We will also enhance collaboration with District Councils to enhance promotion on use less, waste less, and waste recycling to build up a wider community recycling network.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB177

(Question Serial No.: 5488)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:64):

Regarding continuing to take forward the development of organic waste treatment facilities for the treatment of •source-separated food waste from the commercial and industrial sectors, the development of a waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) treatment facility to handle WEEE locally generated and the project on the development of an integrated waste management facility to achieve bulk reduction of MSW as soon as possible in 2014-15, please provide details, including the specific plan, implementation timetable, anticipated waste handling capacity at different stages, and the manpower and expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

(1) Organic Waste Treatment Facilities (OWTF)

The Environment Bureau unveiled in February 2014 “A Food Waste & Yard Waste Plan for Hong Kong 2014-2022” (the Plan), mapping out a strategic framework, specific targets, policy initiatives and action plans for the treatment of food waste and yard waste. The Plan has set out four strategies as the backbone in addressing the challenge of food waste, namely reduction at source, reuse and donation, recyclable collection, and turning food waste into energy, with a view to reducing the food waste disposal at landfills by 40% by 2022.

We have reviewed many types of technology for treating food waste. As Hong Kong has a large need for energy, our policy is to treat the city’s collected food waste to produce renewable energy using anaerobic digestion as the core technology. We plan to build a network of around 5 to 6 organic waste treatment facilities (OWTFs), to enable food waste to be transported quickly from population centres to the facilities that are not too far away and turned into useful resources, thereby reducing potential nuisance arising from the transportation of food waste. The first phase of OWTF will be developed in Siu Ho Wan of North Lantau to treat 200 tonnes of food waste per day. We plan to seek funding approval from the Legislative Council Finance Committee (LegCo FC) in the second quarter of this year with a view to awarding the Design-Build-Operate (DBO) contract in mid-2014 and commissioning the facility in 2016. For the second phase of OWTF at Sha Ling of the North District with a daily capacity of 300 tonnes, we have also completed the environmental impact assessment (EIA) study and we are proceeding with the preliminary preparation procedures. Besides, we will conduct the engineering and EIA studies for the third phase of OWTF as soon as possible, and continue to look for suitable sites for further OWTFs.

The estimated expenditure for the studies and works of the first phase of OWTF in 2014-15 is \$1.5 million and \$212 million respectively. The estimated expenditure for the studies of the second and third phases of

OWTF in 2014-15 is \$1.3 million and \$0.5 million respectively. The Nature Conservation and Infrastructure Planning Division of the Environmental Protection Department is responsible for the development of the OWTF Phase 1, 2 and 3. There will be 35 staff working under this division in 2014-15, who are also responsible for nature conservation, food waste treatment programmes, Integrated Waste Management Facilities and strategic waste infrastructure planning.

(2) Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Treatment Facility

We plan to develop a modern WEEE treatment and recycling facility at the EcoPark in Tuen Mun, with a designed capacity of 30 000 tonnes of WEEE per annum in support of the future mandatory Producer Responsibility Scheme (PRS) which will cover television sets, refrigerators, washing machines, air conditioners and computer products. The estimated expenditure of the project is \$536.1 million. The estimated expenditure of \$56.3 million for 2014-15 is mainly for the upfront costs of the project, including the design and engineering expenses, etc. The EPD plans to seek funding approval from the LegCo FC in mid- 2014 and award the DBO contract in the second half of 2014. The facility is expected to be completed for commissioning in late 2016/early 2017.

(3) Integrated Waste Management Facilities (IWMF)

The IWMF Phase 1 will adopt incineration as the core treatment technology to substantially reduce the volume of 3,000 tonnes of waste by 90% each day and relieve pressure on landfills. The facility can also generate electricity during the incineration process, which supplies renewable energy, thereby reducing the use of fossil fuel for electricity generation and contributing to the reduction in local greenhouse gas emission. It is estimated that the IWMF Phase 1 can export about 480 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) of surplus electricity to the power grid per year.

In the fourth quarter of 2010, the EPD commenced the associated design and construction consultancy study for the preparation of tender documents and conduction of geotechnical investigations. We have submitted the project to the LegCo Panel on Environmental Affairs (EAP) and are seeking the EAP's support for upgrading the development of the IWMF Phase 1 project to Category A. Subject to the support of the EAP, we will submit the funding application to the LegCo FC for approval in the second quarter of 2014. After the funding approval is sought, we will commence the pre-qualification of tenderers process. The contract would only be awarded after the judicial review appeal proceedings have been determined and the outcome is in favour of the IWMF project to proceed. We anticipated the IWMF Phase 1 could be commissioned in 2021/22.

The estimated expenditure for 2014-15 for conducting studies on the IWMF Phase 1 is \$2.02 million. The Nature Conservation and Infrastructure Planning Division of the Environmental Protection Department is responsible for the development of the IWMF Phase 1. There will be 35 staff working under this division in 2014-15, who are also responsible for nature conservation, food waste treatment programmes and strategic waste infrastructure planning.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB178****(Question Serial No.: 5489)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 65):

Under the Environment and Conservation Fund, how many projects were approved in each of the past three years (i.e. 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14) for recycling commercial waste and what were the amounts of funding involved? What were the numbers of participating enterprises in each year?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) provides funding to set up waste separation facilities at commercial and industrial buildings. It also supports non-government organisations (NGOs) to undertake projects to promote waste recovery in the community, such as projects to collect waste glass bottles from restaurants and bars. The relevant statistics in the past three years are provided below:

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14 (as at end of December 2013)
No. of projects	159	111	102
Total provision approved in the year, the expenditure may span over a number of years (\$ million)	4.19	15.08	15.13
No. of participating enterprises / commercial and industrial buildings *	about 660 companies/shops and 460 buildings	about 890 companies/shops and 560 buildings	about 990 companies/shops and 660 buildings

* The figures include the number of participants of approved projects in that year and on-going projects that were approved in previous years.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB179

(Question Serial No.: 5490)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:59):

It is mentioned in the Budget Speech that the Government will invest about \$30 billion in waste recycling and treatment facilities for the management of municipal solid waste. Please advise on the details, including the specific plans, the timetable, the scope and number of facilities, and the manpower and expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

It is mentioned in the Budget Speech that the Government will invest about \$30 billion in waste recycling and treatment facilities for the management of municipal solid waste. The details of the facilities are shown in the table below:

Facility	Estimated expenditure (at money-of-the-day price) (\$ million)	Anticipated completion/commissioning date	Scope of facilities	Manpower involved
Southeast New Territories landfill extension	1,990	Late 2016	Disposal of solid waste (construction waste only)	To help implement the three extension projects, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will follow up with the diversion in waste transfer, strengthen the communication with the local community, and monitor the equipment standards of refuse collection vehicles, etc. Starting from 2014, 16 time-limited posts for 2 years will be created.
Northeast New Territories landfill extension	7,320	2017	Disposal of solid waste	
West New Territories landfill extension (consultants' fees and investigations)	40	Late 2014 ⁽¹⁾	Disposal of solid waste	
Integrated waste management facilities (IWMF), phase 1	18,250	2021/22	The IWMF, phase 1 reduces the volume of municipal solid waste to one-tenth of its original with incineration as the core technology to relieve the pressure of the landfills. Moreover, electricity can be generated in the incineration process as a form of renewable energy. Since fossil fuel is replaced in the generation of electricity, this will reduce greenhouse gas emissions from power plants.	Apart from the existing manpower resources, 1 permanent post and 2.5 time-limited posts will be increased.
Development of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) treatment and recycling facility	540	Late 2016/early 2017	Providing recycling and treatment of WEEE. The treatment facility will have a designed capacity of 30 000 tonnes of WEEE per annum in support of the future mandatory producer responsibility scheme which will cover television sets, washing machines, refrigerators, air-conditioners and computer products.	The works have been planned and will be handled by existing staff.
Organic waste treatment facilities phase 1	1,530	2016	Recycling source separated commercial and industrial food waste into useful resources.	

Community green stations in the 18 districts	400	By phases from 2014	Enhance environmental education and assist in the collection of recyclables of lower market value at community level.	Starting from 2014, 16 permanent posts and 5 time-limited posts lasting for 3 years will be created
Total	30,070			

Note (1): This refers to the date of commencement of the consultancy study and the specific arrangement of the extension will be finalized in the consultancy study.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB180

(Question Serial No.: 5491)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:62)

Regarding continuing to promote reduction of food waste under the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign in 2014-15, please provide details, including the progress of the Campaign, the number of participating merchants, and the manpower and expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

To take forward the Chief Executive's pledge to promote food waste reduction, the Government announced on 3 December 2012 the setting up of the Food Wise Hong Kong Steering Committee, which is chaired by the Secretary for the Environment and with members drawn from the relevant sectors, including catering and hotels, retail, property management, education, academia, green groups and food recipient organisations, as well as relevant government departments. The Steering Committee is tasked with formulating and overseeing the implementation strategies of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign (the Campaign), which aims to promote public awareness of food waste problems in Hong Kong and co-ordinate efforts within the Government and public institutions to lead by example in food waste reduction. The objectives of the Steering Committee also include instilling behavioural change at the individual and household levels to help reduce food waste generation, drawing up and promoting good practices of food waste reduction at commercial and industrial establishments, and facilitating food donation to charitable organisations from establishments with surplus food.

The Campaign is implemented in three phases, including the initial launching phase, the subsequent reaching-out phase and the final consolidation phase. We are still in the reaching-out phase in 2014-2015.

Since its launching, the Campaign has promoted a food wise and waste less culture and encouraged behavioural change to reduce food waste in the community through various schemes and activities. The "Big Waster" symbolising food wastage in the Campaign is gradually taking root in the community. As at 15 February 2014, 330 organisations have signed the Food Wise Charter and pledged to reducing food waste, and some 450 Food Wise Hong Kong Ambassadors have taken part in the food waste reduction training workshops to help promote the Food Wise message.

The total estimated expenditure of the Campaign for 2014-2015 is about \$16.5 million, of which about \$10 million will be spent on advertisements, about \$5 million on promotional programmes and activities and about \$1.5 million on technical support and training. The manpower involved in the implementation of the Campaign is absorbed by the existing establishment.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB181****(Question Serial No.: 0868)**

<u>Head:</u>	(44)
<u>Subhead(No. & title):</u>	(-) Not specified
<u>Programme:</u>	(1) Waste
<u>Controlling Officer:</u>	Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
<u>Director of Bureau:</u>	Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 36):

Plastic bottles recovered through the three-coloured bins in Hong Kong are always unwelcome owing to their large volume, transportation difficulties, multiple treatment processes and low recycling price. Moreover, the "Operation Green Fence" recently implemented in the Mainland has placed restrictions on waste import. The trades engaged specifically in plastic bottles recovery in Hong Kong are therefore facing great difficulties in their operation. In this connection, has the Environmental Protection Department earmarked any resources and proposed any measures to assist the plastic bottles recovery industry in Hong Kong specifically in the next financial year?

Asked by: Hon. CHUNG Shu-kun, Christopher

Reply:

The Mainland enforcement authorities have launched the Operation Green Fence (OGF) since February 2013 as a measure to tighten the inspection of imported waste and recyclables at all ports across the country. The main target of the operation is the unlawfully imported waste which may pollute the environment. All recyclables meeting the national standards, including uncontaminated waste plastics, will not be affected and can be imported into the Mainland as usual. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) maintains close contact with the recycling industry and reminds the industry of the relevant standards of exporting recyclables to the Mainland. We understand that some recyclers have introduced measures to separate the recyclables and raise their waste treatment capability to meet the standards for importing into the Mainland. They have also explored in parallel alternative outlets for the recyclables.

The Government has invested resources and implemented facilitation measures to promote the development of the local recycling and green industries. We have offered assistance in the installation of waste recycling facilities at housing estates, buildings, public places and encourage the public to separate recyclables (including waste plastics) to improve recovery efficiency and increase the supply of recyclables for recyclers by implementing the "Source Separation of Waste Programme". We have also expanded the Community Recycling Network to set up collection points at various districts. The Environment and Conservation Fund has supported non-profit making organizations to set up community recycling centres in some old districts to facilitate the collection of recyclables with low market value, i.e. waste plastics, glass bottles, small electrical appliances, etc. A Plastic Resources Recycling Centre is set up at the EcoPark to recycle waste plastics collected locally into raw materials. It has served an important function during the launching of OGF by providing secured outlets for the recovered waste plastics, which has reduced the burden of waste disposal. On land resources, the Government has supported the recycling industry by the provision of short-term tenancy sites and development of the EcoPark. Apart from the Plastic Resources Recycling Centre established by the Government, there is another lot at the EcoPark let for recycling waste plastics. Moreover, the Government has strengthened public education on reducing waste and recycling, as well as promoting clean recycling to enhance the quality and value of local waste plastics.

The Government established the Steering Committee to Promote the Sustainable Development of the Recycling Industry (the Steering Committee) in August 2013 to step up concerted efforts in reducing waste at source and promote the development of the recycling industry. Besides, the 2014 Policy Address announced that the Government has earmarked \$1 billion to launch a Recycling Fund to promote the sustainable development of the recycling industry. The Steering Committee will liaise with the industry and other stakeholders and listen to their views. It will carry out comprehensive studies and also formulate viable measures to support the recycling industry on the collection and handling of different types of recyclables (including waste plastics). Meanwhile, the EPD plans to set up a new Waste Reduction and Recycling Division led by an Assistant Director of Environmental Protection (ADEP) to strengthen the manpower support for formulating measures to promote the sustainable development of the recycling industry. The ADEP post in the Division is newly created for a period of three years. There are 55 non-directorate posts in the Division, 33 of them will be deployed from other existing divisions and the remaining 22 are newly created time-limited posts.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB182

(Question Serial No.: 3316)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 60):

Regarding the ecological area conservation plan for Tung Kok East, Tai Po ("Ting Kok Plus") launched by the Government in late 2012, what is the current progress?

Asked by: Hon. CHUNG Shu-kun, Christopher

Reply:

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will launch a series of publicity and educational campaigns in 2014-15 under the "Ting Kok Plus", including setting up of a website, publication of pamphlets and publicity materials, designing of tour routes, provision of coastal clean-up activities as well as guided visits on ecology for visitors. AFCD will also produce teaching kits on the coastal ecology of Ting Kok areas, launch mobile websites and organise visits to the area for primary and secondary schools. In addition, the Tai Po District Office and AFCD are planning to erect direction signs and information panels at appropriate locations along the Ting Kok coastline, so as to provide visitors with information on visits and ecology.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB183

(Question Serial No.: 2255)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 2):

Would the Administration provide the following information:

1. What is the estimated expenditure for setting up the green stations in the 18 districts? Which subhead is it reflected in?
2. Have the sites for these green stations been identified in the 18 districts? If yes, please list the specific location of the green station in each district.
3. What are the staffing establishment and expenditure for setting up the green stations in 2014-15?
4. Apart from the capital works expenditure for the green stations, have the expenses for other equipment or logistics facilities (e.g. mobile collection vehicles) also been included in the expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

(1) and (4) The Government plans to set up one community green station (CGS) in each of the 18 districts and will provide funding to non-profit organisations for their operation. The capital works will cost about \$400 million. The capital works expenditure for 2014-15 has been reflected in the Capital Works Reserve Fund block allocation subhead. As to the operating expenditure for each CGS, it will depend on the results of the open tender for appointing the operators.

(2) At present, the sites for two CGSs have been confirmed while the site search for other districts is in progress. Details are as follows:

District	Site
Shatin	Junction of On Ping Street and On Sum Street, Shek Mun
Eastern	Between Oi Shun Road and Hing Man Street, Shau Kei Wan, underneath the Island Eastern Corridor

(3) Staff from the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) and the Architectural Services Department is responsible for the work of setting up the CGSs, which is part of the work undertaken by the departments. Separately, the EPD would create 16 long-term posts and 5 short-term posts lasting for 3 years for the implementation of this initiative.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB184

(Question Serial No.: 2285)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 23):

1. Under the circumstance that the estimated number of chemical waste trip tickets recorded remains unchanged, why does the estimated number of chemical waste collector licences to be issued in 2014 increase drastically by 20 compared with the actual number in 2013?
2. What are the administrative expenses and staff establishment incurred by the sharp increase in the number of licence to be issued?
3. How will the Administration monitor the surging number of chemical waste collectors and what are the establishment and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

1. There are 32 licences due for renewal in 2014, representing an increase of about 20 licence applications compared with that of 2013. We therefore anticipate an increase of 20 chemical waste collector licences to be issued in 2014 compared with that of 2013.
2. Processing of licence applications is part of the routine integrated enforcement and control duties of the Environmental Protection Department. The Department does not have a separate breakdown on the expenditure and establishment in this regard.
3. As explained above, we anticipate an increase attributed to the number of renewal applications. We will continue to manage the work with our existing manpower and resources.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB185

(Question Serial No.: 2289)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 27):

1. What is the expenditure involved in launching the new Air Quality Health Index (AQHI)?
2. When will the objectives of the new AQHI be formulated? Under which Subhead of the Budget will the staff provisions and expenditures involved in formulating the objectives be reflected?
3. The budget allocated to the Air Programme has greatly increased by 2.57 times. What criteria will the Administration adopt to assess whether these expenditures are allocated appropriately?

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

1. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) introduced a new Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) on 30 December 2013 to replace the old Air Pollution Index. The total expenditure involved was about \$4.5 million, mainly including \$1.82 million of consultant fees for consultancy studies to review the Air Pollution Index; \$1.55 million of publicity expenses for publicizing the new AQHI through organizing briefings, TV and radio commercials and other channels (including printing of posters, pamphlets, light box advertisements in railway stations and bus stops, etc.); \$1.13 million for employing a contractor to update the index calculation and information dissemination systems (including setting up the new index web pages, smart phone mobile app, interactive telephone hotline and an AQHI alerting tool, etc.)
2. EPD will devise a new objective indicator for AQHI in the Controlling Officer's Report for 2015-16. The relevant expenditure will be absorbed by the resources under the Air Programme of EPD. We do not have a breakdown on the resources involved.
3. The estimated financial provision under the Air Programme of EPD in 2014-15 is \$4.0569 billion, an increase of \$2.9188 billion as compared to the revised estimate for 2013-14. The increased provision is mainly due to the implementation of three new non-recurrent programmes on improving roadside air quality. Their details are as follows:

Non-recurrent Programmes	Revised Estimate for 2013-14	Estimated Provision for 2014-15
Ex-gratia payment for phasing out pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles before 2020	\$280 million	\$3.36 billion
Trial of electric buses by franchised	\$20 million	\$130 million

bus companies		
Retrofitting Euro II & Euro III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices to reduce their emissions	\$6 million	\$20 million

The above measures will help improve roadside air quality and achieve broadly the new air quality objectives by 2020.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB186

(Question Serial No.: 2293)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 31):

- (1) The number of air pollution monitoring samples taken by the Administration has decreased over the years. What are the reasons?
- (2) How many of the monitoring samples are related to the South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill?
- (3) What was the estimated expenditure on monitoring air pollution of the SENT Landfill over the past 5 years? Has the Administration increased the estimated expenditure this year specifically for monitoring odour from the landfill?

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

1. According to the studies of World Health Organisation and its international academic institutions, the air pollution particles that affect our health most are fine suspended particulates (PM2.5) instead of total suspended particulates (TSP). Therefore, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has decreased the number of TSP samples for analysis and allocated its resources to monitoring PM2.5 in recent years. As the instruments and technologies involved in the chemical speciation analysis of PM2.5 are different from those for TSP, we have been hiring outsourced laboratories to perform the analysis work, leading to a decrease in the number of air pollution monitoring samples handed to the Government Laboratory. In the past three years, the numbers of air pollution monitoring samples taken by EPD remained stable with 94 600, 96 960 and 95 560 respectively.
2. The contractor of South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill has to monitor the air quality performance during operation according to the contract requirements. The work includes dust, volatile organic compounds, landfill gas and surface gas monitoring and odour patrols.

Due to the concern of Tseung Kwan O (TKO) residents about odour problem, apart from the air monitoring as required by the contract, EPD has implemented additional odour management and control measures at the SENT Landfill to further reduce the potential odour impact caused by landfill operation and waste collection vehicles. In response to the request of Sai Kung District Council (SKDC) and TKO residents, we have in the past few years assisted in and conducted odour related monitoring work, including the SKDC Odour Study in Tseung Kwan O Area, electronic odour detection trial scheme, on-site odour monitoring team, etc. Moreover, EPD has installed an equipment at Tai Chik Sha Fire Station in TKO to monitor the PM2.5 level for a period of 12 months starting from September 2013.

3. Most of the odour investigation and monitoring work mentioned above is an integral part of EPD's work on environmental monitoring and landfill management. We do not have a breakdown on the manpower

and expenditure involved. EPD began to operate an odour monitoring team in June 2013 and the expenditure for service contracts is about \$1.8 million in 2013-14 and about \$2.5 million in 2014-15.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB187****(Question Serial No.: 5878)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:61):

1. What were the manpower establishment and expenditure involved in the odour monitoring teams set up to monitor the odour from the South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill in the past three years?
2. What are the manpower establishment and expenditure involved this year?
3. What was the number of complaints about odour from the SENT Landfill in the past three years? What was the expenditure for handling these complaints?
4. What is the estimated number of complaints about odour from the SENT Landfill this year? What is the expenditure for handling these complaints?

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

1 & 2. In response to concerns of the Tseung Kwan O (TKO) residents regarding the odour generated from the South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) had since June 2013 commissioned professional services in setting up a team for monitoring the odour situation of the housing estate in the vicinity of the landfill. The expenditure of the service contract for 2013-14 was around \$1.8 million. As for this year, the expenditure of the service contract is estimated to be around \$2.5 million. EPD staff is responsible for overseeing the contract for the provision of odour monitoring team. As this forms part of EPD's routine management work, we will continue the monitoring work with existing manpower and resources.

3. The number of complaints against odour from the SENT Landfill in the past three years is listed in the following table: -

Year	SENT Landfill
	Air (Odour)
2011	1 120
2012	1 951
2013	2 462

As the handling of odour complaints is part of the Department's pollution control function, we do not have a separate breakdown for the expenditure in this area.

4. As the number of complaints against the SENT Landfill would depend on many factors, we have not made an estimate for the year. Same as above, the handling of odour complaints forms part of the Department's pollution control function, we will follow up relevant complaints with existing manpower and resources. As regard to the estimated expenditure, apart from the expenses on the aforesaid odour monitoring team, we do not have a breakdown of the expenditure in this area.

To further reduce the impact of the landfill on neighbouring areas, the Administration has implemented a number of mitigation measures both inside and outside the landfill to alleviate the odour situation arising from the delivery of waste and landfill operation as far as possible. Moreover, after the full commissioning of the Sludge Treatment Facility by end 2014, odorous sludge will no longer be landfilled; and amendments to the Waste Disposal (Designated Waste Disposal Facility) Regulation were passed by the Legislative Council on 22 January 2014 to change the use of the SENT Landfill to accept only construction waste so that the odour concern arising from municipal solid waste and other wastes could be removed at root. Subject to funding approval by the Finance Committee for the extension of the SENT Landfill, the Government will appoint the commencement date of the amended regulation. By then, not only will the odour issue of the SENT Landfill be resolved, the number of vehicular trips going to the landfill will also drop from about 1 000 to about 500 daily, which will further improve the environment.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB188****(Question Serial No.: 2911)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 52):

It is mentioned in paragraph 50 of the Budget Speech that “for years, we have been promoting the use of electric vehicles (EVs) by exempting them from First Registration Tax. I propose to extend the tax exemption by three years up to 31 March 2017”. Would the Administration advise this Committee on: whether assessment has been made on the prevalence rate of EVs; the number of EVs running or expected to be running in Hong Kong in the past 3 years and the coming 2 years; the distribution and exact locations of the existing charging stations for EVs listed by the District Council districts; the projected number of additional charging stations for EVs in the coming 2 years; and whether the Administration will set a target on the percentage of EVs in the overall number of vehicles; if no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

At present, EV technology is still under development and drivers have yet to establish their confidence in the use of EVs. Furthermore, the high research and development costs for EVs and low vehicle production volume have resulted in the price of EVs far higher than conventional vehicles, and the vehicle type and model for EVs available in the market are very limited. Therefore, EVs are still not popular. As such, we propose to extend the waiver of the FRT for EVs for three years till 31 March 2017 to continue promoting the use of EVs.

The Government has been actively promoting the use of EVs, including taking the lead in using EVs, encouraging the commercial sector and individuals to purchase EVs by means of tax concessions and working with the commercial sector in building charging facilities. In the past three years, there was an obvious growth in the number of EVs in Hong Kong, far higher than the number of EVs as at end of 2010 which was less than 100. The details are as follows -

	Accumulated no. of EVs (including Government vehicles)
2011	242
2012	411
2013	592

As regards EV charging facilities, the Government has installed about 500 standard charging facilities in 18 car parks managed by the Transport Department (TD) and Government Property Agency and the commercial sector has also installed over 500 charging facilities. Moreover, there are also 10 quick chargers distributed in various districts of Hong Kong with one charger available within around 20 kilometers. The geographical distribution of these chargers is provided in the Annex. The Government will also launch a trial scheme this year that enables suppliers of electric taxis to install quick chargers in the car parks managed by TD. Moreover, 100 medium-speed chargers will be provided in various districts within this year to shorten the

charging time for EVs.

The popularization of EVs depends very much on the technological development of EVs, the supply and price of EVs in the market as well as the supporting facilities, etc. Therefore, it is difficult for us to estimate the number of EVs in Hong Kong in the coming two years, and it is not appropriate to set a target on the percentage of EVs in the overall number of vehicles. We will continue to promote the use of EVs by adopting multi-pronged measures.

Distribution of Public Charging Facilities for EVs (By District)

District	No. of Charging Points		District	No. of Charging Points	
	General	Quick (Japanese CHAdeMO Standard)		General	Quick (Japanese CHAdeMO Standard)
Central & Western	165	1	Islands	10	1
Eastern	119	1	Kwai Tsing	20	--
Southern	4	2	North	36	1
Wan Chai	112	--	Sai Kung	30	--
Kowloon City	5	--	Sha Tin	62	1
Kwun Tong	57	1	Tai Po	15	--
Sham Shui Po	43	--	Tsuen Wan	47	--
Wong Tai Sin	61	--	Tuen Mun	21	--
Yau Tsim Mong	154	1	Yuen Long	42	1

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB189

(Question Serial No.0923)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.2):

According to the HKSARG Chief Executive's 2014 Policy Address, in order to expedite development and make better use of restored landfills, the Government has earmarked \$1 billion to launch a Restored Landfill Revitalisation Funding Scheme. The Scheme will be open to application from Non-Profit making Organisations (NPOs) or National Sports Associations (NSAs) with proven track record in their respective areas, so that they can develop recreational facilities or other innovative projects at the restored landfills. Would the Bureau provide the following information:

- (a) the expenditure and manpower establishment involved in the implementation of the Restored Landfill Revitalisation Funding Scheme;
- (b) the details, implementation schedule and timetable of the Restored Landfill Revitalisation Funding Scheme.

Asked by: Hon. HO Chun-yin, Steven

Reply:

- (a) The expenditure and manpower establishment involved in the implementation of the Restored Landfill Revitalisation Funding Scheme is absorbed by existing provisions under the Waste Programme, and the manpower requirement for the related development work is met through internal deployment of existing staff for the time being. The long-term additional staffing requirement will be ascertained by the Department before the full implementation of the Funding Scheme, and approval will be sought through the established resources allocation mechanism as necessary.
- (b) The details of the Restored Landfill Revitalisation Funding Scheme are still being drawn up. We plan to set up a Steering Committee comprising official and non-official members, including the district representatives, as well as representatives of the architectural and engineering sectors, sports community and social welfare sectors and relevant government departments, to deliberate on the funding rules under the Scheme, to assess and approve applications, and to monitor through the Secretariat the progress of each successful application funded under the Scheme. We aim to submit the details of the Scheme to the Legislative Council for scrutiny in mid-2014, and expect to release the application details for the Scheme by end of this year.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB190****(Question Serial No.: 4627)**Head: (44) Environmental Protection DepartmentSubhead(No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme:Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.: 124):

In regard to the 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 Bureau and the departments under its purview are or have been involved.

- (a) For Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes in 2011-12 and 2013-14, please provide information in the following format:

Project/ Programme title	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation (the Framework Agreement)	Expenditure involved	Name of Mainland official and 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?	Details of legal or policy changes involved in the programmes

- (b) For Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes in 2014-15, 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 official and 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 are the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?	Details of legal or policy changes involved in the programmes

- (c) Apart from the projects or programmes listed above, are there any other modes of cross-boundary cooperation? If yes, what are they? What were the manpower and expenditure involved in the past 3 years, and what are the expenditure and manpower earmarked in the Estimates of 2014-15?

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

- (a) Please refer to Annex A for details on environmental collaboration projects between Hong Kong and Guangdong from 2011-12 to 2013-14.
- (b) In 2014-15, we will continue to take forward the Pearl River Delta Regional Air Quality Management Plan, Cleaner Production Partnership Programme, Pearl River Estuary Regional Water Quality Joint Management Planning Advance Study, and Second Review of the “Deep Bay (Shenzhen Bay) Water Pollution Control Joint Implementation Programme” as listed under (a) above. Furthermore, we will embark upon a joint study on fine suspended particulates for the region with Guangdong and Macao in 2014-15. Please refer to Annex B for details.
- (c) To strengthen the cooperation between Hong Kong and Guangdong on environmental and sustainable development matters, the governments of the two sides set up a Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection (the Joint Working Group) in 2000, with several special panels under the Joint Working Group to follow up on issues of mutual concern, including improving regional air quality, promoting cleaner production, protecting water environment, promoting forestry and marine resources management, etc. In addition, both sides organise and participate in visits and exchanges as well as in environmental related expositions and discussion fora. The Hong Kong/Guangdong Joint Liaison Group on Combating Climate Change was set up in May 2012 to co-operate on combating climate change, co-ordinate the relevant measures and activities, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and contribute to the efforts of energy conservation and emission reduction in the region. We have also actively taken part in meetings and exchanges on environmental cooperation in the Pan-Pearl River Delta Region.

Environmental cooperation with Mainland authorities is mainly coordinated by the Cross-boundary and International Division (CBD) of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD). Between 2011-12 and 2013-14, the CBD had 26 – 36 staff members. Over the past 3 financial years, some \$20.2 million, \$25.2 million, and \$23.6 million were respectively provided under Head 44–EPD to cover the personal emoluments, associated general departmental expenses, as well as the necessary expenses for taking forward various environmental cooperation initiatives with Guangdong. In 2014-15, the CBD has 34 staff members, and a financial provision of some \$25 million has been earmarked for personal emoluments, general departmental expenses, as well as the necessary expenses for taking forward various cross-boundary environmental cooperation initiatives.

Hong Kong/Guangdong cross-boundary projects or programmes between 2011-12 and 2013-14

Project/ Programme title	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation (the Framework Agreement (FA))	Expenditure involved	Name of Mainland official and 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?	Details of legal or policy changes involved in the programmes
Pearl River Delta (PRD) Regional Air Quality Management Plan (the Plan)	The Plan includes emission reduction and control measures which target at the main emission sources, including power plants, vehicles and industrial facilities, etc., and regional air quality monitoring. The Plan is related to the FA.	The CBD of the EPD is responsible for coordinating the work under the Plan. Please refer to part (c) of the reply for the relevant expenses.	Guangdong Environmental Protection Department (GDEPD)	The Plan was drawn up in December 2003 and is an on- going cooperation item with Guangdong side.	The Government informed the public of the progress of the Plan in the press releases of the Joint Working Group meetings.	Air pollutant reduction measures are being implemented by the two governments in accordance with the Plan.
Study on post- 2010 emission reduction plan for PRD Region (the Study)	The Study reviewed the current air pollutants emission situation in the PRD Region, estimated emission levels for 2010-2020, considered possible emission reduction measures, and made suggestions on post-2010 emission reduction initiatives for the region. The study was related to the FA.	The EPD conducted the study in- house and did not incur additional expenses.	GDEPD	The study commenced in October 2009 and was completed in November 2012.	Key study findings were publicised in the press releases of the Joint Working Group meetings.	Based on the study findings, the two governments agreed on the air pollutant emission reduction plan for the PRD Region up to 2020.
Cleaner Production Partnership Programme (the Programme)	The Programme encourages and facilitates Hong Kong-owned factories in the PRD Region to adopt cleaner production technologies and practices through funding support	The Programme is implemented with a provision of \$140 million from the Government.	Economic and Information Commission of Guangdong Province and GDEPD	The Programme was launched in April 2008. In light of the environmental benefits brought about by the Programme and the positive	The Government submitted progress reports on the Programme to the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs	-----

	and technology promotion activities, thereby contributing to improving the environment of the region. The Programme is related to the FA.			feedback from the industries, the Government has extended the 5-year Programme by 2 years till 31 March 2015. As at the end of February 2014, the Programme has approved about 2 300 funding projects and organised nearly 340 technology and awareness promotion activities	regularly, and set up a dedicated website with the Hong Kong Productivity Council to promote the Programme.	
The Regional Cooperation Plan on Building a Quality Living Area (the Plan)	The Plan provides the long-term direction of cooperation in the Greater PRD Region, and focuses on five areas of cooperation 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. The Plan is related to the FA.	Total expenditure of the Plan is about \$6.9 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 Plan was completed in June 2012.	The Plan was completed and publicised in June 2012.	The governments of the three sides are making use of the existing cooperation mechanisms, which include the Hong Kong-Guangdong, Guangdong-Macao Cooperation Joint Conferences and their various expert groups to follow up the implementation of the cooperative proposals put forth in the Plan.
First Review of the “Mirs Bay Water Quality Regional Control Strategy” (the Control Strategy)	The objective is to recommend necessary additional measures for protecting the Mirs Bay water environment and meeting the sustainable development objectives. The review is related to the FA.	The expenditure of the review is about \$3.5 million.	Human Settlements and Environment Commission of Shenzhen Municipality (SZHEC)	The Control Strategy was formulated in 2003. The review of the strategy was commenced in October 2008 and completed in September 2011.	The information was publicized in the press releases of the Joint Working Group.	Pollution control measures are being implemented by the two governments in accordance with the Control Strategy.
Pearl River Estuary Regional Water Quality Joint Management Planning Advance Study (the Study)	The objective is to evaluate the pollution load carrying capacity of the Pearl River Estuary under different water quality targets. The Study is related to the FA.	The expenditure of the Study is about \$10 million.	GDEPD	We commenced the Study in February 2010 and aim to complete it by 2014.	The information was publicized in the press releases of the Joint Working Group.	-----

<p>Second Review of the “Deep Bay (Shenzhen Bay) Water Pollution Control Joint Implementation Programme”</p>	<p>The objective is to evaluate the effectiveness of the “Deep Bay Water Pollution Control Joint Implementation Programme” and to draw up necessary additional measures for reducing the pollution level of the Deep Bay Catchment progressively. The review is related to the FA.</p>	<p>The expenditure of the review is about \$9.8 million.</p>	<p>SZHEC</p>	<p>The Joint Implementation Programme was formulated in 2000. The review was commenced in the first half of 2013.</p>	<p>The information was publicized in the press releases of the Joint Working Group.</p>	<p>Pollution control measures are being implemented by the two governments in accordance with the Joint Implementation Programme.</p>
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Hong Kong/Guangdong cross-boundary projects or programmes in 2014-15

Project/ Programme title	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation (the Framework Agreement)	Expenditure involved	Name of Mainland official and 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?	Details of legal or policy changes involved in the programmes
Joint study programme on fine suspended particulates (PM2.5) for the PRD region	The study aims to gain an understanding of the principles regarding formation and control of pollution due to fine suspended particulates in the PRD region. The study programme is related to the FA.	The estimated expenditure of the study on the Hong Kong side is about \$9 million.	GDEPD	The study programme will commence in the second half of 2014.	The Government publicized the study programme through the press releases of the Joint Working Group, and promulgated the commencement of programme in the 2014 Policy Address.	The governments of the three sides will draw up pollution control measures, having regard to the findings of the study to further improve the regional air quality.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB191****(Question Serial No.: 4664)**Head: (44) Environmental Protection DepartmentSubhead(No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Waste (5) Environmental Assessment and Planning (6) Nature ConservationControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.: 159):

Please inform this Committee of:

1. What are the operating and maintenance costs of each landfill in Hong Kong in the past financial year? (Please give a breakdown by landfills including the closed ones.)
2. What are the expected operating and maintenance costs of each landfill in 2014-15?
3. What is the total disposal cost for each tonne of refuse? (Please also provide the costs of procedures such as collection, transfer, disposal at landfills for each tonne of refuse.)

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, CydReply:

1 and 2 The operation costs of the operating and closed landfills in 2013-14 and 2014-15 are listed below:

	Operation costs (\$million)⁽¹⁾	
	2013-14 (Revised Estimate)	2014-15 (Estimate)
Southeast New Territories landfill (operating)	216	206
Northeast New Territories landfill (operating)	154	163
West New Territories landfill (operating)	246	285
Shuen Wan landfill (closed)	4	5
Pillar Point Valley landfill (closed)	15	17
Ma Yau Tong Central, Ma Yau Tong West, Jordan Valley, Ngau Chi Wan and	7	9

Sai Tso Wan landfills (closed)		
Tseung Kwan O Stage I and Tseung Kwan O Stage II/III landfills (closed)	19	20
Ngau Tam Mei, Siu Lang Shui, Ma Tso Lung and Gin Drinkers Bay landfills (closed)	18	21
Total	679	726

Note (1): maintenance costs are included

3. A breakdown of the 2013-14 costs for collection, delivery, transfer and disposal of municipal solid waste (MSW) at landfills is provided below:

	Projected 2013-14 (\$/tonne)
Collection and delivery of MSW*	232
Transfer of MSW	205
Disposal of MSW at landfills	191
Total cost per tonne	628

*Household waste collection and delivery service is mainly provided by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB192

(Question Serial No.: 1150)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 11):

With regard to the promotion of use of electric vehicles (EVs), would the Administration please advise:

1. What is the number of EVs running in Hong Kong currently? What is its percentage in the total number of vehicles?
2. What are the specific details and effectiveness of the existing measures for facilitating the introduction of EVs into the Hong Kong market?
3. What are the Administration's policy objectives of subsidising transport operators to use EVs under the Pilot Green Transport Fund? What is the application situation?
4. What is the progress of achieving the target of developing additional charging facilities in Hong Kong and increasing the number of EVs in the government fleet?

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

Reply:

1. As at the end of February 2014, there were 611 electric vehicles (EVs) (including government vehicles) running in Hong Kong, including 465 private cars (76.1%), 57 motorcycles (9.3%), 35 light goods vehicles (5.7%), 2 medium goods vehicles (0.3%), 5 light buses (0.8%), 41 taxis (6.7%) and 6 buses (1.0%).
2. EVs have no tailpipe emission and can help improve roadside air quality. The Government has been actively promoting the use of EVs, taking the lead in using EVs and working with the private sector to set up charging facilities. Apart from the establishment of the \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund and the proposal of extending the exemption from First Registration Tax with EVs by 3 years, other measures in promoting EVs include:
 - i. Allowing enterprises that have procured environment-friendly vehicles, including EVs, to have 100% profits tax deduction for the capital expenditure on EVs in the first year of procurement.
 - ii. Liaison with EV manufacturers and dealers to encourage them to supply EVs to Hong Kong. As at the end of February 2014, 26 EV models from 7 countries have been approved by the Transport Department for use in Hong Kong.
 - iii. Allocating \$180 million to the franchised bus companies to procure 36 electric buses for trial run.

- iv. The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department has established a dedicated team and a hotline (3757 6222) to help EV owners or buyers to set up EV chargers at strata-titled car parks. In addition, guidelines have been issued on the technical requirements and how to set up chargers at car parks. Letters have been issued to around 7 400 owners' corporations and owner's committees appealing for their support.
- v. Since April 2011, concessions have been granted on gross floor area for new building car parks if they are "EV charging-enabling" to encourage developers to put in place at the building construction stage the infrastructure and conditions, including provision of sufficient power supply and electrical wiring, to facilitate future installation of chargers for EV users.
- vi. Planning guidelines for new buildings have been amended to recommend 30% of car parking spaces to be installed with standard chargers.

As at the end of February 2014, there were 611 EVs running in Hong Kong, while the figure was below 100 at the end of 2010.

- 3. The Government established in March 2011 the \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund to encourage transport operators to test out green innovative transport technologies (including EVs). Successful applicants will be required to share the trial findings with their peers to promote the use of successful technologies. As at the end of February 2014, subsidy has been approved for the trial of 72 EVs, including 24 electric taxis, 11 electric coaches, 2 electric light buses and 35 electric goods vehicles.
- 4. Currently, the Government has installed about 500 standard charging facilities in 18 public car parks administered by the Transport Department and the Government Property Agency. The private sector has also installed more than 500 charging facilities. In addition, Hong Kong now has 10 quick chargers set up at various districts, such that there is one quick charger within around 20 km. The Government will also launch a trial scheme that enables suppliers of electric taxis to install quick chargers at car parks administered by the Transport Department. A total of 100 medium chargers will be provided this year in various districts to shorten charging time. Moreover, we will closely monitor the growth in the number of EVs, and consider the need to further expand the charging network in a timely manner.

Having regard to the operational needs of departments and the supply of EV models in the market, the Government will continue to take the lead in using EVs. As at the end of February 2014, there were 159 electric vehicles in the Government fleet, and 70 additional EVs will be delivered to various departments for use. We are reviewing with relevant departments the number of EVs to be procured in 2014-15.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB193

(Question Serial No.: 1151)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 11):

Would the Administration advise on the progress of the zero-emission bus pilot scheme?

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

Reply:

The Legislative Council has approved \$180 million for the Government to fully subsidize the five franchised bus companies to purchase 36 electric buses for trial run in Hong Kong. The franchised bus companies are progressively tendering the procurement of the electric buses. It is anticipated that the trial will commence successively, starting from end of 2014, and will last for 2 years.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB194

(Question Serial No.: 2415)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (4) Water

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:14):

The construction of major works of Stage 2A of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme (HATS) will be completed within 2014. In this connection, would the Government advise the Committee on the expenditure of the work as compared with HATS Stage 1? Please also advise on the costs of Stage 2B of HATS so far and the estimated expenditure for the entire project of Stage 2B.

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

Reply:

The construction cost for Stage 1 of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme (HATS) was \$8.3 billion. The estimated expenditure for consultancy studies, site investigation and construction of HATS Stage 2A is \$17.5 billion.

Upon completion of HATS Stage 2A, near shore pollution in Victoria Harbour will become our priority water quality problem. We plan to carry out a consultancy study to work out practical options and a programme, to improve the environment of our waterfront areas by tackling near shore pollution. The review of HATS Stage 2B mainly involves how to upgrade the Stonecutters Island Sewage Treatment Works to the secondary sewage treatment level. As at end of March 2014, the total expenditure for commissioning consultancy services is \$9.18 million. The implementation of HATS Stage 2B will be kept under review taking into account the water quality situation and the latest technological development in biological treatment. At present, there is no specific cost estimate of HATS Stage 2B.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB195****(Question Serial No.: 2502)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 84):

This year's Policy Address mentions that the Government will reserve a minimum of \$2.4 billion to enhance the recycling network and promote the sustainable development of the recycling industry. Of the provision, \$1 billion and \$400 million will be used for establishing a Recycling Fund and community green stations in each of the 18 districts respectively. What are the details and estimates of these two projects?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK, Dennis

Reply:

The Government has earmarked \$1 billion to set up a Recycling Fund in support of the sustainable development of the recycling industry. The Steering Committee to Promote the Sustainable Development of the Recycling Industry, chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration, will study the specific uses of the Recycling Fund in depth with a view to formulating effective, equitable and sustainable proposals. Reference will be made to the modes of financial assistance to the recycling industry in other regions and their effectiveness, and the unique situation of different types of recyclables in Hong Kong. We have maintained close liaison with the trade and relevant stakeholders, and a proposal on the specific uses of the fund is expected to be ready in the second half of this year for consultation with the Panel on Environmental Affairs of the Legislative Council.

The Government plans to set up one community green station (CGS) in each of the 18 districts and will provide funding for their operation. The capital works will cost about \$400 million. We will appoint non-profit organisations by way of open tender to operate the CGSs. The specific operating expenditures will depend on the financial proposals submitted by the individual operators in the open tender. The CGSs aim to enhance environmental education and assist in the collection of recyclables of lower market value at community level. However, there will be no treatment (including cleaning and dismantling) at the stations. Therefore, each CGS will have offices for the operators, facilities for environmental education and logistics facilities in support of recyclable collection. At present, the sites for two CGSs have been confirmed and the construction work thereof will commence soon. The latest development for individual CGSs is tabulated below:

District	Latest development	Estimated schedule for commissioning	Estimated capital expenditure
Shatin	Site confirmed	2014	About \$20.5 million
Eastern	Site confirmed	First half of 2015	About \$27.3 million
Others	Preparation work started	To be commissioned by phases	About \$350 million in total

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB196****(Question Serial No.: 2503)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (5) Environmental Assessment and Planning

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question(Member Question No.: 85):

Please set out in a table the details of the following since 2012: (a) applications being processed under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (EIAO), (b) major projects undergoing environmental monitoring and audit, and (c) environmental impact assessment (EIA) with technical advice provided.

(a) Applications being processed under the EIAO

	Project	Date of Application	Applicant	Progress
1				
2				

(b) Major projects undergoing environmental monitoring and audit

	Project	Date of Application	Applicant	Progress	Expected Date of Completion
1					
2					

(c) EIA with technical advice provided

	Project	Date of Application	Applicant	Situation
1				
2				

Asked by:Hon. KWOK, Dennis

Reply:

- (a) Please refer to Annex 1 for the information on applications made under the EIAO since 2012 and currently being processed. In addition, 241 applications have been processed during the same period of time.
- (b) Please refer to Annex 2 for the information on major projects with environmental permits issued since 2012 and currently undergoing environmental monitoring and audit.
- 1
- (c) Please refer to Annex 3 for the information on projects with study briefs issued and on-going EIA studies (i.e. with technical advice given by the Environmental Protection Department) since 2012.

(a) Applications made under the EIAO since 2012 and currently being processed *

	Project Item	Date of Application	Applicant	Status
1	Shatin to Central Link – Tai Wai to Hung Hom Section	19 March 2014	MTR Corporation Limited	Pending Approval of Variation of Environmental Permit
2	Drainage Works at Mai Po	17 March 2014	MTR Corporation Limited	Pending Approval of Permission to Apply Directly for Environmental Permit
3	Proposed Shooting Range at Pillar Point Valley Landfill	17 March 2014	Hong Kong Shooting Association	Pending Approval of Variation of Environmental Permit
4	Cyberport Development-Northern Access Road	17 March 2014	Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Pending Approval of Further Environmental Permit
5	Site Formation and Associated Infrastructural Works for Development of Columbarium, Crematorium and Related Facilities at Sandy Ridge Cemetery - March 2014	13 March 2014	Civil Engineering and Development Department	Pending Approval of Environmental Impact Assessment Study Brief
6	Planning and Engineering Study on Future Land Use at Ex-Lamma Quarry Area at SokKwu Wan, Lamma Island - Feasibility Study	7 March 2014	Civil Engineering and Development Department	Pending Approval of Environmental Impact Assessment Study Brief
7	WestIsland Line	26February 2014	MTR Corporation Limited	Pending Approval of Variation of Environmental Permit
8	Proposed Residential Cum Passive Recreation Development within "Recreation" Zone and "Residential (Group C)" Zone at Various Lots in DD 104, Yuen Long, N.T.	15 January 2014	Capital Chance Ltd	Pending Approval of Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Application of Environmental Permit
9	Construction of Cycle Tracks and the associated Supporting Facilities at Nam Sang Wai, Yuen Long	10 December 2012	New Territories North and West Development Office, Civil Engineering and Development Department	Pending Approval of Environmental Impact Assessment Report
10	Pilot Project for Public - Private Partnership Conservation Scheme, Sha Lo TungValley, Tai Po	5 April 2012	Sha Lo Tung Development Company Ltd	Pending Approval of Environmental Impact Assessment Report

* The 241 applications which have been processed are not included

(b) Major projects with environmental permit issued since 2012 and currently undergoing environmental monitoring and audit

	Project Item	Granted Date of Environmental Permit	Applicant	EM&A Status	Anticipated Project Completion Date
1	Development of Anderson Road Quarry – Po Lam Road – Road Widening	23 December 2013	Civil Engineering and Development Department	Ongoing	2017
2	Construction of Cycle Tracks and the associated Supporting Facilities from Sha Po Tsuen to ShekSheung River	30 May 2013	Civil Engineering and Development Department	Ongoing	2016
3	Natural Terrain Hazard Mitigation Works at Study Area No. 12NW-C/SA1 above Leung Fai Tin along Clear Water Bay Road, Sai Kung	10 April 2013	Civil Engineering and Development Department	Ongoing	2015
4	Decommissioning of the Magazine Site at Victoria Road for West Island Line	15 March 2013	MTR Corporation Limited	Ongoing	2014
5	Construction of a Secondary Boundary Fence and new sections of Primary Boundary Fence and Boundary Patrol Road (Section 3)	10 August 2012	China International Water & Electric Corporation	Ongoing	2016
6	EMSD Hong Kong Workshop at Sheung On Street, Chai Wan	9 August 2012	Electrical and Mechanical Services Department	Ongoing	2017
7	MTR TsimShaTsui Station Carnarvon Subway and Entrances Modification Works	18 July 2012	MTR Corporation Limited	Ongoing	2017
8	Shatin to Central Link - Tai Wai to Hung Hom Section	22 March 2012	MTR Corporation Limited	Ongoing	2018
9	Shatin to Central Link - MongKok East to Hung Hom Section	22 March 2012	MTR Corporation Limited	Ongoing	2018
10	Shatin to Central Link - Hung Hom to Admiralty Section	22 March 2012	MTR Corporation Limited	Ongoing	2021

(c) Projects with study briefs issued and on-going EIA studies (i.e. with technical advice given by the Environmental Protection Department) since 2012

	Project Item	Issue Date of Environmental Impact Assessment Study Brief	Applicant	Status
1	Development of Anderson Road Quarry site - Rock Cavern Developments	10 March 2014	Civil Engineering and Development Department	EIA on-going
2	Development of Anderson Road Quarry site - Road Improvement Works	10 March 2014	Civil Engineering and Development Department	EIA on-going
3	Chai Wan Government Complex and Vehicle Depot	5 March 2014	Architectural Services Department	EIA on-going
4	Desalination Plant at Tseung Kwan O	16 January 2014	Water Supplies Department	EIA on-going
5	Footbridge along Yuen Long Town Nullah between West Rail Long Ping Station and Kau Yuk Road and Related Nullah Modification Works	8 November 2013	Highways Department	EIA on-going
6	Widening of Eastern Section of Lin Ma Hang Road between Tsung Yuen Ha and Lin Ma Hang	5 November 2013	Highways Department	EIA on-going
7	Sewerage Works for Ha Fa Shan, Kiu Tau Village, Wang Lung and Ma Tong	29 August 2013	Drainage Services Department	EIA on-going
8	Drainage Improvement Works in San Tin (Remaining Works)	21 June 2013	Drainage Services Department	EIA on-going
9	Tai Shue Wan Development at Ocean Park	13 June 2013	Ocean Park Corporation	EIA on-going
10	Pyrolysis Plant at EcoPark	8 April 2013	Hong Kong Telford Envirotech Group Limited	EIA on-going
11	Improvement of Yuen Long Town Nullah (Town Centre Section)	3 April 2013	Drainage Services Department	EIA on-going
12	Port Shelter Sewerage, Stage3 – Sewerage Works at Po Toi O	2 April 2013	Drainage Services Department	EIA on-going
13	Site Formation and Associated Infrastructural Works for Development of Columbarium, Crematorium and Related Facilities at Sandy Ridge Cemetery	26 March 2013	Civil Engineering and Development Department	EIA on-going
14	New Wang Tong River Bridge	11 March 2013	Highways Department	EIA on-going
15	Planning and Engineering Study For TuenMun Areas 40 and 46 and the Adjoining Areas	17 December 2012	Civil Engineering and Development Department	EIA on-going
16	Proposed Alternative Comprehensive Development near Lin Barn Tsuen, Yuen Long, N.T.	17 December 2012	Birkenhead Properties and Investments Limited	EIA on-going

	Project Item	Issue Date of Environmental Impact Assessment Study Brief	Applicant	Status
17	Expansion of Sha Tau Kok Sewage Treatment Works	17 December 2012	Drainage Services Department	EIA on-going
18	Alternative Ground Decontamination Works at the Proposed Kennedy Town Comprehensive Development Area Site	28 August 2012	Civil Engineering and Development Department	EIA on-going
19	Tung Chung New Town Development Extension	28 August 2012	Civil Engineering and Development Department	EIA on-going
20	Expansion of Hong Kong International Airport into a Three-Runway System	10 August 2012	Airport Authority Hong Kong	EIA on-going
21	Planning and Engineering Study for TuenMun Areas 40 and 46	21 June 2012	Civil Engineering and Development Department	EIA on-going
22	Development of Anderson Road Quarry	19 June 2012	Civil Engineering and Development Department	EIA on-going
23	Housing Sites in Yuen Long South	18 June 2012	Civil Engineering and Development Department	EIA on-going
24	Proposed Comprehensive Development with Wetland Enhancement (CDWE) at Nam Sang Wai and LutChau	7 May 2012	Nam Sang Wai Development Company Limited; Kleener Investment Limited; Community Wetland Park Foundation Ltd; LutChau Nature Reserve Foundation Limited	EIA on-going
25	Decommissioning of West Portion of the Middle Ash Lagoon at Tsang Tsui, TuenMun	30 April 2012	Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	EIA on-going
26	Flyover from KwaiTsing Interchange Upramp to Kwai Chung Road	11 April 2012	Civil Engineering and Development Department	EIA on-going
27	Effluent Polishing Scheme at Yuen Long Sewage Treatment Works	5 April 2012	Drainage Services Department	EIA on-going
28	Proposed Comprehensive Development At Wing Kei Tsuen, Yuen Long, N.T.	26 January 2012	Planet Universal Limited and Infinity View Limited	EIA on-going
29	Proposed Comprehensive Development at Lin Barn Tsuen, Yuen Long, N. T.	26 January 2012	Birkenhead Properties and Investments Limited	EIA on-going

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB197****(Question Serial No.: 4187)**Head: (44) Environmental Protection DepartmentSubhead(No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) WasteControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.: 212):

Please list the average total cost for processing each tonne of municipal solid waste in 2013-14, including the costs for transferring the waste and disposing of it at landfills.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-kiReply:

A breakdown of the average annual costs for transfer and disposal of municipal solid waste (MSW) at landfills in 2013-14 is provided below:

	Projected 2013-14 (\$/tonne)
Transfer of MSW	205
Disposal of MSW at landfills	191
Total cost per tonne	396

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB198****(Question Serial No.: 4188)**Head: (44) Environmental Protection DepartmentSubhead(No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) WasteControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.: 213):

Please list out the number of plastic shopping bags that has been disposed of at landfills in Hong Kong since the implementation of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-kiReply:

The Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags (Levy Scheme) came into operation on 7 July 2009. As shown in the annual landfill surveys conducted by the Environmental Protection Department, the estimated number of plastic shopping bags disposed of at landfills attributable to regulated retail outlets (2009 to 2012) is as follows:

Findings of the Landfill Surveys on Disposal of Plastic Shopping Bags
(Unit: Estimated Annual Disposal)

	2009		2010		2011		2012	
	Million/ Year	%	Million/ Year	%	Million/ Year	%	Million/ Year	%
<i>Regulated Retail Categories</i>	657.34	14.05%	153.12	3.45%	146.96	3.23%	155.81	2.97%
<i>Other Retail Categories</i>	4 021.19	85.95%	4 290.62	96.55%	4 397.23	96.77%	5 091.61	97.03%
Total	4 678.53	100.00%	4 443.74	100.00%	4 544.19	100.00%	5 247.42	100.00%

Note:

In the first phase of the Levy Scheme, plastic shopping bag means a bag (i) that is made wholly or partly of plastic; and (ii) there is a handle, handle hole, perforated line for tearing out a handle hole, carrying string or strap, or any other carrying device on, or attached to, it.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB199

(Question Serial No.: 4189)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 214):

Please list out the specific estimates and policy objectives of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign in 2014-2015.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

The total estimated expenditure of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign for 2014-15 is about \$16.5 million, of which about \$10 million will be spent on advertisements, about \$5 million on promotional programmes and activities and about \$1.5 million budgeted for technical support and training.

The Environment Bureau unveiled in February 2014 "A Food Waste & Yard Waste Plan for Hong Kong 2014-2022" (the Plan), with a view to reducing the food waste disposal at landfills by 40% by 2022. The Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign is an integral part of the Plan. This territory-wide food waste reduction campaign aims to encourage the entire community, from individuals and households to commercial and industrial sectors, to avoid and reduce food waste generation in Hong Kong. The objectives of the Campaign are to promote public awareness of food waste problems in Hong Kong; co-ordinate efforts within the Government and public institutions to lead by example in food waste reduction; instil behavioural changes at the individual and household levels to help reduce food waste generation in daily life; draw up and promote good practices of food waste reduction at commercial and industrial establishments; and facilitate food donation to charitable organisations from establishments with surplus food.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB200

(Question Serial No.:4190)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Waste
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:215)

Please list the estimate and timetable for taking forward the development of organic waste treatment facilities in 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

We plan to set up a network of organic waste treatment facilities, so that food waste can be transported quickly from the densely populated areas to the facilities that are not too far away for conversion into useful resources, so as to reduce the potential nuisance during the transportation of food waste. The first phase of the Organic Waste Treatment Facilities (OWTF) will be developed in Siu Ho Wan of North Lantau with a daily capacity of 200 tonnes of food waste. We plan to seek funding approval from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council in the second quarter of 2014 and award the "Design, Build and Operate" contract in mid-2014. The facility is expected to be completed for commissioning in 2016. For the second phase of OWTF in Sha Ling of the North District with a daily capacity of 300 tonnes, we have completed the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study and are proceeding with the tender preparation procedures. We will commence the works and EIA Study on the third phase of OWTF as soon as possible and will continue to look for suitable sites for further OWTFs.

The estimated expenditures on the studies and works of the first phase of OWTF for 2014-15 are \$1.5 million and \$212 million respectively, and the estimated expenditures on the studies of the second and third phase of OWTF are \$1.3 million and \$0.5 million respectively.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB201****(Question Serial No.: 4191)**Head: (44) Environmental Protection DepartmentSubhead(No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) WasteControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.: 216):

Please advise on the effectiveness of glass recycling work and the government expenditure involved in the past five years, the specific work targets in 2014-15 and the estimated expenditure related to glass recycling.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-kiReply:

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) encourages the public to recycle glass bottles through various initiatives, including the recycling programmes funded by the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) and those self-financed by the trades. Apart from publicity and technical support, the EPD also provides logistics support and organizes collection programmes at schools and housing estates. The relevant work is carried out by the EPD's staff, which is part of the work of the Department. In the past five years, there was an increase in both the expenditure of relevant recycling initiatives under the ECF and the EPD and the quantity of glass bottles recovered. Details are tabulated below:

Year	Expenditure (\$million)	Quantity of glass bottles recovered (tonne)
2009	0.23	2 800
2010	0.80	4 500
2011	1.41	4 800
2012	2.94	7 000
2013	7.20	Under compilation

The EPD will continue to promote and support various recycling initiatives to gain experience for the implementation of the mandatory producer responsibility scheme on glass beverage bottles. In this connection, the EPD reported the progress and the work plan of the preparatory work to the Panel on Environmental Affairs in November 2013. Main focus of the work in the coming year is to further extend the glass bottle collection network. We plan to increase the number of residential collection points from currently 321 to about 1 000 by the end of 2014. The estimated expenditure of the work on glass recycling for 2014-15 is about \$14.4 million.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB202****(Question Serial No.: 4192)**Head: (44) Environmental Protection DepartmentSubhead(No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) WasteControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.: 217):

Please advise on the estimated expenditure for setting up community green stations (CGSs) in 2014-2015, as well as the specific timetable for setting up the CGSs.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-kiReply:

The Government plans to set up one community green station (CGS) in each of the 18 districts and will provide funding to non-profit organisations for their operation. The capital works will cost about \$400 million. The latest development for each of the CGSs is tabulated below:

District	Latest development	Estimated schedule for commissioning	Estimated capital expenditure
Shatin	Site confirmed	2014	\$20.5 million
Eastern	Site confirmed	First half of 2015	\$27.3 million
Others	Preparation work started	To be commissioned by phases	About \$350 million in total

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB203****(Question Serial No.: 4193)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:218):

According to the air pollution indices recorded at roadside monitoring stations, the number of days with air pollution index (API) exceeding 100 was 141 in 2010, 172 in 2011, 142 in 2012 and 133 in 2013. Please advise on the reasons for the continuing deterioration of air quality in Hong Kong and the estimated expenditure for improving air quality and reducing air pollution in 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

We have been working to reduce emissions from motor vehicles, and roadside air quality has started to improve. As compared with 2006, the concentrations of sulphur dioxide and respirable suspended particulates recorded at roadside air quality monitoring stations in 2013 were reduced by 48% and 24% respectively. However, the concentration of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) at the roadside increased by 25% in the same period, leading to a relatively high number of days with API exceeding 100 at roadside monitoring stations.

To further improve roadside air quality and alleviate the roadside NO₂ problem, we are implementing a number of new measures to further reduce vehicle emissions. The main ones include adopting an incentive-cum-regulatory approach to phase out some 82 000 pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles (including goods vehicles, light buses and non-franchised buses) by 2020; subsidising franchised bus companies to try out hybrid and electric buses; retrofitting Euro II and III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices; strengthening the emission control of petrol and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicles, etc. Besides, we will continue to work with Guangdong authorities to reduce emissions in the region so as to reduce the regional ozone level and the formation of NO₂ due to chemical reaction between ozone and vehicle emissions. These measures will help improve roadside air quality.

In 2014-15, the estimated financial provision for the "Air programme" of the Environmental Protection Department is \$4,056.9 million. This is mainly due to the implementation of three non-recurrent programmes on improving roadside air quality with details as follows:

Non-recurrent programme	Estimated provision for 2014-15
Ex-gratia payment for phasing out pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles by 2020	\$3,360 million
Trial of electric buses by franchised bus companies	\$130 million
Retrofitting Euro II and III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices	\$20 million

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB204****(Question Serial No.: 4194)**Head: (44) Environmental Protection DepartmentSubhead(No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (2) AirControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.: 219):

What are the reasons for the significant increase of 256.5% in the estimated expenditure for 2014-15 over the revised estimate for last year? Please list out details of uses of the estimate for 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-kiReply:

The estimated financial provision under the Air Programme of the Environmental Protection Department in 2014-15 is \$4.0569 billion, an increase of \$2.9188 billion as compared to the revised estimate for 2013-14. The increased provision is mainly due to the implementation of 3 non-recurrent programmes on improving roadside air quality. The details are as follows:

Non-recurrent Programme	Revised Estimate for 2013-14	Estimated Provision for 2014-15
Ex-gratia payment for phasing out pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles by 2020	\$280 million	\$3.36 billion
Trial of electric buses by franchised bus companies	\$20 million	\$130 million
Retrofitting Euro II & Euro III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices to reduce their emissions	\$6 million	\$20 million

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB205

(Question Serial No.:4195)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (4) Water

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:220):

The consultancy study on underground biological treatment works of Stage 2B of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme (HATS) has been substantially completed in 2014. Please advise on the total expenditure involved; whether works under Stage 2B of HATS will commence as scheduled in 2014 and the relevant expenditure estimate.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

The review of Harbour Area Treatment Scheme (HATS) Stage 2B mainly involves how to upgrade the Stonecutters Island Sewage Treatment Works to the secondary sewage treatment level. As at end of March 2014, the total expenditure for commissioning consultancy services is 9.18 million.

Following completion of the major works of HATS Stage 2A by the end of 2014, the water quality of Victoria Harbour will further improve. Near shore pollution in Victoria Harbour will become our priority water quality problem. We plan to first carry out a consultancy study to work out practical options and a programme, to improve the environment of our popular waterfront areas by tackling near shore pollution. The implementation of HATS Stage 2B will be kept under review taking into account the water quality situation and the latest technological development in biological treatment. At present, there is no specific cost estimate of HATS Stage 2B.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB206

(Question Serial No.: 4208)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:233):

It is mentioned in the Budget Speech that the Government will invest about \$30 billion in waste recycling and treatment facilities. What are the details? Will the Government carry out public consultation on the project in 2014-15 and what are the timetable and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

It is mentioned in the Budget Speech that the Government will invest about \$30 billion in waste recycling and treatment facilities. The details of the facilities, the estimated expenditure for 2014-15 and the timetable for public consultation in 2014-15 are shown in the table below:

Project	Estimated expenditure (at money-of-the-day price) (\$ million)	Anticipated completion/ commissioning date	Estimated expenditure for 2014-15 (\$ million)	Timetable for public consultation in 2014-15
Southeast New Territories landfill extension	1,990	Late 2016	-	For the three landfill extension projects, we will continue to attend meetings of the District Councils, rural committees and working groups etc., maintain close communication with the local community and other stakeholders, and proactively address their concerns and demands. Apart from these, in order to strengthen communication among the District Councils, local community and other stakeholders with the Environmental Protection Department on the management of waste disposal facilities in the districts and other related matters, we have set up a District Liaison Group for the Environmental Planning and Management of Waste Facilities (District Liaison Group) in each of Tuen Mun/Yuen Long, Sai Kung and the North District, with a view to enhancing communication with the local community and monitoring the management and operations of the waste disposal facilities within the districts. The first meeting of the District Liaison Group of Tuen Mun/Yuen Long was held on 26 February 2014 in which the future work direction of the District Liaison Group was set. The District Liaison Group of Sai Kung and North district will start to work as soon as possible.
Northeast New Territories landfill extension	7,320	2017	-	
West New Territories landfill extension (consultants' fees and investigations)	40	Late 2014 ⁽¹⁾	1.2	
Integrated waste management facilities, phase 1	18,250	2021/22	-	Subject to the progress of the project, we will, in due course, continue to attend meetings of the District Councils, rural committees and working groups, maintain close communication with the local community and other stakeholders and address the concerns and aspirations of the community actively. We are going to set up a district liaison group for the Island District to better liaise with the local community and monitor the planning and operation of waste management facilities in the district.
Development of waste electrical and	540	Late 2016/early 2017	56.3	We conducted the public consultation on the producer responsibility scheme

Project	Estimated expenditure (at money-of-the-day price) (\$ million)	Anticipated completion/ commissioning date	Estimated expenditure for 2014-15 (\$ million)	Timetable for public consultation in 2014-15
electronic equipment (WEEE) treatment and recycling facility				on WEEE in 2010.
Organic waste treatment facilities phase 1	1,530	2016	212	Subject to the progress of the project, we will, in due course, continue to attend meetings of the District Councils and working groups, maintain close communication with the local community and other stakeholders and address the concerns and aspirations of the community actively.
Community green stations (CGSs) in the 18 districts	400	By phases from 2014	105	The sites of the CGSs in Shatin and Eastern District have been confirmed, during which the District Councils have been consulted. Site search for other districts is in progress. Subject to the progress of site search, we will consult the District Councils in due course.
Total	30,070		374.5	

Note (1): This refers to the date of commencement of the consultancy study and the specific arrangement of the extension will be finalized in the consultancy study.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB207

(Question Serial No.: 4209)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 234):

It is mentioned in the Budget Speech that the Government is pressing ahead with the development of organic waste treatment facilities, community green stations, and waste electrical and electronic equipment processing facilities. What are the details and expenditure involved? Will the Government conduct public consultation on the above initiatives in 2014-15? What are the timetable and budget involved?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

Regarding the three infrastructural projects mentioned in the question, our work plans are as follows:

(1) Organic Waste Treatment Facilities (OWTF)

We plan to set up a network of organic waste treatment facilities, transporting food waste from the densely populated areas to the facilities quickly for conversion into useful resources, so as to reduce the potential nuisance during the transportation of food waste. The first phase of OWTF will be developed in Siu Ho Wan of North Lantau with a daily capacity of 200 tonnes of food waste. We plan to seek funding approval from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council (LegCo FC) in the second quarter of 2014 and award the "Design, Build and Operate" (DBO) contract in mid-2014. The facility is expected to be completed for commissioning in 2016. For the second phase of OWTF in Sha Ling of the North District with a daily capacity of 300 tonnes, we have completed the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study and are proceeding with the preliminary preparation procedures. We will commence the works and EIA Study on the third phase of OWTF as soon as possible and will continue to look for suitable sites for further development of OWTFs.

The estimated expenditures on the studies and works of the first phase of OWTF for 2014-15 are \$1.5 million and \$212 million respectively, and the estimated expenditures on the studies of the second and third phase of OWTF are \$1.3 million and \$0.5 million respectively.

(2) Community Green Stations (CGSs)

The Government plans to set up one CGS in each of the 18 districts and will provide funding to non-profit organisations for their operation. The capital works will cost about \$400 million. The operating expenditure for individual CGSs will depend on the results of the tender exercise. At present, the sites of the CGSs in Shatin and Eastern districts have been confirmed, and the District Councils concerned have been consulted. We are still conducting site search for other CGSs, and will consult the District Councils in due course. The latest development for individual CGSs is tabulated below:

District	Proposed Site	Progress of Project (Estimated)	Estimated Capital Expenditure
Shatin	Junction of On Ping Street and On Sum Street, Shek Mun	To be set up in 2014	\$20.5 million
Eastern	Between Oi Shun Road and Hing Man Street, Shau Kei Wan, underneath the Island Eastern Corridor	To be set up in the first half of 2015	\$27.3 million
Others	Site search in progress	To be commissioned by phases	About \$350 million in total

(3) Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Treatment Facility

We plan to develop a modern WEEE treatment and recycling facility at the EcoPark in Tuen Mun, with a designed capacity of 30 000 tonnes of WEEE per annum in support of the future mandatory producer responsibility scheme (PRS) which will cover television sets, refrigerators, washing machines, air conditioners and computer products. The estimated expenditure of the project is \$536.1 million. The estimated expenditure of \$56.3 million for 2014-15 is mainly for the upfront costs of the project, including the design and engineering expenses, etc. The Environmental Protection Department plans to seek funding approval from the LegCo FC in mid-2014 and award the DBO contract in the second half of 2014. The facility is expected to be completed for commissioning in late 2016/early 2017. We completed a public consultation on the PRS on WEEE in 2010.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB208****(Question Serial No.: 4210)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:235):

It is mentioned in the Budget Speech that the Government is pursuing measures to support the long-term and sustainable development of the recycling industry. What are the details and expenditure involved? Will the Government carry out public consultation on these measures in 2014-15 and what are the timetable and estimate involved?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

The Chief Executive announced in the 2014 Policy Address that a Recycling Fund would be set up with \$1 billion earmarked to support the sustainable development of the recycling industry. The Steering Committee to Promote the Sustainable Development of the Recycling Industry (the Steering Committee), chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration, will study in depth the specific uses of the fund in consultation with the stakeholders. Moreover, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is working with the Occupational Safety and Health Council on the provision of tailor-made courses for the workforce of the recycling industry to upgrade the safety and environmental standards of recycling operations. We will also consult the stakeholders on the development of a certification scheme for recyclers.

Other measures to promote recycling include stepping up public education and publicity, improving the source separation of waste and collection network, setting up Community Green Stations, facilitating infrastructural and land support for recycling operations (including short-term tenancy sites and berths in Public Cargo Working Areas), etc. In respect of green procurement, EPD will devote more resources to monitor market development and expand the lists and specifications of green products for use by bureaux and departments. We will also step up promotion on the use of biodiesel in both the public and private sectors.

A total of 22 time-limited non-directorate civil service posts will be created in EPD in 2014-15 to co-ordinate policy development and implementation of initiatives arising from the deliberation of the Steering Committee. The relevant supernumerary posts have a term of 3 years and the notional annual salary cost at mid-point is \$11,227,000. In addition, subject to approval of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council (LegCo), a supernumerary Assistant Director post will also be created in EPD; the additional notional annual salary cost at mid-point will be \$1,739,000.

For community green stations (CGSs), the capital works will cost about \$400 million. We will appoint non-profit organisations by way of open tender to operate the CGSs. The specific operating expenditures will depend on the financial proposals submitted by the individual operators in the open tender. The latest development for each of the CGSs is tabulated below:

District	Proposed Site	Site Area	Estimated schedule for commissioning	Estimated Capital Expenditure
Shatin	Junction of On Ping Street and On Sum Street, Shek Mun	About 1 600 m ²	2014	\$20.5 million
Eastern	Between Oi Shun Road and Hing Man Street, Shau Kei Wan, underneath the Island Eastern Corridor	About 3 000 m ²	First half of 2015	\$27.3 million
Others	(Preparation work started)		To be commissioned by phases	About \$350 million in total

Staff from EPD and the Architectural Services Department are responsible for the work of setting up the CGSs, which is part of the work undertaken by the departments. Separately, EPD would create 16 long-term posts and 5 short-term posts lasting for 3 years for the implementation of this initiative.

We will continue to maintain close liaison with the trade and relevant stakeholders on various support initiatives, and consult the LegCo Panel on Environmental Affairs at suitable junctures. Currently, we have no plan to conduct a public consultation exercise on the specific measures.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB209

(Question Serial No.: 4896)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 209):

Please provide the number of electric vehicles (EVs) currently in Hong Kong, the percentage of EVs in the government fleet, and the estimated expenditure on expanding the government fleet of EVs in 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

As at the end of February 2014, there were 611 electric vehicles (EVs) running in Hong Kong, 159 of which were owned by government departments, accounting for about 2.5% of the government fleet. The Government Logistics Department has ordered another 70 EVs, which will be delivered in 2014. By then, the number of EVs in the government fleet will increase to 229, representing about 3.6% of the fleet. In 2014-15, the Government will procure more EVs, and we are reviewing with relevant departments on the number of EVs to be procured, having regard to the supply of various types of EVs in the market and the operational needs of the departments.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB210

(Question Serial No.: 4897)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 210):

Please advise on the number of chargers for electric vehicles in Hong Kong currently, the specific work targets set by the Administration in promoting the setting up of charging infrastructure and the estimated expenditure so involved in 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

At present, the Government has installed 500 standard charging facilities in 18 car parks administered by the Transport Department and the Government Property Agency. The commercial sector has also installed over 500 charging facilities. In addition, 10 quick chargers have been set up at various locations in Hong Kong, such that there is one quick charger within around 20 km. In 2014-15, we will set up an additional 100 medium chargers to shorten charging time of electric vehicles. We will also launch a pilot scheme to enable suppliers of electric taxis to install quick chargers at car parks administered by the Transport Department. The dedicated support team of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department will continue to help in encouraging the commercial sector, property developers, property management companies and car park operators to install charging facilities for provision of charging services to electric vehicles. The estimated expenditure for the above work is about \$11.4 million.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB211****(Question Serial No. 0202)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): Not specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 2):

Regarding "to continue to monitor the operation of the EcoPark in Tuen Mun Area 38", would the Administration provide the following information:

1. Please provide information on the tenants of the EcoPark in the following table.

Tenant	Date of commencing operations	Number of staff	Throughput in the past three years	Waste type	Recycled Materials/ Products	Area and rent of land

2. What is the current situation of the remaining six lots in Phase 2 of the EcoPark? When will they be expected to start operations? What is their expected annual throughput?
3. Has the Administration planned to develop Phase 3 of the EcoPark? If yes, what are the details and the associated expenditure? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

1. The information requested is summarized below.

Phase 1 Tenants

Tenants	Date of Commencing Operation	No. of Staff	2011-2013 Throughput (tonnes)	Waste Types	Recycled Materials/ Products	Monthly Rentals [Area]
Champway Technology Ltd	April 2010	19	27 300	Waste cooking oil	Biodiesel	\$50,000 [6 000m ²]
Shiu Wing Metal Ltd	May 2010	12	72 800	Waste metals	Sorted & sheared scrap metals	\$200,000 [9 500m ²]
Hong Kong Hung Wai Wooden Board Company	May 2010	10	2 400*	Waste wood	Wood fuel pellets	\$53,250 [5 000m ²]

Tenants	Date of Commencing Operation	No. of Staff	2011-2013 Throughput (tonnes)	Waste Types	Recycled Materials/ Products	Monthly Rentals [Area]
Li Tong Group	September 2010	27	2 400	Waste computer equipment	Dismantled electronic components	\$85,000 [6 500m ²]
Hong Kong Telford Envirotech Group Ltd	November 2010	8	6 300	Waste plastics	Baled plastics, plastic flakes and chips	\$80 000 [5 000m ²]
Cosmos Star Holdings Company Ltd	Since the tenant cannot commission in accordance with the lease agreement, the Government has initiated the legal process for termination of the lease agreement.			Waste batteries	Dismantled battery components	\$41,000 [4 000m ²]

* Operation was suspended from October 2011 to June 2013 to adjust the business model. The tenant has resumed the operation in July 2013.

Phase 2 Tenants (managed by non-profit making organizations*)

Tenants	Date of Commencing Operation	No. of Staff	2011-2013 Throughput (tonnes)	Waste Types	Recycled Materials/ Products	Quarterly Rentals [Area]
Yan Oi Tong EcoPark Plastic Resources Recycling Centre	March 2010	33	5 100	Waste plastics	Plastic flakes, plastic pellets and baled plastics	\$1 [9 000m ²]
St James' Settlement "WEEE GO GREEN"	October 2010	21	840	Waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE)	Refurbished electrical and electronic equipment, and dismantled components	\$1 [5 000m ²]

* With funding support from the Environment and Conservation Fund

2. The latest situation of the new Phase 2 tenants is summarized below.

Tenants	Waste Types	Recycled Materials/ Products	Anticipated Date of Commencing Operation	Anticipated Yearly Throughput (tonnes)
Chung Yue Steel Group Company Limited*	Waste metals	Sorted & sheared scrap metals	2 nd quarter of 2014	54 000
SSK Metal Limited*	Waste batteries	Dismantled battery components	2015	3 600
K. Wah Construction Products Ltd*	Construction & demolition (C&D) materials and waste glass	Recycled glass concrete blocks	2 nd quarter of 2014	C&D materials: 42 000 Waste glass: 2 196

E. Tech Management (HK) Ltd*	WEEE	Metals, plastic & other recyclable materials	4 th quarter of 2014	5 400
On Fat Lung Electrical & Metal Co., Ltd*	Waste rubber tyres	Recycled playground mat	4 th quarter of 2014	2 280
South China Reborn Resources (Zhongshan) Company Limited**	Food waste	Animal feed	3 rd quarter of 2014	33 600

* Lease agreements commenced on 1 January 2012

** Lease agreement commenced on 1 January 2013

3. At present, all available lots in the EcoPark have been let and the tenants are at different stages of planning, constructing, testing or commissioning of their plants and operations. The Administration will continue to monitor the operation of the EcoPark and provide assistance to the tenants to help them develop their business. We would explore the future direction of the EcoPark development in the light of the experience of these operations.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB212****(Question Serial No.: 0203)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.3):

Regarding the Recycling Fund, would the Administration advise on the following:

1. In the past five years, what was the contribution of the environmental industry in Hong Kong to the local economy? What were the relevant numbers of people employed?
2. In the past five years, what were the types of recyclables collected? What were the quantities of recyclables processed locally and bundled up for export respectively?
3. What is the Administration's timetable for setting up the Recycling Fund, and what is the progress so far? What organisations or individuals have been consulted during the process?
4. What are the projects to be subsidized and the approach adopted under the Recycling Fund? What is the related expenditure?
5. What results does the Administration expect the Recycling Fund to achieve? How many jobs will be created for the environmental industry?
6. How will the Administration ensure that the Recycling Fund can continue to operate in the long run? Will injection be made into the Fund annually, or will fees collected under the relevant environmental policies, such as the Producer Responsibilities Schemes or Municipal Solid Waste Charging Scheme, be incorporated into the Fund?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

1. According to the statistics published by the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD), the economic contribution (in terms of value added) and employment in respect of the environmental industries are as follows:

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Value added at current prices (\$ million) ⁽¹⁾	4,178	4,697	5,603	6,515	6,750
Percentage share in GDP ⁽²⁾	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Employment ⁽³⁾	31 270	32 410	36 080	38 350	39 520
Percentage share in total employment ⁽⁴⁾	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.1

Remarks:

1. Refers to value added of the environmental industries in the private sector.
2. The contribution of the environmental industries in the private sector is compiled as a percentage share in nominal GDP valued at basic prices. The GDP figure in the denominator is slightly different from the commonly used one, i.e. valued at current market prices, in which taxes on products are included.
3. Refers to persons engaged in the environmental industries in the private sector.
4. Figures of total employment refer to Composite Employment Estimates.

Environmental industries included in the above statistics mainly include sewerage and waste management, environmental engineering and consultancy services as well as import/export and wholesale trading of waste and scrap.

2. The quantities of recovered recyclable materials which were recycled locally and exported for recycling in 2008-12 are listed below by type:

Year (Unit: thousand tonnes)	2008		2009		2010		2011		2012	
	Export	Local	Export	Local	Export	Local	Export	Local	Export	Local
Paper	1 091	0	1 027	0	1 195	0	1 278	0	1 162	0
Plastics	1 021	2	1 208	3	1 573	4	839	4	308	9
Ferrous metals	793	0	733	0	566	0	667	0	493	7
Non-ferrous metals	140	0	101	0	151	4	106	10	77	1
Glass	0	1	0	3	0	5	0	5	0	18
Rubber tyres	0	7	0	9	0	10	0	15	0	12
Textiles	10	0	16	1	20	0	11	0	4	0
Wood	17	0	16	1	16	0	18	0	8	1
Electrical and electronic equipment	46	13	50	14	51	10	56	11	50	6
Food waste	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	1	0	7
Sub-total	3 118	24	3 151	30	3 571	32	2 975	44	2 102	60
Total quantity of recovered recyclable materials	3 143		3 181		3 603		3 019		2 163	

Remarks:

1. Relevant data for 2013 are still being compiled.
2. The quantity of ferrous metals excludes those recovered from construction, renovation and demolition activities, etc.
3. The quantity of rubber tyres includes reuse, retreading and recycling of vehicle tyres and retreading of aircraft tyres in Hong Kong.
4. The quantity of food waste for 2011 refers to food waste recycled at the Environmental Protection Department's pilot composting facility at Kowloon Bay. The quantity of food waste for 2012 includes the food waste recovered by local food waste recyclers and the food waste recycled at the pilot composting facility at Kowloon Bay.
5. The figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.
6. The figures on export for recycling are based on the record of the C&SD.
7. N/A refers to no data available.

- 3-6. To promote the sustainable development of the recycling industry, the Government has earmarked \$1 billion to set up a Recycling Fund. The Steering Committee to Promote the Sustainable Development of the Recycling Industry, chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration, will study the specific uses of the Recycling Fund in depth with a view to formulating effective, equitable and sustainable proposals. Reference will be made to the modes of financial assistance to the recycling industry in other regions and their effectiveness, and the unique situation of different types of recyclables in Hong Kong. We have maintained close liaison with the trade and relevant stakeholders, and a proposal on the specific uses of the fund is expected to be ready in the second half of this year for consultation with the Panel on Environmental Affairs of the Legislative Council.

After the Recycling Fund has come into operation, timely reviews will be conducted on its effectiveness, including the effects on raising the industry's standards of operation and the quantity and quality of recyclables treated in Hong Kong. We will also consider the way forward, including injection arrangement, etc., with regard to the operation and effectiveness of the fund.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB213****(Question Serial No.: 1138)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 4):

Regarding the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign, would the Administration please provide the following information:

1. What were the respective quantities of domestic and commercial & industrial food waste in each of the past five years, and what were their percentages in the waste intake of the landfills in Hong Kong?
2. By nature of organizations, what is the number of signatories to the Food Wise Charter? How can the Administration ensure that the signatories will fulfill their pledge?
3. Since the launch of the Food Wise Campaign, how many activities have been organized to promote the message of food waste reduction? Please set out in detail the dates, purposes, targets, numbers of participants and the relevant expenditures of the activities. Has the Administration reviewed the effectiveness of the activities? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

1) The amount of domestic and commercial & industrial food waste, as well as their percentage in the municipal solid waste (MSW) intake at the landfills in the past five years are tabulated below:

	2008		2009		2010		2011		2012	
	Domestic	Commercial and Industrial	Domestic	Commercial and Industrial	Domestic	Commercial and Industrial	Domestic	Commercial and Industrial	Domestic	Commercial and Industrial
Amount of food waste (Unit: tonnes per day)	2 148	847	2 316	964	2 397	840	2 528	1 056	2 528	809
Percentage in the MSW	23.8%	9.4%	25.8%	10.8%	26.3%	9.2%	28.1%	11.7%	27.2%	8.7%

Note: The compilation of the 2013 figures is in progress and not yet available.

2) As at 15 February 2014, 330 organisations have signed the Food Wise Charter. 236 of them (about 72%) are from the commercial and industrial sector, 51 of them (about 15%) are from the education sector, and 43 of them (about 13%) are government departments, public organisations and non-profit making organisations, etc. The updated list of the Charter signees can be viewed at

<http://www.foodwisehk.gov.hk/pdf/FoodWiseCharterSignatoryList.pdf>. All the signees pledged to reducing food waste. In order to facilitate our understanding on the efforts and arrangements of the organisations on reducing food waste, an implementation progress form has been sent to all the signees to collect their feedback.

3) The Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign (the Campaign) since its launching, has carried out promotional and public education activities through various media, as well as implemented a number of major schemes and activities as tabulated below.

Major Schemes and Activities	Time	Location	No. of Participants
Advertising for the Campaign (including those in public transport system, printed materials and electronic platform, etc.)	From May 2013 till now	Not Applicable	
Drawing up and promoting good practices of food waste reduction in cooperation with the relevant trades and sectors	From May 2013 till now	Not Applicable	
Launching the Food Wise Charter Scheme	From May 2013 till now	Not Applicable	
Launching the Food Wise Hong Kong Ambassador Scheme	From May 2013 till now	About 450	
Meeting with the relevant sectors including women groups and the catering industry to conduct briefings and encourage participation	From December 2012 till now	Central Government Offices	About 180 in total
Establishing a supporting website for the Campaign, organising food waste reduction training workshops for launching the Food Wise Hong Kong Ambassador Scheme and participation by the relevant sectors and interested parties	So far 10 training workshops have been organized on the following dates respectively: 21 May, 3 & 26 June, 30 September, 9 & 11 October, 15 & 20 November, 6 December 2013 and 17 January 2014. The website of Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign came into operation on 18 May 2013	Mostly in the Hong Kong Productivity Council Building in Kowloon Tong, and also organised twice in Tuen Mun and Kwun Tong respectively.	Ranged from dozens to about 100 on each occasion
Organising publicity activities to promote the Food Wise message, including: - Launch ceremony of the Campaign - Food Wise Hong Kong Steering Committee First Anniversary Ceremony/Food Wise Caroling	18 May 2013 17 December 2013	Olympian City Shopping Mall Discovery Park Shopping Centre	About 250 About 120

As at end of March 2014, the expenditure spent on advertising was \$10.4 million and the total expenditure on the other major schemes and activities listed in the above table was \$3.5 million.

Since the launch of the Campaign, we have promoted a food wise and waste less culture and encouraged behavioural change to reduce food waste in the community through various schemes and activities.. The "Big Waster" symbolising food wastage in the Campaign is gradually rooting in the general public. As at 15 February 2014, 330 organisations have signed the Food Wise Charter and are committed to reducing food waste, and some 450 Food Wise Hong Kong Ambassadors have taken part in the food waste reduction training workshops to prepare themselves for promotion of Food Wise message. We will keep in view the effectiveness of the Campaign.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB214

(Question Serial No.: 1139)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 5):

On the extension of the 3 strategic landfills, would the Government provide the following information:

- (a) What are the area, filling capacity, waste treatment capacity (by waste type) and the anticipated year of exhaustion of the 3 existing strategic landfills?
- (b) What are the details of the extension project, including the extension area, extension capacity, anticipated life span and the latest estimated capital cost?
- (c) What are the corresponding measures of the Administration to address local views and demands? What is the related expenditure? Has the Administration provided community or infrastructural facilities as compensation for residents of the affected areas? If yes, what are the details and related expenditure? If no, what are the reasons?
- (d) Has the Administration considered reducing the scale of the extension and carrying out the extension in phases, especially at the West New Territories Landfill? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

1. The area, filling capacity, amount of waste intake (by waste type) and the anticipated year of exhaustion of the 3 existing strategic landfills are set out in the table below:

	Area	Design Filling Capacity	Average Daily Intake (in 2012)	Anticipated Year of Exhaustion
	(Unit: hectares)	(Unit:Mm ³)	(Unit: tonnes/day)	
South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill	100	43	Municipal Solid Waste:2,080 Construction Waste:2,320 Other Waste:400	2015
North East New Territories (NENT) Landfill	61	35	Municipal Solid Waste:1,940 Construction Waste:520 Other Waste:220	2016/17
West New Territories (WENT) Landfill	110	61	Municipal Solid Waste:5,260 Construction Waste:600 Other Waste:500	2019
Total	271	139	Municipal Solid Waste:9,280 Construction Waste:3,440 Other Waste:1,120	--

2. The area of extension, estimated capacity, estimated life span and latest estimated capital cost of the landfill extension projects are set out in the table below:

Landfill Extension	Proposed Area of Extension (hectares)	Estimated Capacity (Mm ³)	Estimated Life Span (years)	Latest Estimated Capital Cost (at September 2013 price level) (\$ Million)
SENT Landfill	13	6.5	6	1,412
NENT Landfill	70	19	10	4,442
WENT Landfill	200	81	15	10,547
Total	283	106.5	--	16,401

3. We have been pro-active in responding to comments and requests from local districts. Firstly, apart from the implementation of various improvement measures to prevent odour and other environmental nuisances caused by landfills, we have also further taken the following enhancement measures over the past few months. They include: provision of subsidy for private refuse collection vehicle (RCV) owners to install metal tailgate cover and a wastewater sump tank, control of RCVs through enactment of legislation, and the stepping up of monitoring through enforcement by joint actions of the relevant government departments against RCVs found to be causing hygiene, overloading, flytipping or other

problems .

In addition, we are devoted to environmental improvement of local communities, including greening or provision of community facilities, water supply to remote villages and irrigation water supply to farmlands, etc., as well as making a better use of restored landfills for recreational, environmental and other community uses.

In order to strengthen communication with District Councils, local community and other stakeholders with the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) on the waste disposal facilities in the districts and other related issues, we have set up a District Liaison Group for the Environmental Planning and Management of Waste Facilities in each of Tuen Mun/Yuen Long, Sai Kung and the North District, with a view to enhancing communication with the local community and monitoring the management and operations of the waste disposal facilities within the districts.

To complement with the implementation of the three landfill extensions, EPD will follow up on the waste diversion, enhance the communication with local communities and regulate the feature standard of RCV. Starting from 2014, there will be an addition of 16 short-term posts for 2 years. We also obtained funding approval of \$18.8M from the Finance Committee of Legislative Council on 15 November 2013 for the implementation of Subsidy Scheme for Retrofitting Refuse Collection Vehicles.

4. Landfills with modern management are essential facilities in waste treatment. Given the scarcity in land resources of Hong Kong and the large amount of waste being disposed of every day, even with the commissioning of other waste treatment facilities in future, landfills are still required for disposal of waste that cannot be incinerated as well as incineration ash.

As regards the proposed extension area of the WENT Landfill extension project, we will, in response to the concern of the local community, proactively consider extensive planting and setting priority in greening works along the boundary of the extension nearest to the local residents. This would also result in the reduction in landfilling area in future. We will also continue to discuss with the relevant District Councils.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB215****(Question Serial No.: 2558)**Head: (44) Environmental Protection DepartmentSubhead(No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) WasteControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.: 7):

It is mentioned in the Budget Speech that the Government will “invest about \$30 billion in waste recycling and treatment facilities”. In this connection, would the Government provide the following information:

1. Please provide details of the facilities in the following table:

Project	Use	Specific location	Expected average daily handling capacity	Expected year of commencement	Latest estimated project cost	Increase over the initial estimate

2. Is the \$30 billion all included in the estimate of expenditure for this year? If no, please list in detail the years in which provisions are expected to be allocated to the works.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

1. The Government will invest about \$30 billion in waste recycling and treatment facilities. The details of the facilities are shown in the table below:

Project	Use	Specific location	Expected average daily handling capacity (tonnes)	Expected year of commencement	Latest estimated project cost (\$ million)	Increase over the initial estimate (in money-of-the-day (MOD) prices) (\$ million)
Southeast New Territories (SENT) landfill extension	Disposal of solid waste (construction waste only)	Tseung Kwan O	approximately 10 000 ⁽¹⁾ in total (2017)	Late 2016	1,990	110 ⁽²⁾
Northeast New Territories (NENT) landfill extension	Disposal of solid waste	Ta Kwu Ling, New Territories		2017	7,320	290 ⁽³⁾
West New	Disposal of solid waste	Nim Wan,		Late 2014 ⁽⁴⁾	40	- ⁽³⁾

Project	Use	Specific location	Expected average daily handling capacity (tonnes)	Expected year of commencement	Latest estimated project cost (\$ million)	Increase over the initial estimate (in money-of-the-day (MOD) prices) (\$ million)
Territories (WENT) landfill extension (consultants' fees and investigations)		Tuen Mun				
Integrated waste management facilities (IWMF), phase 1	The IWMF phase 1 reduces the volume of municipal solid waste to one-tenth of its original with incineration as the core technology to relieve the pressure of the landfills. Moreover, electricity can be generated in the incineration process as a form of renewable energy. Since fossil fuel is replaced in the generation of electricity, this will reduce greenhouse gas emissions from power plants.	The artificial island adjacent to Shek Kwu Chau	3 000	2021/22	18,250	3,290 ⁽⁵⁾
Development of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) treatment and recycling facility	Providing recycling and treatment of WEEE. The treatment facility will have a designed capacity of 30 000 tonnes of WEEE per annum in support of the future mandatory producer responsibility scheme which will cover television sets, washing machines, refrigerators, air conditioners and computer products.	EcoPark, Tuen Mun	100	Late 2016 /early 2017	540	Not applicable
Organic waste treatment facilities (OWTF) phase 1	Recycling source separated commercial and industrial food waste into useful resources	Siu Ho Wan, North Lantau	200	2016	1,530	1,000 ⁽⁶⁾
Community green stations (CGSs) in the 18 districts	Enhance environmental education and assist in the collection of recyclables of lower market value at community level.	Two sites have been confirmed for setting up the CGSs in Shatin and Eastern District. The preparation	Depending on the performance of individual operators. We envisage that with the CGSs in place, they will help gradually enhancing the quality and quantity of	By phases from 2014	400	Not applicable

Project	Use	Specific location	Expected average daily handling capacity (tonnes)	Expected year of commencement	Latest estimated project cost (\$ million)	Increase over the initial estimate (in money-of-the-day (MOD) prices) (\$ million)
		for setting up the CGSs in other districts has been started.	recyclables collected and recover more recyclables of different types for local processing.			
Total					30,070	

Note (1): The expected average daily handling capacity of the three landfill extension projects varies subject to the implementation of the Hong Kong Blueprint for Sustainable Use of Resources 2013–2022.

Note (2): The increase in estimate for SENT landfill extension is adjusted with reference to the estimates (in MOD prices) provided in the paper submitted to the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs in May 2013.

Note (3): The increase in estimate for NENT and WENT landfill extensions are adjusted with reference to the estimates (in MOD prices) provided in the paper submitted to the Public Works Subcommittee in June 2013.

Note (4): This refers to the date of commencement of the consultancy study and the specific arrangement of the extension will be finalized in the consultancy study.

Note (5): The increase in estimate for IWTF, phase 1 is adjusted with reference to the estimates (in MOD prices) provided in the discussion paper submitted to the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs on 26 March 2012.

Note (6): The increase in estimate for OWTF phase 1 is adjusted with reference to the rough estimated costs (in MOD prices) provided in the discussion paper submitted to the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs on 22 November 2010.

2. The estimated expenditure for 2014-15 for the above projects is \$374.5 million. Subject to the funding approval of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council, adequate provisions will be earmarked in the relevant financial years for meeting the requirements with reference to the progress of the projects.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB216

(Question Serial No.: 2559)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 11):

Regarding the extension of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags, would the Government provide the following information:

1. The number of plastic shopping bags disposed of at landfills annually (by scope of the Scheme) since the implementation of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags;
2. The number of retailers (and their outlets) covered in the current Levy Scheme and their percentage in terms of the total number of retailers in Hong Kong;
3. Has the Administration compiled statistics on how many retailers in Hong Kong are small and medium enterprises at present? If yes, what is the number? If no, what are the reasons?
4. What measures does the Administration have in place to prevent abuse of the exemption mechanism and indiscriminate distribution of plastic shopping bags? What are the expenditures of the relevant measures?
5. Upon implementation of the extension of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags, levy income will be retained by the retailers. Will the Administration encourage the retailers to donate their levy income for the environmental cause? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

1. The Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags (Levy Scheme) came into operation on 7 July 2009. As shown in the annual landfill surveys conducted by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD), the estimated number of plastic shopping bags disposed of at landfills attributable to regulated retail outlets (2009 to 2012) is set out at Annex 1.
2. The first phase of the Levy Scheme mainly targets at large chain supermarkets, convenience stores and personal health and beauty stores. As at the end of 2013, a total of 47 registered retailers were covered by the Levy Scheme, involving about 3 500 registered retail outlets. According to the statistics of the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD), as at September 2013, there were about 65 000 retail establishments in Hong Kong. On this basis, the Levy Scheme covers approximately 5% of all local retail establishments.
3. Pursuant to the definition of the Trade and Industry Department, small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in Hong Kong generally refer to non-manufacturing enterprises with fewer than 50

employees. According to this definition, the findings of the C&SD survey mentioned above revealed that over 99% of the retail establishments in Hong Kong should be regarded as SMEs.

4. For the purpose of preparing for the extension of the Levy Scheme to the entire retail sector on 1 April 2015, the EPD has earmarked \$8 million for enhancing publicity and public education in 2014-15. With the implementation of the extension of the Levy Scheme, if anyone abuses the exemption mechanism or distributes plastic shopping bags indiscriminately, we will take enforcement actions taking into account actual circumstances.
5. The Government has been encouraging retailers not to distribute plastic shopping bags to the public as far as possible. With the implementation of the extension of the Levy Scheme, retailers are allowed to retain the levy on plastic shopping bags. We will encourage retailers to consider using the income for supporting environmental protection or other related charitable causes. The Hong Kong Retail Management Association has also made a positive response, indicating that it will actively encourage its members to donate the income from the levy on plastic shopping bags in support of environmental protection or other charitable work.

Findings of the Landfill Surveys on Disposal of Plastic Shopping Bags
(Unit: Estimated Annual Disposal)

	2009		2010		2011		2012	
	Million/Year	%	Million/Year	%	Million /Year	%	Million/ Year	%
Category of regulated retailers	657.34	14.05%	153.12	3.45%	146.96	3.23%	155.81	2.97%
Category of other retailers	4 021.19	85.95%	4 290.62	96.55%	4 397.23	96.77%	5 091.61	97.03%
Total	4 678.53	100.00%	4 443.74	100.00%	4 544.19	100.00%	5 247.42	100.00%

Note:

Under the current phase of the Levy Scheme, a plastic shopping bag means a bag (i) that is made wholly or partly of plastic; and (ii) with a handle, handle hole, perforated line for tearing out a handle hole, carrying string or strap, or any other carrying device on, or attached to, it.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB217

(Question Serial No.: 2560)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 27):

On the trials of electric buses and hybrid buses, would the Administration provide the following information:

(1) Please provide information on the two aforesaid trials in the following table:

	Contents of the trials	Participating franchised bus companies	Place of origin & number of vehicles under trial	Current progress (Under preparation/ in progress)	Expected year of completion	Trial routes/ districts	Related expenditure
Electric buses							
Hybrid buses							

(2) Given that the franchised bus companies will be responsible for the recurrent costs arising from operating these buses and the related charging facilities, will these costs be reflected in bus fare? If yes, what will be the impact on bus fare? If no, what are the reasons?

(3) When does the Administration expect to report the mid-term and final trial results of the trials to the Legislative Council?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

1. The information on the trial programmes of electric and hybrid buses is provided in the following table.

2. The Government will fund the full cost of procurement of the electric buses. The franchised bus companies will be responsible for the recurrent costs arising from the operation of electric buses and related charging facilities. As the number of electric buses involved is very small, we anticipate that the impact of the trial on the bus fares is very minimal.

3. The participating franchised bus companies have to compile an interim report after completion of the first -year trial and submit the final report upon completion of the two years' trial. Subject to the progress of the trials, we estimate that the trial results can be reported to the Legislative Council respectively in 2016 and 2017.

	Contents of the trials	Participating franchised bus companies	Place of origin & number of vehicles under trial	Current progress (Under preparation/ in progress)	Expected year of completion	Trial routes/ districts	Related expenditure
Electric buses	Assess the operational performance of buses under the local conditions	KMB Citybus NWFB LWB NLB	36 single-decked buses. As the tendering is still in progress, the place of origin is uncertain for the time being	The franchised bus companies are now inviting tenders successively	For a trial period of 2 years till 2017	16 bus routes distributed all over Hong Kong Island, Kowloon, New Territories and Lantau	\$180 million
Hybrid buses	Assess the operational performance of buses under the local conditions	KMB Citybus NWFB	6 double-decked buses, all from U.K.	6 hybrid buses have been ordered. Delivery to Hong Kong expected in mid-2014	For a trial period of 2 years till the second half of 2016	Bus routes running in the busy corridors of Central, Causeway Bay and Mong Kok	\$33 million

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB218

(Question Serial No.: 2561)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 30):

Regarding the promotion of the use of electric vehicles (EVs), would the Government provide the following information:

1. Please list in table form the number of EVs running on roads in Hong Kong in each of the past five years, with a breakdown by vehicle type;
2. Please list in table form the number of EVs in the government fleet in each of the past five years, with a breakdown by government department and vehicle type;
3. What is the estimated number of EVs to be purchased by the Administration for the government fleet and the related expenditure in 2014-15? When does the Administration expect to deliver and deploy all the EVs acquired for use by government departments?
4. What is the number of charging stations for EVs (with the number of charging facilities installed at government carparks listed), with a breakdown by the 18 districts? Does the Administration have any plans to increase the number of charging stations, e.g. in the carparks managed by The Link? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
5. Please provide details on the measures to promote the use of EVs in Hong Kong and the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

1. As at end of 2013, there were 592 electric vehicles (EVs) in Hong Kong, including 458 private cars, 56 motorcycles, 4 buses, 5 light buses, 34 light goods vehicles, 2 medium goods vehicle and 33 taxis. The accumulated number of EVs from 2009 to 2013 is set out in **Annex 1**.

2. From 2009-10 to 2013-14, the Government has procured a total of 226 EVs, including 147 private cars, 76 motorcycles, 1 light bus and 2 light goods vehicles. The details are set out in **Annex 2**.
3. In 2014-15, the Government will continue to procure more EVs. We are now reviewing with the relevant departments on the number of EVs to be procured, having regard to the availability of different classes of EVs in the market and the operational needs of the departments.
4. At present, there are over 1 000 standard EV charging stations in Hong Kong covering 18 districts, which include about 500 standard charging facilities installed by the Government in 18 car parks administered by the Transport Department (TD) and Government Property Agency, and over 500 charging facilities installed by the commercial sector. There are also 10 quick chargers. The geographical distribution of these charging facilities is provided in **Annex 3**.
5. The Government has been actively promoting the use of EVs, taking the lead in the use of EVs and working with the private sector to set up charging facilities. Apart from the proposal of extending the exemption from First Registration Tax with EVs by 3 years, other measures on the promotion of EVs include:
 - i. Allowing enterprises that have procured environment-friendly vehicles, including EVs, to have 100% profits tax deduction for the capital expenditure on EVs in the first year of procurement.
 - ii. A \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund was established in March 2011 to subsidize the transport operators for trying green innovative transport technologies (including EVs). As at the end of February 2014, subsidy has been approved for the procurement of 72 EVs, including electric goods vehicles, taxis, buses and light buses.
 - iii. Liaison with the EV manufacturers and dealers to encourage them to supply EVs to Hong Kong. As at the end of February 2014, 26 EV models from 7 countries have been approved by the Transport Department for use in Hong Kong.
 - iv. Allocation of \$180 million for the franchised bus companies to purchase 36 electric buses for trial.
 - v. The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department has established a dedicated team and a hotline (3757 6222) to help EV owners or buyers to set up EV chargers at strata-titled car parks. In addition, guidelines have been issued on the technical requirements and how to set up chargers at car parks. Letters have been issued to around 7 400 owners' corporations and owner's committees appealing for their support.
 - vi. Since April 2011, concessions have been granted on gross floor area for new building car parks if they are "EV charging-enabling" to encourage developers to put in place at the building construction stage the infrastructure and conditions, including provision of sufficient power supply and electrical wiring, to facilitate future installation of chargers for EV users.
 - vii. Planning guidelines for new buildings have been amended to recommend 30% of car parking spaces to be installed with standard chargers.

In addition, the Government will also launch a pilot scheme to enable suppliers of electric taxis to install quick chargers at car parks administered by TD. A total of 100 medium chargers will be provided this year in various districts to shorten charging time for EVs. Moreover, we will closely monitor the growth in the number of EVs, and consider the need to further expand the charging network in a timely manner.

In 2014-15, we will allocate about \$11.4 million to promote the use of EVs through various channels. The expenditure is partly used for installations of more medium chargers and upgrading of ancillary charging facilities in car parks, as well as rendering assistance from the dedicated support team in the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department and other promotional activities.

Annex 1**Accumulated number of EVs in Hong Kong in the past 5 years**

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Private cars	4	70	199	336	458
Motorcycles	17	21	32	56	56
Buses	2	1	1	1	4
Light buses	1	0	4	5	5
Light goods vehicles	4	4	5	11	34
Medium goods vehicles	0	0	1	2	2
Taxis	0	0	0	0	33
Total	28	96	242	411	592

Annex 2**The number of EVs ordered by the Government in each of the past 5 years**

Department	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12			2012-13		2013-14		
	Private Cars	Private Cars	Private Cars	Motor-cycles	Light buses	Private Cars	Motor-cycles	Private Cars	Motor-cycles	Light goods vehicles
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department		1				2	1	1		2
Architectural Services Department						1				
Buildings Department						8				
Customs and Excise Department			1					1		
Civil Aviation Department			2							
Civil Engineering and Development Department			1			1				
Chief Executive's Office	1									
Correctional Services Department						1				
Administration Wing	1		1							
Department of Health						1				
Electrical and Mechanical Services Department	1		1			1			3	
Environmental Protection Department	1	1	1							
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	1	1				1		1	1	
Fire Services Department								1		

Government Logistics Department			1							
Home Affairs Department						1				
Hong Kong Police Force	4		13	10		56	52			
Post Office		1				5		2		
Highways Department						1				
Housing Department						1		1		
Independent Commission Against Corruption			2							
Labour Department						1				
Lands Department		2				4				
Leisure and Cultural Services Department		1	1				1			
Office of the Communications Authority			1							
Radio Television Hong Kong					1			1		
Social Welfare Department			2			1				
Transport Department		1					5			
Water Supplies Department	1	3	3	1				2	2	
Total (226)	10	11	30	11	1	86	59	10	6	2

Annex 3**Distribution of the charging facilities in 18 districts of Hong Kong**

District	No. of Charging Points		District	No. of Charging Points	
	Installed by private sector	Installed by Government		Installed by private sector	Installed by Government
Central & Western	46	120	Islands	11	---
Eastern	70	50	Kwai Tsing	20	---
Southern	6	---	North	22	15
Wan Chai	82	30	Sai Kung	10	20
Kowloon City	5	---	Sha Tin	43	20
Kwun Tong	58	---	Tai Po	15	---
Sham Shui Po	13	30	Tsuen Wan	17	30
Wong Tai Sin	26	35	Tuen Mun	21	---
Yau Tsim Mong	75	80	Yuen Long	43	---

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB219

(Question Serial No.: 4267)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 26):

Regarding the setting up of Community Green Stations (CGSs) in the 18 districts, would the Government provide the following information:

1. the site of the CGS in each district and its relevant expenditure;
2. when does the Administration expect all the CGSs will be completed and commissioned? How many job opportunities will be created?
3. what are the functional differences between the Community Recycling Centres funded by the Environment and Conservation Fund and the CGSs? How does the Administration coordinate the work of the two facilities to avoid duplication of resources and significant reduction of their effectiveness?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

The Government plans to set up one community green station (CGS) in each of the 18 districts and will provide funding to non-profit organisations for their operation. The capital works will cost about \$400 million. We will appoint non-profit organisations by way of open tender to operate the CGSs. The specific operating expenditures and manpower arrangements will depend on the financial proposals submitted by the individual operators in their tender documents. In view of the great demand for various forms of recycling support from the community, the service targets of and recyclable collection by the CGSs and the projects funded by the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) (including Community Recycling Centres) will vary and be adjusted according to the individual district's needs. The Environmental Protection Department and the ECF will also review the effectiveness of and arrangements for the projects to prevent overlapping of resources.

The latest development for each of the CGSs is tabulated below:

District	Proposed site	Estimated schedule for commissioning	Estimated capital expenditure
Shatin	Junction of On Ping Street and On Sum Street, Shek Mun	2014	\$20.5 million
Eastern	Between Oi Shun Road and Hing Man Street, Shau Kei Wan, underneath the Island Eastern Corridor	First half of 2015	\$27.3 million
Others	Preparation work started	To be commissioned by phases	About \$350 million in total

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB220

(Question Serial No.: 4268)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Waste
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 31):

Regarding the municipal solid waste charging scheme, would the Administration please provide the following information:

1. How many submissions were received by the Administration in the second-stage public engagement process (by sector)? Will the views and responses collected in the second-stage public engagement process be released to the public? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
2. Will pilot programme be conducted in respect of different charging mechanisms? If yes, what are the details and what are the relevant manpower arrangement and expenditure? If no, what are the reasons?
3. When will the Administration proceed to the next stage of work? What are the details of the relevant work, manpower arrangement and expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

- 1 The Council for Sustainable Development (SDC) has passed all the views and responses collected during the 4-month public engagement process to an Independent Analysis and Reporting Agency (IRA) for record and analysis. The IRA will submit a report to the SDC upon completion of its work and the report will be uploaded to the SDC website for public access after completion of all the work by the SDC.
- 2 and 3 The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) plans to launch a pilot scheme in different types of residential buildings. The scheme will test out the 3 charging mechanisms discussed in the public engagement exercise, with a view to gaining practical experience. The EPD has started preparatory work and the specific details will be announced later. The preparation of the pilot scheme is part of the work of the Waste Management Policy Division of the EPD, and is absorbed by existing resources with no breakdowns of manpower provision. The estimated expenditure for supporting the pilot scheme is about \$5 million, which includes appointing a

supporting organisation to organise relevant activities and provide assistance, monitor the amount of waste generated from participating housing estates and the implementation progress as well as publicise the results regularly.

The Government will consider the way forward after receiving recommendations from the SDC and plan for relevant legislative proposals and other preparatory work as appropriate.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB221

(Question Serial No.: 4269)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (3) Noise
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 33):

Regarding the retrofitting programme for existing roads, would the Government provide the following information:

1. By District Council and type of complaint, what was the number of complaints concerning noise received by the Administration in each of the past five years?
2. By type of measure (i.e. to retrofit barriers on existing roads and to re-surface local roads with low-noise material) and district, what were the number of works completed, the number of people benefited and the relevant expenditure under the programme in the past five years?
3. What is the number of works in progress and under planning under the programme currently? What are the progress, anticipated date of completion, number of people benefited and the relevant expenditure of these works?
4. At present, road traffic noise level is specified in terms of L10(1 hour). However, the actual increase in noise level due to individual noise event that happened during a period, e.g. the ambient noise caused by a passing heavy vehicle, might not be truly reflected by such level. What measures does the Administration have to deal with the occurrence of single noise event which exceeds 70 dB(A) intermittently?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

1. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) classified complaints according to their nature. The number of complaints about traffic noise relating to the retrofitting programme for existing roads received by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) in the past five years is as follows:

The number of traffic noise complaints received by EPD in the past five years

District	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Central & Western	4	6	6	4	2
Eastern	19	18	15	12	8
Southern	6	3	10	2	0
Wan Chai	9	3	21	9	7
Kowloon City	14	12	10	16	8
Kwun Tong	18	15	9	4	5
Sham Shui Po	9	12	6	9	12
Yau Tsim Mong	31	19	26	15	8
Wong Tai Sin	28	33	35	14	19
Islands	19	18	12	9	6
Kwai Tsing	5	3	6	4	6
North	10	4	5	3	5
Sai Kung	40	14	10	7	3
Sha Tin	12	17	13	10	17
Tai Po	2	3	5	4	1
Tsuen Wan	8	5	6	4	2
Tuen Mun	14	8	12	12	17
Yuen Long	26	22	16	22	16
Total (No.)	274	215	223	160	142

2. To tackle noise impact of existing roads on neighbouring residents, we have completed 8 noise barrier retrofitting works in the past 5 fiscal years (i.e. 2009-10 to 2013-14), benefiting a total of some 36 000 residents. The list of retrofitting works completed is given in the table below.

Retrofitting works completed in 2009-10 to 2013-14

Ref. No.	Road Section	District	Expenditure (\$million in MOD price)	Year of Completion
1	Cheung Pei Shan Road	Tsuen Wan	204	2009
2	Tseung Kwan O Road (near Hing Tin Estate)	Kwun Tong	163	2009
3	Tseung Kwan O Road (near Tsui Ping (South) Estate)	Kwun Tong		
4	Tsing Tsuen Bridge (Tsuen Wan and Tsing Yi)	Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing	167	2010
5	Yuen Shin Road (near Kwong Fuk Estate)	Tai Po	33	2010
6	Kwun Tong Bypass	Kwun Tong	75	2010

Ref. No.	Road Section	District	Expenditure (\$million in MOD price)	Year of Completion
7	Fanling Highway (Po Shek Wu Road to MTR Fanling Station)	North	507	2013
8	Fanling Highway (MTR Fanling Station to Wo Hing Road)	North	247	2013

For the low noise road surface trial programme, low noise road surfacing material has been applied to a total of 22 road sections in past 5 fiscal years, spending about \$32 million and benefiting some 51 000 residents. Details of the 22 road sections are given in the table below.

Resurfacing works completed in 2009-10 to 2013-14

Ref. No.	Road Section	District	Expenditure (\$million)	Year of Completion
1	Ma Sik Road (From Jockey Club Road to Tin Ping Road)	North	0.7	2009
2	Jockey Club Road (From Lung Sum Avenue to San Fung Avenue)	North	2.7	
3	Tai Chung Kiu Road (From Sha Kok Street to Sha Tin Wai Road)	Sha Tin	2.8	
4	Wang Tat Road (From Wang Lok Street to Chun Hing San Tsuen)	Yuen Long	1.9	
5	Wong Nai Chung Road (From Sing Woo Road to Broadwood Road)	Wan Chai	0.7	
6	Wong Nai Chung Road (From Sports Road to Broadwood Road)	Wan Chai	0.4	
7	Texaco Road North (From Tsuen Kam Interchange to Kwok Shui Road)	Tsuen Wan	0.8	2010
8	Java Road (From Tong Shui Road to Tin Chiu Street)	Eastern	3.0	
9	Kornhill Road (From King's Road (East Junction) to King's Road (West Junction))	Eastern	1.3	
10	Fung Tak Road (From Lung Poon Street to Sheung Yuen Street)	Wong Tai Sin	1.6	
11	Lai Chi Kok Road (West Bound Only) (From Tai Nam West Street to Cheung Mou Street)	Sham Shui Po	1.5	2011
12	Chuk Yuen Road (From Ma Chai Hang Playground to Nga Chuk Street)	Wong Tai Sin	2.3	
13	Yeung Uk Road (From Tai Ho Road to Chung On Street)	Tsuen Wan	0.5	
14	Ngan O Road (From Pui Shing Road to Chiu Shun Road)	Sai Kung	1.5	
15	Sha Tin Wai Road (From Ngan Shing Street to Ngau Pei Sha Street)	Sha Tin	1.0	2012
16	Pak Wo Road (From So Kwun Po Road to Pak Wo Road Roundabout)	North	3.0	

17	Lei Yue Mun Road (From Ko Chiu Road (North Junction) to Ko Chiu Road (South Junction))	Kwun Tong	1.6	
18	Pak Wo Road (From Choi Yuen Road to Po Wing Road)	North	0.3	
19	Tung Tau Tsuen Road (From Shatin Pass Road to Tai Shing Street)	Wong Tai Sin	0.6	
20	Long Yuet Street (From San Ma Tau Street to Kwei Chow Street)	Kowloon City	0.4	
21	Siu Lek Yuen Road (From Chap Wai Kon Street to Tai Chung Kiu Road)	Sha Tin	2.8	2013
22	Sai Chuen Road (From Fu Shing House to Fu Wen House)	Sham Shui Po	0.4	2014

3. Currently 7 noise barrier retrofitting works are under construction and about 13 000 residents would be benefitted when completed. The list of retrofitting works in progress is given in the table below.

Retrofitting works in progress

Ref. No.	Road Section	District	Estimated Expenditure (\$ million)	Anticipated Year of Completion	Remarks
1	Tuen Mun Road (Tsuen Wan)	Tsuen Wan	1,257	2014	The retrofitting works is being implemented under the contract of the project "Reconstruction and Improvement of Tuen Mun Road".
2	Tuen Mun Road (Yau Kom Tau)	Tsuen Wan			
3	Tuen Mun Road (Castle Peak Bay)	Tuen Mun			
4	Tuen Mun Road (Anglers' Beach)	Tsuen Wan			
5	Tuen Mun Road (Sham Tseng)	Tsuen Wan			
6	Tuen Mun Road (Tsing Lung Tau)	Tsuen Wan			
7	Tai Po Tai Wo Road (near Po Nga Court)	Tai Po			

Moreover, we have completed the planning and design processes of two noise barriers retrofitting works on Tuen Mun Road (Town Centre Section) and Tuen Mun Road (Fu Tei Section), which are undergoing tendering and gazettal procedures respectively. We will seek funding approval for these two sections, in order to start the retrofitting works early. The works are expected to be completed in 2017 at an estimated cost of \$1,080 million, and would benefit about 7 600 residents when completed.

Retrofitting works for the remaining 21 road sections are under planning and review for retrofitting, or under review in the light of individual sections. We will work out the implementation schedules and estimate the expenditures in accordance with the planning and review results.

Subject to progress, we are planning to resurface 10 road sections with low noise road surfacing material between 2014-15 and 2016-17, spending about \$12 million and benefiting some 18 000 residents. The 10 road sections are listed in the table below.

Resurfacing works under planning

Ref. No.	Road Section	District	Estimated Expenditure (\$million)	Anticipated Year of Completion
1	Ngan Shing Street (From Siu Lek Yuen Road to Tak Wing Street)	Sha Tin	1.1	2014
2	Sung On Street (From Bailey Street to Chi Kiang Street)	Kowloon City	0.6	
3	Tin Sam Street (From Che Kung Miu Road to Hung Mui Kuk Road)	Sha Tin	2.2	
4	Sha Tin Wai Road (From Sha Tin Road to Ngan Shing Street)	Sha Tin	2.7	
5	Aberdeen Main Road (From Aberdeen Praya Road to Aberdeen Reservoir Road)	Southern	2.4	2015
6	Wan Hoi Street (From Dyer Avenue to Tak On Street)	Kowloon City	0.5	
7	Sau Mau Ping Road (From Sau Hong House to Sau Lok House)	Kwun Tong	0.3	
8	Queen's Road West (From Des Voeux Road West to Hill Road)	Central and Western	0.9	2016
9	Wong Tai Sin Road (From Nga Chuk Street to Ma Chai Hang Road)	Wong Tai Sin	0.9	
10	Shatin Pass Road (From Choi Hung Road to Tung Tau Tsuen Road)	Wong Tai Sin	0.3	2017

4. At present, 70 dB(A) L10(1 hour) is set as the standard for road traffic noise level. This standard means, within any one hour, the noise level cannot exceed 70dB(A) for 10% of the time where the noise is at the highest levels rather than the average noise level in an hour. Therefore it has taken into account that individual noise events exceeding 70dB(A) is an intermittent situation. In determining the noise level of 70 dB(A) L10(1 hour), we have made reference to relevant international studies. This standard is relatively strict and similar standards are being adopted in the United Kingdom and the United States.

We understand that for individual noise events such as vehicles making sporadic noise while running over uneven roads, residents living next to roads might still be disturbed, though the traffic noise level recorded is below the standard. For these cases, the Highways Department would replace or deal with the road surfaces and manholes concerned based on practical need, or refer to the relevant authorities of the facilities for follow up. The newly installed manhole cover would be located as far as practicable in the middle position of the lane that is run over by vehicles less frequently, to reduce noise and the wear and tear of road surfaces.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB222

(Question Serial No.: 4270)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Air
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 35):

Regarding the Motor Vehicle Idling (Fixed Penalty) Ordinance, would the Government please provide the following information?

1. In the past 3 years, how many Traffic Wardens and Environmental Protection Officers were there respectively to enforce the Ordinance? What was the salary expenditure involved?
2. Since the implementation of the Ordinance, by District Council and vehicle type, what is the number of complaints about idling engines received, the number of vehicles with idling engines timed and the number of fixed penalty notices issued by the Administration respectively in each quarter?
3. Has the Administration reviewed the effectiveness of the Ordinance, including whether the exemption mechanism meets the operational needs of the industry? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

The Motor Vehicle Idling (Fixed Penalty) Ordinance (the Ordinance), which came into operation on 15 December 2011, prohibits drivers from idling a vehicle engine for more than 3 minutes in any 60-minute period. It empowers Traffic Wardens (TW) and Environmental Protection Inspectors (EPI) to issue fixed penalty notices (FPNs) to offending drivers. The TWs will issue FPNs to drivers who contravene the idling prohibition in their daily patrol duties. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will co-ordinate enforcement-cum-publicity activities with TWs at idling engine black spots.

1. To support the work, the Hong Kong Police Force has created 18 TW posts, the total number of which is about 276. For EPD, we have about 381 EPIs who are also empowered to issue FPNs, and the EPIs will take joint enforcement actions with TWs at the black spots. The enforcement of the Ordinance is part of the routine duties of TWs and EPIs, and the manpower and resources are absorbed by the relevant manpower and resources of the departments.

2. From the commencement of the Ordinance to the end of February 2014, law enforcement officers have timed 3 332 vehicles with idling engines. Among them, 96 drivers who violated the Ordinance (i.e. not switching off their engines within 3 minutes) had been issued with FPNs. The remaining drivers either switched off the engines or drove their vehicles away immediately. The quarterly figures on vehicles timed with idling engines and FPNs issued during the period are as follows:

Quarter	Complaints against vehicles with idling engines	Number of timing procedures against vehicles with idling engines	Number of \$320 FPN(s) issued
From commencement of the Ordinance to 31 December 2011	59	-	0
1Q 2012	223	19	0
2Q 2012	620	208	0
3Q 2012	596	579	2
4Q 2012	363	398	5
1Q 2013	152	330	3
2Q 2013	311	558	26
3Q 2013	405	625	38
4Q 2013	251	467	15
1Q 2014 (as at end of February)	80	148	7
Total	3 060	3 332	96

Note: Statistics have not been kept for timing idling vehicles in January and February 2012.

From the commencement of the Ordinance to the end of February 2014, a breakdown on the number of FPNs issued by District Councils and vehicle types is as follows:

	Private car	Taxi	Public light bus	Non-franchised bus	Goods vehicles	Total
Central & Western	3	1				4
Wan Chai				1		1
Eastern				2	1	3
Southern	3	2		9	3	17
Kwun Tong	1			1	2	4
Wong Tai Sin	1			1	1	3
Kowloon City	6	1		18	1	26
Yau Tsim Mong	2			4	4	10
Sham Shui Po	1					1
Sai Kung			1			1
North	2		2	1	3	8
Yuen Long	4				1	5
Tuen Mun					1	1
Tai Po						

Sha Tin	1		2	1	3	7
Tsuen Wan					1	1
Kwai Tsing		1			1	2
Islands				2		2
Total	24	5	5	40	22	96

3. Since the commencement of the Ordinance, the Government has mounted enforcement actions and publicity activities to help drivers foster the habit of switching off idling engines and reduce the environmental nuisance caused by stationary vehicles with running engines. Drivers are now generally more mindful and paying more attention to switching off the idling engines. The number of complaints against vehicles with idling engines in 2013 decreased by about 40% compared to 2012. The Government will continue the two-pronged approach, i.e. enforcement and publicity, to promote the green driving habit of switching off idling engines.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB223

(Question Serial No.: 4271)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 24):

Regarding the mandatory producer responsibility scheme (PRS) on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), would the Government please provide the following information:

1. What products will be covered in the PRS on WEEE? What is their percentage in terms of the total amount of WEEE generated in Hong Kong?
2. What measures does the Administration have to ensure that the importers, distributors and retailers share part of the responsibilities or costs which will not be wholly shifted to the consumers? What is the estimated expenditure of the relevant measures?
3. When does the Administration expect to submit the bill to the Legislative Council?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

1. The producer responsibility scheme (PRS) on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) will cover five types of electrical and electronic equipment, i.e. television sets, washing machines, refrigerators, air conditioners and computer products (i.e. computers, printers, scanners and monitors). These products account for over 80% of WEEE locally generated in Hong Kong.
2. In line with the "polluter pays" principle, we propose to impose a recycling fee on the above products to finance the recycling and environmental treatment of WEEE. The fees can be shared among different stakeholders. We will not mandate consumers to pay the fees.
3. We are currently preparing for the legislative proposals with a view to introducing the bill into the Legislative Council for scrutiny this year.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB224

(Question Serial No.: 4272)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 56):

Regarding the Pilot Green Transport Fund, would the Administration provide the following information:

1. Please list in table form the number of applications for the Pilot Green Transport Fund received by the Administration in each of the past three years, with a breakdown by transport technology. How many of them are approved, rejected and being processed? What were the expenditure and balance of the Fund in each year?
2. What measures does the Administration have to promote the Fund to the trade? What is the relevant expenditure? Has the Administration reviewed the effectiveness of the Fund? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

1. The Pilot Green Transport Fund (the Fund) was launched in March 2011. As at end of February 2014, the Fund received a total of 114 applications, of which 78 applications were approved, 7 rejected while the remaining 29 applications were withdrawn by the applicants. The operations of the Fund in the past 3 financial years are as follows:

Year	Transport Technology	Applications received	Applications approved	Applications rejected	Expenditure/ Balance (\$million)
2011-12	Electric vehicles	25	14	2	0/300
	Hybrid vehicles	14	10	0	
	Energy saving and emission reduction	12	0	0	

	devices				
	Total	51	24	2	
2012-13	Electric vehicles	36	19	0	3.6/296.4
	Hybrid vehicles	3	6	0	
	Energy saving and emission reduction devices	2	0	5	
	Total	41	25	5	
2013/14 #	Electric vehicles	13	19	0	11.5/284.9
	Hybrid vehicles	8	8	0	
	Energy saving and emission reduction devices	1	2	0	
	Total	22	29	0	

As at late February 2014

The 78 applications approved by the Fund involve a total subsidy of \$93 million which would be released subject to the progress of the project procurements. As at February 2014, the amount released was about \$11.5 million.

2. Since the launch of the Fund, we have been encouraging transport trades and transport product suppliers to make use of the Fund to test out green innovative transport technologies through various channels including holding briefing sessions to explain the scope of the subsidy, eligibility criteria and application procedures to the transport trades and green innovative transport technology suppliers. A hotline was set up to answer enquiries from interested parties.

The Fund has successfully attracted many overseas green innovative transport product suppliers, particularly electric vehicle suppliers and hybrid vehicle suppliers, to promote their products in Hong Kong. The trials approved by the Fund so far include electric buses, light buses, taxis and goods vehicles; hybrid light buses and goods vehicles; solar power air-conditioning system and retrofitting franchised buses with modern engines. We will continue to actively encourage the transport sector to make use of the subsidy under the Fund to test out green innovative transport technologies, as well as to encourage green innovative transport product suppliers to introduce their products to the local market so as to promote green transport.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB225

(Question Serial No.: 4273)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 70):

Regarding the development of a waste electric and electronic equipment (WEEE) treatment facility, would the Administration provide the following information:

- (a) What was the quantity of locally generated WEEE (by product type) in the past 5 years?
- (b) What are the progress of and timetable for the development of the WEEE treatment facility? Can it complement the implementation of the mandatory producer responsibility scheme on WEEE?
- (c) Upon the completion of the facility, what are the expected annual treatment capacity and the number of jobs directly and indirectly created?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

1. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) collects data on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) generated in Hong Kong through consultancy studies. The relevant information between 2008 and 2013 is tabulated below.

Year	Overall generation (tonne)
2008	71 400
2009	72 000
2010	74 000
2011	75 400
2012	70 000
2013	71 200

Based on survey conducted from time to time, about 85% of WEEE locally generated in Hong Kong is television sets, washing machines, refrigerators, air-conditioners and computer products.

2&3. The EPD plans to seek funding approval from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council in mid-2014 for the development of a modern WEEE treatment facility at the EcoPark in Tuen Mun, with a view to awarding the Design-Build-Operate contract in the second half of 2014. The facility is expected to be completed for commissioning in late 2016/early 2017. The new facility will have a designed capacity of about 30 000 tonnes of WEEE per annum in support of the future mandatory producer responsibility scheme which will cover television sets, washing machines, refrigerators, air-conditioners and computer products. The facility is expected to create about 100 and 200 posts during the construction and operation stages respectively.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB226

(Question Serial No.:2353)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 35):

During 2014–15, the Environmental Protection Department will continue to take forward the extension of the three strategic landfills. Regarding the current usage of the landfills, please advise this Committee on the following: The Administration anticipated that the landfills would be filled up by 2010s. Has the Administration assessed the life span of the landfills after extension if they can be extended as scheduled? If the extension proposal cannot be passed, what measures does the Administration have to address the increasingly serious waste problem?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

Reply:

The estimated operation life of the proposed extensions of the three landfills (i.e the South East New Territories Landfill Extension, the North East New Territories Landfill Extension and the West New Territories Landfill Extension) is about 6 years, 10 years and 15 years respectively.

To tackle our imminent waste challenge, the Environment Bureau released the “Hong Kong Blueprint for Sustainable Use of Resources 2013–2022” in 2013, which maps out a comprehensive strategy, with targets, policies and action plans for waste management for the coming 10 years. We have set an aggressive target to reduce the per capita disposal rate of municipal solid waste (MSW) by 40% by 2022. To this end, concurrent actions on the following perspectives are being pursued:

- (i) reduction at source, including quantity-based MSW charging and producer responsibility schemes;
- (ii) Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign;
- (iii) clean recycling;
- (iv) turning waste-to-energy; and
- (v) more hygienic waste transportation and treatment operations.

However, even if the above measures and facilities are taken forward as planned, and waste reduction targets are achieved as set, there will still be about 10 000 tonnes of waste that require disposal every day in 2017. With the three existing landfills to be exhausted one by one by 2019 and large-scale waste-to-energy

facilities are yet to come into operations, we do not have other means but to extending the landfills in time for waste disposal.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB227

(Question Serial No.: 2864)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 62):

Will the Administration consider closing the Southeast New Territories Landfill and implementing various measures to improve environmental hygiene as soon as possible, and stepping up prosecution against fly-tipping? If yes, what are the details and expenditure? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

To tackle our waste challenge, the Environment Bureau released the “Hong Kong Blueprint for Sustainable Use of Resources 2013–2022” on 20 May 2013, which maps out a comprehensive strategy, with targets, policies and action plans for waste management for the coming 10 years. Landfills with modern management are crucial infrastructure in waste treatment. Given the scarcity in land resources of Hong Kong and the large amount of waste being disposed of every day, even with other waste treatment facilities implemented in future, we still require landfills for disposal of waste that cannot be incinerated and incineration ash.

We understand Tseung Kwan O residents’ concern over odour nuisance although the operation of the Southeast New Territories (SENT) Landfill has met the very high international standards. In order to further mitigate any potential odour impact to the surrounding areas, a number of additional measures have been implemented at the landfill to tighten control over potential odour emission during waste reception and landfilling. These measures include minimising the size of tipping area as far as practicable, covering the tipping area with a layer of soil followed by “Posi-Shell Cover” material (a cement-based material) at the end of the daily landfilling process, covering the non-active tipping areas with temporary impermeable liners or Posi-Shell Cover material, putting a movable cover on the special waste trench, installing extra landfill gas extraction wells and mobile landfill gas flaring units, providing additional deodorisers and upgrading the wheel washing facility to the full-body vehicle washing facility. Moreover, we will ensure that the completed landfilling areas are promptly capped and restored. We will continue to implement the above measures at the landfill. Up to 2013-14, we have spent about \$84.6 million for implementing these measures and the recurrent costs have been absorbed in the operation costs of the landfill. Our estimated expenditure on these measures is about \$9.3 million for 2014-15.

The odourous sludge will no longer be landfilled upon the full commissioning of the Sludge Treatment Facility by end 2014. Moreover, amendments to the Waste Disposal (Designated Waste Disposal Facility) Regulation were passed by the Legislative Council on 22 January 2014 to change the use of the SENT Landfill to accept only construction waste so that the odour concern arising from municipal solid waste and other wastes could be removed at root. Subject to funding approval by the Finance Committee (FC) for the extension of the SENT Landfill, the Government will appoint the commencement date of the amended regulation. By then, not only will the odour issue of the SENT Landfill be resolved, the number of vehicular trips going to the landfill will also drop from about 1 000 to about 500 daily, which will further improve the environmental hygiene.

In order to improve the environmental hygiene in the vicinity of the SENT Landfill, the Government has implemented a series of measures in Tseung Kwan O, including subsidising private refuse collection vehicles (RCVs) to install metallic tailgates and waste water sump tanks, formulating legislation to govern RCVs, carrying out joint enforcement actions by relevant government departments, stepping up the monitoring of RCVs found to be causing hygiene, overloading or other problems, strengthening the monitoring of and enforcement actions against illegal fly-tipping in the vicinity of the SENT Landfill by closed-circuit television and surprise inspections, setting up an odour monitoring team to monitor the odour condition at Wan Po Road and nearby housing estates. \$18.8 million was approved by the FC on 15 November 2013 to subsidise private RCVs to install metallic tailgates and waste water sump tanks. In setting up the on-site odour monitoring team, the expenditure of the service contract for 2013-14 was around \$1.8 million, and the expenditure for 2014-15 is estimated to be around \$2.5 million. The other relevant measures are implemented through the deployment of internal resources of different departments, and thus no relevant expenditure and budget can be provided.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB228

(Question Serial No.: 3127)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Noise

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 33):

Does the Administration plan to carry out noise barrier or enclosure retrofitting works at Lion Rock Tunnel Road, Sha Tin near Fung Shing Court and Sun Tin Wai Estate so as to mitigate the serious noise nuisance generated by road traffic? If yes, what are the details and expenditure? If not, why not?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

The Environmental Protection Department and the Highways Department have investigated the feasibility of providing retrofitting noise barrier or enclosure at Lion Rock Tunnel Road near Fung Shing Court and Sun Tin Wai Estate, Sha Tin. The results reveal that the section of Lion Rock Tunnel Road off Fung Shing Court and Sun Tin Wai Estate is sided by steep slopes, and there are bus stops, crash barriers and pedestrian ways along the roadside. The space along the road and the flyover is very limited and inadequate to allow the erection of large-scale noise enclosure or the more compact vertical noise barrier. Besides, even if the roadside space issue could be resolved, the erection of noise barrier or enclosure would require temporary partial closure of the traffic lanes of Lion Rock Tunnel Road over an extended period of time, in order to provide a sufficient and safe works area for the retrofitting works. That would cause severe traffic impact on the Lion Rock Tunnel Road and the nearby roads. Due to constraints such as congested environment and traffic impact, it is not feasible to retrofit noise barrier or enclosure along the road section. Although the retrofitting proposal is technically infeasible, the Highways Department has resurfaced the section of Lion Rock Tunnel Road near Fung Shing Court and Sun Tin Wai Estate with low noise materials to mitigate the impact of traffic noise on nearby residents.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB229

(Question Serial No.: 5578)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Waste
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 76):

On “continuing to promote reduction of food waste under the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign”, please advise on:

- (a) whether “full implementation of the food waste recycling programme and extension of the subsidy period under the fund on food waste recovery to attract more housing estates in the North District to participate in the programme” is included;
- (b) if yes, the details and expenditure;
- (c) if no, whether it is under other subheads;
- (d) if no for (c), the reasons; and
- (e) if yes for (c), the details.

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

The Government is adopting a multi-pronged approach to address the pressing waste problem. In addition to the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign, Food Waste Recycling Projects in Housing Estates was launched in July 2011. To enhance the awareness and to encourage participation in food waste reduction, an allocation of \$50 million is reserved under the Environment and Conservation Fund as funding for setting up and operation of food waste reduction facilities in housing estates and organising of education and publicity campaigns in collaboration with housing estates and non-government organisations. Since the launching of the scheme, funding has been granted to a total of 37 estates including housing estates in the North District.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB230

(Question Serial No.: 5478)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 76):

There will be a net increase of 70 posts in 2014-15 under this Programme. Would the Administration advise on the scope of work of the additional posts, as well as their respective ranks and salaries?

Asked by: Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply:

In 2014-15, there will be a net increase of 70 new posts in the Environmental Protection Department under Programme (1). The estimated salary expenditure is \$40.98 million. The details are as follows:

Posts[®]	No.	Scope of work
1 SEPO, 3 EPO/AEPOs, 1 EPI	+5	To set up a Household Food Waste Section to carry out studies and planning for the collection of household food waste
2 SEPOs, 5 EPO/AEPOs, 1 SEPI, 2 EPIs	+10	To set up a Strategic Waste Facilities Planning Group to carry out planning for and development of sustainable waste management facilities in Hong Kong (All posts are time-limited for five years from 2014/15 to 2018/19)

Posts[@]	No.	Scope of work
1 ADEP, 2 SEPOs, 6 EPO/AEPOs, 2 SEPIs, 4 EPIs, 1 EOII, 1 CO, 1 ACO, 2 CAs, 1 PSI	+21	To set up a new division to provide support and implement the policies and initiatives formulated by the Steering Committee to support the sustainable development of the recycling industry (All posts are time-limited for three years from 2014/15 to 2016/17)
1 SEPO, 1 EPO/AEPO	+2	To develop government green procurement policy and the related measures (All posts are time-limited for three years from 2014/15 to 2016/17)
1 Senior Stat, 1 Stat, 1 StatO II / Stu SO	+ 3	To set up a Statistics Unit to provide professional statistical support and oversee the compilation of waste statistics in Hong Kong
2 SEPOs, 6 EPO/AEPOs, 2 SEPIs, 4 EPIs, 2 ACOs	+16	To implement the Waste Diversion Plan, engage local stakeholders of the three landfill projects and implement stringent control on refuse collection vehicles (All posts are time-limited for two years from 2014/15 to 2015/16)
1 SEPO, 3 EPO/AEPOs, 1 SEPI, 3 EPIs, 2 A/AA*	+10	To set up a Territory-wide network of Community Green Stations and develop the new mandatory Producer Responsibility Scheme (* The two posts are time-limited for three years from 2014/15 to 2016/17)
1 TA, 1 AOI 1SEO 1EO I	+ 4	To support the operation of Environment and Conservation Fund and monitor its investment return
1 EOI	+1	To enhance the management and operation of recruitment and promotion exercises
1 EPO/AEPO 1 OA	-2	To be deleted for overall redeployment
Net Increase:	+70	

Note [@] :

A Architect

AA	Assistant Architect
ACO	Assistant Clerical Officer
ADEP	Assistant Director of Environmental Protection
AEPO	Assistant Environmental Protection Officer
AOI	Accounting Officer I
CA	Clerical Assistant
CEPI	Chief Environmental Protection Inspector
CO	Clerical Officer
EOI	Executive Officer I
EOII	Executive Officer II
EPI	Environmental Protection Inspector
EPO	Environmental Protection Officer
MD	Motor Driver
OA	Office Assistant
PSI	Personal Secretary I
Senior Stat	Senior Statistician
SEO	Senior Executive Officer
SEPI	Senior Environmental Protection Inspector
SEPO	Senior Environmental Protection Officer
Stat	Statistician
StatO II	Statistical Officer II
Stu SO	Student Statistical officer
TA	Treasury Accountant

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB231

(Question Serial No.: 1337)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Air
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question(Member Question No.: 1.02):

Regarding the policies and measures for improving air quality, please advise on:

- (a) The budget and staffing establishment this year for the various work items set out in "A Clean Air Plan for Hong Kong".
- (b) The specific contents and progress of various projects or programmes jointly conducted by Guangdong and Hong Kong on environmental protection, sustainable development and combating climate change in the past 5 years; the expenditures involved in the implementation of such programmes, as well as the estimates and performance indicators for this year.

Asked by:Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) The Environment Bureau released "A Clean Air Plan for Hong Kong" (the Plan) in March 2013 to outline comprehensively the relevant policies, measures and plans to tackle air pollution. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will increase the resources for implementing the air quality improvement measures in the Plan. The estimated financial provision under the Air Programme of the EPD in 2014-15 is \$4.0569 billion, an increase of \$2.9188 billion as compared to the revised estimate for 2013-14. The increased provision is mainly due to the implementation of 3 non-recurrent programmes on improving roadside air quality, namely ex-gratia payment for phasing out pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles by 2020, the trial of electric buses by franchised bus companies, and retrofitting Euro II & Euro III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices to reduce their emissions. For the manpower establishment of the EPD, there will be a net increase of 7 posts under the Air Programme in 2014-15 to meet the additional workload.
- (b) Improving regional air quality has been one of the important work foci in environmental collaboration between Hong Kong and Guangdong. The governments of the two sides set up a Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection (the Joint Working Group) in 2000, with several special panels under the Joint Working Group to follow up on issues of mutual concern, including improving regional air quality, promoting cleaner production, etc. Besides, the Hong

Kong/Guangdong Joint Liaison Group on Combating Climate Change was set up jointly in 2012 to strengthen and co-ordinate measures and activities of the two sides in combating climate change and greenhouse gas emission reduction, and to contribute to the efforts of energy conservation and emission reduction in the region. As regards the aforementioned platform of Hong Kong-Guangdong collaboration, please refer to Annex for major collaboration programmes on improving regional air quality in the past 5 years.

In 2014-15, the EPD and relevant Guangdong departments will continue to co-operate in implementing measures to improve regional air quality and operating a joint air quality monitoring network for the PRD Region. The EPD will also collaborate with Guangdong and Macao to enhance the regional air quality monitoring network and commence a joint study on fine suspended particulates for the region. The EPD will continue to promote the adoption of cleaner production technologies and practices in Hong Kong-owned factories in Guangdong Province, and co-operate with Guangdong Province in combating climate change.

Environmental co-operation with relevant Guangdong departments, including promoting the improvement of regional air quality, cleaner production and combating climate change, is mainly coordinated by the Cross-boundary and International Division (CBD) of the EPD. The CBD has a total of 34 staff. In 2014-15, a provision of some \$34 million has been earmarked under the Air Programme of the EPD for implementing various cross-boundary air co-operation projects, including around \$25 million for promoting cleaner production and \$9 million for conducting a regional fine suspended particulates study.

**Collaboration projects or programmes on improving air quality
between Hong Kong and Guangdong from 2009-10 to 2013-14**

Title of project/ programme	Work details & expenditure involved	Progress and results achieved
PRD Regional Air Quality Management Plan (the Plan)	The Plan includes emission reduction and control measures which target at main emission sources, including power plants, vehicles and industrial facilities, etc., and regional air quality monitoring. Implementing and monitoring progress of the Plan is part of our air quality improvement work. There is no separate breakdown on the expenditure involved.	The Plan is an ongoing collaboration project, drawn up in December 2003 and regularly updated.
Study on post-2010 emission reduction plan for PRD Region (the Study)	To review the current air pollutants emission situation in the PRD Region, estimate emission levels for 2010-2020, consider possible emission reduction measures, and make suggestions on post-2010 emission reduction initiatives for the region, the study was conducted by the Air Policy Division of the EPD. There is no separate breakdown on the resources involved.	The Study began in October 2009 and concluded in November 2012. Hong Kong and Guangdong have endorsed the emission reduction targets/ranges in the PRD Region for 2015 and 2020, and will continue to implement various emission reduction measures.
Cleaner Production Partnership Programme (the Programme)	The Programme was launched in April 2008. It encourages and facilitates Hong Kong-owned factories in the PRD Region to adopt cleaner production technologies and practices through funding support and technology promotion activities, thereby contributing to improving regional air quality. The Programme is implemented with a provision of \$140 million from the Government.	In light of the environmental benefits brought about by the Programme and the positive feedback from the industries, the Government has extended the 5-year Programme by 2 years till 31 March 2015. As at the end of February 2014, the Programme has approved about 2 300 funding projects and organised nearly 340 technology and awareness promotion activities.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB232

(Question Serial No.:1338)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question(Member Question No.:1.04)

The Financial Secretary mentioned in the Budget Speech that about \$30 billion would be invested in waste recycling and treatment facilities regarding the management of municipal solid waste. Please specify:

- (a) the specific projects involved in this estimate of \$30 billion and the estimated expenditure for each project;
- (b) the work progress and anticipated time of completion of various facilities.

Asked by:Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

The Financial Secretary mentioned in the Budget Speech that about \$30 billion would be invested in waste recycling and treatment facilities. The details of the facilities are shown in the table below:

Project	Estimated expenditure (at money-of-the-day price) (\$ million)	Anticipated completion/ commissioning date	Work progress (as at March 2014)
Southeast New Territories landfill extension	1,990	Late 2016	We are seeking the support of the Panel on Environmental Affairs of the Legislative Council (LegCo EAP) to submit the extension project to the LegCo Public Works Subcommittee (LegCo PWSC) for consideration. We plan to seek funding approval from the Finance Committee of the LegCo (LegCo FC) in the second quarter of 2014 together with the other two landfill extension projects. Subject to the

Project	Estimated expenditure (at money-of-the-day price) (\$ million)	Anticipated completion/ commissioning date	Work progress (as at March 2014)
			funding approval, we will immediately commission consultant to commence the contract procurement work.
Northeast New Territories landfill extension	7,320	2017	We plan to seek funding approval from the LegCo FC in the second quarter of 2014 together with the other two landfill extension projects. Subject to the funding approval, we will immediately commence the prequalification of tenderers process.
West New Territories landfill extension (consultants' fees and investigations)	40	Late 2014 ⁽¹⁾	We plan to seek funding approval from the LegCo FC in the second quarter of 2014 together with the other two landfill extension projects. Subject to the funding approval, we will immediately commission consultants to commence the study.

Project	Estimated expenditure (at money-of-the-day price) (\$ million)	Anticipated completion/ commissioning date	Work progress (as at March 2014)
Integrated waste management facilities, phase 1	18,250	2021/22	We are seeking the support of the LegCo EAP to submit the project to the LegCo PWSC for consideration. We plan to seek funding approval from the LegCo FC in the second quarter of 2014. Subject to the funding approval, we will immediately commence the prequalification of tenderers process.
Development of waste electrical and electronic equipment treatment and recycling facility	540	Late 2016/early 2017	The tendering process has been completed and we are conducting tender assessment. We will seek support of the LegCo EAP and seek funding approval from the LegCo FC in mid- 2014.
Organic waste treatment facilities phase 1	1,530	2016	We plan to seek funding approval from the LegCo FC in the second quarter of 2014, and award the “Design, Build and Operate” (DBO) contract in mid-2014.
Community green stations (CGSs) in the 18 districts	400	By phases from 2014	Two sites have been confirmed for setting up the CGSs in Shatin and Eastern District. The preparation for setting up the CGSs in other districts has been started. The first CGS is expected to be completed in Shatin in 2014.
Total	30,070		

Note(1): This refers to the date of commencement of the consultancy study and the specific arrangement of the extension will be finalized in the consultancy study.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB233

(Question Serial No.: 2048)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (6) Nature Conservation
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 1.09):

Regarding the measures to protect country park enclaves, please advise on the following:

- (a) What are the details of the measures to be overseen by the Department? What were the expenditure and manpower involved in the past five years and what is the estimate for 2014-15?
- (b) What were the numbers of cases of unauthorized development, pollution or environmental damage in the enclaves and follow-up cases received or detected, as well as the numbers of warnings, prosecutions and convictions made by the Department in the past five years?
- (c) How does the Department cooperate with the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department and the Lands Department in protecting the enclaves and what are the details of their division of work?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

(a) and (b) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) officers are deployed to conduct regular patrols in country parks and enclaves. Should suspected illegal development in enclaves be identified, the cases will be referred to the relevant departments such as the Planning Department and the Lands Department for follow-up action. However, as enclaves fall outside country park area, AFCD cannot take enforcement action under the Country Parks Ordinance (Cap 208), and for this reason, there are no statistics on warnings, prosecutions and convictions. Meanwhile, the Planning Department has carried out 90 patrols in the enclaves covered by Development Permission Area Plans since 2010. Enforcement Notices on two unauthorized developments were issued to five parties in 2011, requiring the parties concerned to terminate the excavation work. The parties concerned have complied and reinstated the sites as requested in the Reinstatement Notices issued by the Planning Department.

(c) The main responsibilities of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) are to formulate policies and to co-ordinate and oversee the implementation of programmes on nature conservation, while AFCD is the authority responsible for implementing the policies.

Should incidents of unlawful occupation and excavation of unleased government land be detected during patrols, AFCD will refer the cases to the Lands Department for follow-up action.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB234

(Question Serial No.: 2507)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (5) Environmental Assessment and Planning

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 1.01):

- (1) Did the Department review the operation of the environmental impact assessment mechanism in the past 5 years? If yes, please provide information on the conclusions of the reviews, the improvement measures and their implementation.
- (2) What measures are taken by the Department to monitor and ensure compliance by approved projects with the conditions attached to environmental permit (EP)? What is the Department's staff establishment for monitoring and enforcement in this regard?
- (3) Please provide the relevant figures in the following table:

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number of EPs issued					
Number of cases where the EP conditions were violated					
Number of cases where warnings were given because of violation of EP conditions					
Number of cases where prosecutions were initiated because of violation of EP conditions					
Number of cases where the EPs were revoked because of violation of EP conditions					

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

1. As a continual improvement process, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) from time to time reviews the operation of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) mechanism with a view to

enhancing its effectiveness and efficiency. The reviews have taken into account the experience in implementation, new professional developments, court decisions as well as feedbacks from various stakeholders. We have implemented a series of improvement measures, such as issuing guidance materials, providing advice at the early stage of EIA study, organizing training and seminars, etc. to strengthen technical support, enhance transparency in processing applications, and to better co-ordinate the work of various departments during the EIA process with a view to meeting the requirements of the EIA Ordinance.

2. To ensure compliance with the environmental permit conditions, EPD officers will carry out site inspections and scrutinize the Environmental Monitoring and Audit Reports submitted by permit holders. Should violations be identified, action will be taken in accordance with the law. As this is part of the routine integrated enforcement work of EPD, we do not have separate breakdowns of the manpower establishment involved.

3. Please see the figures required in the following table:

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number of environmental permits (EP) issued	90	68	41	63	80
Number of cases where the EP conditions were violated	2	7	5	16	2
Number of cases where warnings were given because of violation of EP conditions	0	4	3	1	2
Number of cases where prosecutions were initiated because of violation of EP conditions ⁽¹⁾	2	3	2	15	0
Number of cases where the EPs were revoked because of violation of EP conditions	0	0	0	0	0

Remarks: (1) This includes prosecution cases for construction or operation of designated projects without environmental permits.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB235

(Question Serial No.: 0358)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Waste
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 1):

The 2014-15 estimate for Programme (1) "Waste" is \$2,304 m, a substantial increase by 28.7% from the financial provision for 2013-14. How will the Administration utilize the resources for the following projects:

- (1) promoting glass recycling and rolling out the recycling programme to more areas;
- (2) implementing voluntary producer responsibility schemes;
- (3) taking forward the development of organic waste treatment facilities for the treatment of source-separated food waste from the commercial and industrial sectors, the development of a waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) treatment facility to handle the WEEE locally generated and the project on the development of an integrated waste management facility as soon as possible?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwan-yuen, Andrew

Reply:

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) reported the progress and work plan of the preparatory work for the producer responsibility scheme (PRS) on glass beverage bottles to the Panel on Environmental Affairs (EAP) in November 2013. We are progressively expanding the glass bottle collection network, and plan to increase the number of residential collection points from the current 321 to 1 000 by the end of 2014. At the same time, the Government will continue to support and promote various voluntary recycling programmes, covering computers, electrical appliances, fluorescent lamps, rechargeable batteries and glass beverage bottles, to gain experience and prepare for the implementation of mandatory PRSs in future.

As regards the three infrastructural projects mentioned in the question, our work plans are as follows:

- (a) Organic Waste Treatment Facilities (OWTF): We are planning the development of OWTF in phases to recycle food waste into biogas for energy recovery and compost products. The first phase of OWTF will be developed in Siu Ho Wan of North Lantau with a daily capacity of 200 tonnes of food waste. The EPD plans to seek funding approval from the Finance

Committee of the Legislative Council (LegCo FC) in the second quarter of 2014, award the “Design, Build and Operate” (DBO) contract in mid-2014 and open the facility in late 2016/early 2017.

- (b) Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Treatment Facility: According to our planning, the WEEE treatment facility will have a designed capacity of 30 000 tonnes of WEEE per annum in support of the future mandatory PRSs which will cover television sets, refrigerators, washing machines, air conditioners and computer products. The EPD plans to seek funding approval from the LegCo FC in mid-2014 and award the DBO contract in the second half of 2014. The facility is expected to be completed for commissioning in late 2016/early 2017.
- (c) Integrated Waste Management Facility (IWMF): Having considered the spatial distribution of our waste management facilities, environmental factors and transport efficiency, the Government has chosen the artificial island next to Shek Kwu Chau as the site for the first modern IWMF. The first phase of IWMF will have a capacity of 3 000 tonnes of municipal solid waste per day. The facility can achieve a bulk reduction of solid waste and generate electricity. The EPD has submitted the proposal to the EAP. We are seeking the EAP’s support for submitting the funding application to the LegCo FC for approval in the second quarter of 2014. Subject to the funding approval, we will immediately commence the pre-qualification and tendering process for the project, so that the contract can be awarded as soon as possible.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB236

(Question Serial No.:0359)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Air
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 2)

According to Programme (2) "Air", the estimate for 2014-15 is \$4,056.9 million, which is a significant increase of 256.5% over the revised provision of 2013-14. Will the Administration advise:

- (1) What are the reasons for the significant increase in provision?
- (2) How much of the provision will be spent on collaboration with franchised bus companies to try out hybrid buses and electric buses? How many buses will be introduced (please list out the manufacturers and models) and what is the anticipated effectiveness? How much of the provision in 2013-14 was spent for this purpose and what was the effectiveness?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwan-yuen, Andrew

Reply:

- (1) The estimated financial provision under Air Programme of the Environmental Protection Department for 2014-15 is \$4.0569 billion, which represents an increase of \$2.9188 billion over the revised estimate for 2013-14. The increase in provision is mainly due to the implementation of three non-recurrent items for improving roadside air quality. The details are as follows:

Non-recurrent item	Revised estimate for 2013-14	Estimated provision for 2014-15
Ex-gratia payment for phasing out pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles by 2020	\$280 million	\$3.36 billion
Trial of electric buses by	\$20 million	\$130 million

franchised bus companies		
Retrofitting Euro II and Euro III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices to reduce their emissions	\$6 million	\$20 million

- (2) The Government has been approved funding of \$33 million and \$180 million respectively to fully subsidise the franchised bus companies to procure six hybrid buses and 36 electric buses for trial run in Hong Kong. The funding will be disbursed to the bus companies in stages according to the progress of procuring these buses. The revised estimates in 2013-14 made by the Government for these two projects were \$16.5 million and \$20 million respectively.

The franchised bus companies have already placed orders for the procurement of the six hybrid buses. The manufacturer is Alexander Dennis (Asia Pacific) Limited. The model is Enviro 500H. The trial is expected to commence in the second half of 2014. According to the bus manufacturer, compared with conventional diesel buses, the estimated emission reductions achieved by these hybrid buses are:

- 20% nitrogen oxides and nitrogen dioxide;
- 40% particulates; and
- 30% carbon dioxide (fuel consumption will also be reduced accordingly).

As regards electric buses, as these buses do not have tailpipe emissions, replacing conventional buses with electric buses can improve the roadside air quality more effectively. The franchised bus companies are progressively tendering the procurement of the electric buses, and the trial will commence successively, starting from end 2014.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB237

(Question Serial No.: 5847)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Waste
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:526):

It is mentioned in paragraph 52 of the Budget Speech that “As for the management of municipal solid waste, we shall invest about \$30 billion in waste recycling and treatment facilities. We are pressing ahead with the provision of organic waste treatment facilities, community green stations, and waste electrical and electronic equipment processing facilities. Government is also actively pursuing measures to support the long-term and sustainable development of the recycling industry by setting up a Recycling Fund, enhancing training, promoting green procurement, etc. We are also actively taking forward the development of the Integrated Waste Management Facilities Phase 1 and the extension of the three landfills.”

Please list the resource distribution, manpower arrangement, progress and performance indicators in respect of the \$30 billion.

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply:

It is mentioned in the 2014-15 Budget Speech that about \$30 billion would be invested in waste recycling and treatment facilities, the \$1 billion earmarked for the setting up of the Recycling Fund is excluded. The details of the resource distribution, manpower arrangement, progress and performance indicators of the \$30 billion facilities are shown in the table below:

Project	Estimated expenditure (at money-of-the-day price) (\$ million)	Manpower involved	Work progress (as at March 2014)	Performance indicators
Southeast New Territories landfill extension	1,990	To help implement the three extension projects, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will follow up with the diversion in waste transfer, strengthen the communication with the local community, and monitor the equipment standards of refuse collection vehicles, etc. Starting from 2014, 16 time-limited posts lasting for 2 years will be created.	We are seeking the support of the Panel on Environmental Affairs of the Legislative Council (LegCo EAP) to submit the extension project to the LegCo Public Works Sub-committee (LegCo PWSC) for consideration. We plan to seek funding approval from the Finance Committee of the LegCo (LegCo FC) in the second quarter of 2014 together with the other two landfill extension projects. Subject to the funding approval, we will immediately commission consultant to commence the contract procurement work.	Landfill projects are an essential part of Hong Kong's waste management strategy. The existing three strategic landfills are expected to be exhausted one by one by 2019, the timely extension of the three strategic landfills is most important and essential for providing stable and sufficient landfilling capacity so as to continue to provide Hong Kong with proper final waste disposal facilities to handle those waste (including non-recyclables, non-combustible waste, construction waste and post-treatment residues) that need to be disposed of after waste reduction.
Northeast New Territories landfill extension	7,320		We plan to seek funding approval from the LegCo FC in the second quarter of 2014 together with the other two landfill extension projects. Subject to the funding approval, we will immediately commence the prequalification of tenderers process.	
West New Territories landfill extension (consultants' fees and investigations)	40		We plan to seek funding approval from the LegCo FC in the second quarter of 2014 together with the other two landfill extension projects. Subject to the funding approval, we will immediately commission consultants to commence	

Project	Estimated expenditure (at money-of-the-day price) (\$ million)	Manpower involved	Work progress (as at March 2014)	Performance indicators
			the study.	
Integrated waste management facilities, phase 1	18,250	Apart from the existing manpower resources, 1 permanent post and 2.5 time-limited posts will be increased.	We are seeking the support of the LegCo EAP to submit the project to the LegCo PWSC for consideration. We plan to seek funding approval from the LegCo FC in the second quarter of 2014. Subject to the funding approval, we will immediately commence the prequalification of tenderers process.	The facilities will treat 3 000 tonnes of municipal solid waste each day upon completion for commissioning in 2021/22.
Development of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) treatment and recycling facility	540	The works have been planned and will be handled by existing staff.	The tendering process has been completed and we are conducting tender assessment. We will seek support of the LegCo EAP and seek funding approval from the LegCo FC in mid- 2014.	The WEEE treatment and recycling facility will have a designed capacity of 30 000 tonnes of WEEE per annum in support of the future mandatory producer responsibility scheme which will cover television sets, refrigerators, washing machines, air conditioners and computer products.
Organic waste treatment facilities phase 1	1,530		We plan to seek funding approval from the LegCo FC in the second quarter of 2014, and award the “Design, Build and Operate” (DBO) contract in mid-2014.	The facilities will treat 200 tonnes of food waste each day upon completion for commissioning in 2016.
Community green stations (CGSs) in the 18 districts	400	Starting from 2014, 16 permanent posts and 5 time-limited posts lasting for 3 years will be increased.	Two sites have been confirmed for setting up the CGSs in Shatin and Eastern District. The preparation for setting up the CGSs in other districts has been started. The first CGS in Shatin	With the CGSs in place, they will help gradually enhancing the quality and quantity of recyclables collected, and recover more recyclables of different types for local

Project	Estimated expenditure (at money-of-the-day price) (\$ million)	Manpower involved	Work progress (as at March 2014)	Performance indicators
			is expected to be completed in 2014.	processing.
Total	30,070			

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB238

(Question Serial No.: 0917)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 8):

It is mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014–15 that the Department will “continue to take forward the development of organic waste treatment facilities for the treatment of source-separated food waste from the commercial and industrial sectors”. Would the Department advise on the details of the policy and the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla

Reply:

The Environment Bureau unveiled “A Food Waste & Yard Waste Plan for Hong Kong 2014-2022” (the Plan) in February 2014, which maps out a comprehensive strategy, targets, policies and action plans for the management of food waste and yard waste. Four strategies have been identified in the Plan as the backbone to face the issue of food waste, namely reduction at source, reuse and donation, recyclable collection, and turning food waste into energy, with the target of reducing food waste disposal to landfills by 40% in 2022.

We have reviewed many types of technology for treating food waste. As Hong Kong has a large need for energy, our policy is to treat the city’s collected food waste to produce renewable energy using anaerobic digestion as the core technology. We plan to build a network of around 5 to 6 organic waste treatment facilities (OWTFs), to enable food waste to be transported quickly from population centres to the facilities that are not too far away and turned into useful resources, thereby reducing potential nuisance arising from the transportation of food waste. The first phase of OWTF will be developed in Siu Ho Wan of North Lantau to treat about 200 tonnes of food waste per day. We plan to seek funding approval from the Legislative Council Finance Committee in the second quarter of this year with a view to awarding the Design-Build-Operate contract in mid-2014 and commissioning the facility in 2016. For the second phase of OWTF at Sha Ling of the North District with a daily capacity of 300 tonnes, we have also completed the environmental impact assessment (EIA) study and we are proceeding with tender preparation procedures. Besides, we will conduct the engineering and EIA studies for the third phase of OWTF as soon as possible, and continue to look for suitable sites for further OWTFs.

The estimated expenditure for the studies and works of the first phase of OWTF in 2014-15 is \$1.5 million and \$212 million respectively. The estimated expenditure for the studies of the second and third phases of OWTF in 2014-15 is \$1.3 million and \$0.5 million respectively.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB239

(Question Serial No.: 0918)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 9):

It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014–15 that the Department will “develop a Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) treatment facility to handle the WEEE locally generated”. Would the Department provide the following information:

- a. Please list the number of items collected and processed by the designated public collection points under the WEEE Recycling Programme and the Computer Recycling Programme in the past three years;
- b. Please list the number of items collected and processed by the Environmental Protection Department's mobile collection vehicles for the above two programmes in the past three years;
- c. Please list the expenditure for the above two programmes in the past three years;
- d. Whether the Department has plans in future to increase the number of the designated public collection points and the frequency of services provided by the mobile collection vehicles? If yes, what are the details and the estimated expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla

Reply:

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) encourages the public to recycle waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) through various measures, including the WEEE Recycling Programme funded by the Environment and Conservation Fund and the Computer Recycling Programme self-financed by the trade. Apart from organising promotion and publicity activities and providing technical support, the EPD also provides logistics support through the mobile WEEE Collection Centre and organises collection programmes at schools and housing estates at specified time. The refurbished and repaired WEEE collected under these two programmes will be donated to the needy, and the rest will be dismantled to recover reusable components and materials.

- a. The number of items collected and processed under the WEEE Recycling Programme and the Computer Recycling Programme in the past three years are tabulated below.

	WEEE Recycling Programme (unit)	Computer Recycling Programme (unit)
2011	46 800	18 300
2012	49 000	39 600
2013	50 500	27 000

- b. Details of WEEE and computers collected by mobile WEEE collection vehicles are tabulated below.

	WEEE (unit)	Computer (unit)
2011	5 800	2 750
2012	5 800	2 700
2013	11 800	8 000

- c. The expenditure involved in the two programmes in the past three years was: about \$5 million in 2011, about \$4.9 million in 2012 and about \$5.1 million in 2013.
- d. The EPD will continue to encourage the public to recycle WEEE through promotion and publicity activities, and strengthen various kinds of collection services according to demand. In 2014-15, we plan to increase the number of collection points at schools and housing estates and the estimated additional expenditure involved is about \$0.15 million.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB240

(Question Serial No.: 2370)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (4) Water

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 13):

It is mentioned in paragraph 51 of the Budget that upon the scheduled completion of Stage 2A of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme this year, the water quality of Victoria Harbour will further improve. However, no mention is made in the Budget about the sources of water pollution. Misconnections of sewers and storm water drains are found in many aged buildings in Hong Kong, and a large quantity of untreated sewage is discharged into the sea directly, constituting a major source of water pollution. Among all districts, water quality is particularly poor off Cherry Street, Tai Kok Tsui and at Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter, with serious odour problems causing nuisance to residents nearby. In this connection, would the Administration advise this Committee on the following:

- (1) What was the progress of the Administration in rectifying sewer misconnections in the past 3 years? What were the resources deployed by the Administration each year? Will more resources be allocated in future to speed up the progress of rectification so as to bring early improvement to water quality? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (2) What was the progress of the Administration's efforts to abate odour and dredge sludge off Cherry Street, Tai Kok Tsui and at Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter in the past 3 years? What were the resources deployed by the Administration by types of measures?
- (3) Will the Administration consider launching new measures in future, such as installing more flow interceptors to block pollutants or adopting biotechnology to decompose sludge? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla

Reply:

On completion of Harbour Area Treatment Scheme Stage 2A, near shore pollution in Victoria Harbour will become our priority water quality problem. We plan to carry out a consultancy study to work out practical options and a programme, to improve the environment of our waterfront areas by tackling near shore pollution. We will consult stakeholders in the next few months on the scope and details of the consultancy

study. Our reply regarding the water quality off Cherry Street, Tai Kok Tsui and at the Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter is as follows:

1. The government departments concerned have been cooperating to handle cases of mis-connected sewers with their existing manpower and resources. As this is part of the routine work of the departments, no separate breakdown on such expenditure is available. In respect of the waters off Cherry Street, Tai Kok Tsui and in the vicinity of the Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has successfully rectified misconnections of sewers at about 320 private buildings in the district between 2006 and late 2013. The number of cases discovered by EPD in the district in the past three years and the progress of rectification are listed in the table below:

No. of cases of mis-connected sewers		
2011	2012	2013
11 (8 rectified)	6 (2 rectified)	9 (7 rectified)

Rectification of misconnection of sewers requires discussion and follow-up with relevant government departments, building owners, owners' corporations, etc. Some cases take a longer processing time. The Administration will continue to process the outstanding cases.

2. The Drainage Services Department (DSD) has increased the frequency of desilting works at the Cherry Street box culvert outlet to three times per year. In the past three years (2011-13), DSD spent about over \$4 million on desilting works at the Cherry Street box culvert outlet and its upstream areas. In addition, DSD's expenditure on the operation and maintenance of the stormwater drainage system in the new Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter catchment area in the past three years is about over \$9 million.

Besides, the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) has conducted maintenance dredging works in the waters near Yau Ma Tei and Tai Kok Tsui in the past three years (2011-13) to ensure safety of maritime navigation, and the related expenditure is around \$3.2 million.

3. The Administration has plans to install an additional dry weather flow interceptor at the outlet of the Cherry Street box culvert. This project has been included into PWP No.4380DS "Construction of dry weather flow interceptor at Cherry Street box culvert". DSD is conducting a consultancy study on the investigation, design and construction of the dry weather flow interceptor.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB241

(Question Serial No.: 2371)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 14):

As the terminal building and the first berth of the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal came into operation in 2013, the cruise industry will hopefully become a new growth area for the Hong Kong economy. However, pollutant emissions from cruises have also aroused public concern. In this connection, would the Administration advise this Committee on the following:

1. How many resources have been allocated to ensure the reduction of pollutant emissions from cruises at berth? Please list the expenditures of the various measures in detail.
2. With the expected completion of the second berth of the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal within this year, the number of cruises berthing and homeporting in Hong Kong will gradually increase. The relevant pollution problems will tend to worsen. Will the Administration roll out new measures to control the pollution problem from cruises? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla

Reply:

1. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has implemented the 3-year Port Facilities and Light Dues Incentive Scheme (the Incentive Scheme) since September 2012 to encourage the use of low sulphur fuel by ocean-going vessels (OGVs) while berthing in Hong Kong waters to reduce the emission of sulphur dioxide and respirable suspended particulates. OGVs that participate in the Incentive Scheme would have their port facilities and light dues reduced by half. The Incentive Scheme is also applicable to cruise vessels. Besides, regarding the installation of on-shore power supply (OPS) facilities at the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department engaged a consultancy service in November 2013 to conduct a technical feasibility study, which could help the EPD work out the work details of OPS installation and estimate the cost. The study is expected to complete in mid-2014. Upon completion of the study, the Government will report the findings to the relevant panels of the Legislative Council. The expenditure of the study is about \$1.6 million.
2. In addition to the Incentive Scheme and the technical feasibility study on the installation of OPS facilities at the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal, we are planning to require OGVs to switch to low sulphur fuel

(with sulphur content not exceeding 0.5%) while at berth through legislation. We are drafting the relevant legislation and we expect to table it to the Legislative Council for scrutiny in the second half of this year.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB242

(Question Serial No.: 0586)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 13):

Provision for 2014-15 is \$514.0 million, or 28.7%, higher than the revised estimate for 2013-14. This includes the increased contract payments for the treatment facilities. Please advise on the percentage of such payments in the revised estimate and on the annual expenditure. Does the Environmental Protection Department have sufficient provision to address the problem of waste treatment? What are the relevant manpower and expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. LIAO Cheung-kong, Martin

Reply:

The total estimated expenditure for waste management in 2014-15 is expected to be \$2,304 million. It represents an increase of \$514 million, or 28.7%, over the revised estimate of \$1,790 million for 2013-14. This includes an increase of \$333.5 million in fees for operation of waste facilities. That is, the estimate for 2014-15 is \$1,623.6 million against the revised estimate of \$1,290.1 million for 2013-14. This increase accounts for 18.6% of the revised estimate for the total expenditure for waste management in 2013-14. As a prudent approach in ensuring proper waste management service to the community, adequate funding is therefore reserved for addressing the problem of waste management. The estimated staff establishment for waste management in 2014-15 is 647 and the relevant expenditure is \$372.9 million.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB243

(Question Serial No. 0587)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.14):

Provision for 2014-15 is \$2,918.8 million (256.5%) higher than the revised estimate for 2013-14. This is mainly due to increased cash flow requirement for non-recurrent projects. As the Administration has not explained in detail why there is such a significant increase, please advise what these non-recurrent projects are and what the expenditure for each project is every year.

Asked by: Hon. LIAO Cheung-kong, Martin

Reply:

The estimate for the "Air Programme" of the Environmental Protection Department in 2014-15 is \$2,918.8 million higher than the revised estimate for 2013-14. This is mainly due to the implementation of three non-recurrent programmes on improving roadside air quality with details as follows:

Non-recurrent Programme	Revised Estimate for 2013-14	Estimated Provision for 2014-15
Ex-gratia payment for phasing out pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles by 2020	\$280 million	\$3,360 million
Trial of electric buses by franchised bus companies	\$20 million	\$130 million
Retrofitting Euro II and Euro III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices to reduce their emissions	\$6 million	\$20 million

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB244

(Question Serial No.: 0328)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 6):

It is mentioned in the 2014-15 Budget Speech that the Government will promote the use of electric vehicles and provide tax exemption. In this connection, will the Government advise on the following:

1. With respect to tax exemption, apart from extending the exemption from First Registration Tax with electric vehicles by 3 years up to 31 March 2017, has the Government studied other options and measures to offer incentives to vehicle users?
2. Given that there are currently only 10 quick chargers in Hong Kong, will the Administration consider setting up more quick chargers to meet the demand? If not possible, what are the main difficulties?
3. Support from technicians is indispensable to promoting the development and wider use of electric vehicles. At present, there are not enough professionals to provide maintenance and care for the vehicles. As such, will the Government consider collaborating with tertiary institutions to cultivate talents in related fields? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-kwok

Reply:

- 1 & 2. The Government has been actively promoting the use of electric vehicles (EVs), taking the lead in the use of EVs and working with the private sector to set up charging facilities. Apart from the proposal of extending the exemption from First Registration Tax with EVs by 3 years, other measures on the promotion of EVs include:
- i. Allowing enterprises that have procured environment-friendly vehicles, including EVs, to have 100% profits tax deduction for the capital expenditure on EVs in the first year of procurement.
 - ii. A \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund was established in March 2011 to subsidize the transport operators for trying green innovative transport technologies (including EVs). As at

the end of February 2014, subsidy has been approved for the procurement of 72 EVs, including electric goods vehicles, taxis, buses and light buses.

- iii. Liaison with the EV manufacturers and dealers to encourage them to supply EVs to Hong Kong. As at the end of February 2014, 26 EV models from 7 countries have been approved by the Transport Department for use in Hong Kong.
- iv. The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department has established a dedicated team and a hotline (3757 6222) to help EV owners or buyers to set up EV chargers at strata-titled car parks. In addition, guidelines have been issued on the technical requirements and how to set up chargers at car parks. Letters have been issued to around 7 400 owners' corporations and owner's committees appealing for their support.
- v. Since April 2011, concessions have been granted on gross floor area for new building car parks if they are "EV charging-enabling" to encourage developers to put in place at the building construction stage the infrastructure and conditions, including provision of sufficient power supply and electrical wiring, to facilitate future installation of chargers for EV users.
- vi. Planning guidelines for new buildings have been amended to recommend 30% of car parking spaces to be installed with standard chargers.

Currently, the Government has installed about 500 standard charging facilities in 18 public car parks administered by the Transport Department and the Government Property Agency. The private sector has also installed more than 500 charging facilities. In addition, Hong Kong now has 10 quick chargers set up at various districts, such that there is one quick charger within around 20 km. The Government will also launch a trial scheme that enables suppliers of electric taxis to install quick chargers at car parks administered by the Transport Department. A total of 100 medium chargers will be provided this year in various districts to shorten charging time. Moreover, we will closely monitor the growth in the number of EVs, and consider the need to further expand the charging network in a timely manner.

3. To dovetail with wider use of EVs in Hong Kong, the Pro-Act Training and Development Centre (Automobile) of the Vocational Training Council has organised courses relating to EV maintenance. The Centre will also progressively develop training courses on EV maintenance for maintenance personnel in response to market needs. The Government has been liaising with tertiary institutions to monitor the technological development of EVs and the progress of the trial in Hong Kong. We will continue to collaborate with the tertiary institutions to cultivate talents in related fields.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB245

(Question Serial No.: 0332)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 15):

The Government mentioned that it would continue to promote the reduction of food waste through the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign. The current practice of disposing of food waste at the landfills is not environmental-friendly because food waste has consumed the limited space of the landfills and caused odour nuisance to the nearby residents. In this connection, would the Administration consider setting up food waste treatment facilities progressively in the districts so that the food waste can be processed further or be deodourised and reduced in bulk before delivery to the landfills? Moreover, has the Administration explored how to recycle the food waste and change it into animal feeds or fish food? If yes, please provide the specific work details and estimated expenditure. If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-ki

Reply:

The Environment Bureau unveiled "A Food Waste & Yard Waste Plan for Hong Kong 2014-2022" (the Plan) in February 2014, which maps out a comprehensive strategy, targets, policies and action plans for the management of food waste and yard waste. Four strategies have been identified in the Plan as the backbone to address the issue of food waste, namely reduction at source, reuse and donation, recyclable collection, and turning food waste into energy, with the target of reducing food waste disposal to landfills by 40% in 2022.

We have reviewed many types of technology for treating food waste. Hong Kong is a densely populated commercial city and has limited local demand for fish feed or animal feed recycled from food waste. On the other hand, as Hong Kong has a large need for energy, our policy is to treat the city's collected food waste to produce renewable energy using anaerobic digestion as the core technology. We plan to build a network of around 5 to 6 organic waste treatment facilities (OWTFs), to enable food waste to be transported quickly from population centres to the facilities that are not too far away and turned into useful resources, thereby reducing potential nuisance arising from the transportation of food waste. The first phase of OWTF will be developed in Siu Ho Wan of North Lantau to treat about 200 tonnes of food waste per day. We plan to seek funding approval from the Legislative Council Finance Committee in the second quarter of this year with a view to awarding the Design-Build-Operate contract in mid-2014 and commissioning the facility in 2016. For the second phase of OWTF at Sha Ling of the North District with a daily capacity of 300 tonnes, we

have also completed the environmental impact assessment (EIA) study and we are proceeding with tender preparation procedures. Besides, we will conduct the engineering and EIA studies for the third phase of OWTF at Shek Kong as soon as possible, and continue to look for suitable sites for further OWTFs.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB246****(Question Serial No.: 0506)**

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 19):

According to Programme (1), there will be an increase of 70 posts in 2014-15. Please list these posts by grade, division and recruitment quota of each division. Does the Government have plans to convert, as a matter of priority, existing contract staff into civil servants on permanent terms; and whether funds have been earmarked for such purposes in the 2014-15 financial year?

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-kwok

Reply:

The net increase of 70 posts in 2014-15 is listed as below:

Grade	Rank	No. of New posts	Expenditure (\$ million)
Environmental Protection Officer	Assistant Director	1	1.739
Environmental Protection Officer	Senior Environmental Protection Officer	9	10.384
Environmental Protection Officer	Environmental Protection Officer / Assistant Environmental Protection Officer	23	12.990
Environmental Protection Inspector	Senior Environmental Protection Inspector	6	2.833
Environmental Protection Inspector	Environmental Protection Inspector	14	4.107
Statistician	Senior Statistician	1	1.154
Statistician	Statistician	1	0.773
Statistical Officer	Statistical Officer II / Student Statistical Officer	1	0.220

Architect	Architect / Assistant Architect	2	1.277
Treasury Accountant	Treasury Accountant	1	0.808
Accounting Officer	Accounting Officer I	1	0.622
Executive Officer	Senior Executive Officer	1	0.846
Executive Officer	Executive Officer I	2	1.244
Executive Officer	Executive Officer II	1	0.412
Clerical Officer	Clerical Officer	1	0.357
Clerical Officer	Assistant Clerical Officer	3	0.667
Clerical Officer	Clerical Assistant	2	0.347
Personal Secretary	Personal Secretary I	1	0.357
Office Assistant	Office Assistant	(1)	(0.153)
	TOTAL	70	40.984

Funds have been earmarked for the net increase of the above 70 posts in 2014-15.

It is the Government's policy to select the most suitable persons for civil service vacancies through an open, fair and competitive process. As the circumstances and nature of the employment of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff are different from those of civil servants and the entry requirements as well as selection process for NCSC positions may differ from those of civil service posts, it is not appropriate to accord priority to employing NCSC staff as civil servants. However, we welcome in-service NCSC staff to apply civil service posts through an open and fair recruitment process. For NCSC staff who meet the entry requirements of civil service posts, their working experience in the Government will be fully considered during the recruitment process.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB247

(Question Serial No.: 0507)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (297) Fees for operation of waste facilities

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 21):

Provision under Subhead 297 "Fees for operation of waste facilities" for 2014-15 is 25.9% higher than the revised estimate for 2013-14. Please list the expenditures of the following items for 2014-15 in comparison with 2013-14:

1. Please list the expenditure for the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre, refuse transfer stations and landfills;
2. for administering the charging schemes therefor; and
3. for the trial of the Sludge Treatment Facilities.

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-kwok

Reply:

1 & 3. The provision under Subhead 297 is for contract payments for the operation of waste facilities including the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre, refuse transfer stations, landfills and the Sludge Treatment Facilities, etc. The estimated operation costs of these 4 facilities for 2013-14 and 2014-15 are listed below:

	Operation Cost (\$ million)	
	2013-14 (Revised Estimate)	2014-15 (Estimate)
Chemical Waste Treatment Centre	210	225
Refuse transfer stations	394	500
Landfills	616	654
Sludge Treatment Facilities	0	134
Total	1,220	1,513

2. The contract payments for administering the charging schemes therefor are included in the operation fees paid to the contractors, and there is no separate breakdown.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB248

(Question Serial No.: 0508)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (700) General non-recurrent

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 22):

Regarding the general non-recurrent expenses under Subhead 700, please provide the following information:

1. For the Pilot Green Transport Fund, the accumulated expenditure as at 31.3.2013 was originally \$3,634,000, but the revised estimated expenditure for 2013-14 increased significantly to \$57,203,000. What are the reasons?
2. For the Trial of Hybrid Buses by Franchised Bus Companies, the accumulated expenditure as at 31.3.2013 was originally \$3,300,000, but the revised estimated expenditure for 2013-14 increased significantly to \$16,500,000. What are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-kwok

Reply:

1. The subsidies of the Pilot Green Transport Fund are released in stages to the recipients having regard to the progress of the approved trials. In 2012-13, 8 trials began upon completion of preparation. For 2013-14, 35 trials are expected to start upon completion of preparation, including the trial of electric buses which involved a relatively large amount of subsidy. As a result, the estimated expenditure of the Fund increased to about \$57.2 million.
2. The Government will fund the full cost of procuring 6 hybrid buses for trial run by 3 franchised bus companies. The franchised bus companies have already placed orders for the 6 hybrid buses at a total cost of \$33 million. According to the procurement contract between the franchised bus companies and the bus supplier, payment will be made in 3 instalments. The first instalment of \$3.3 million (10% of the total amount) has been paid in 2012-13; payment for the second instalment of \$16.5 million (50% of the total amount) is expected in 2013-14. As a result, we have to increase the revised estimated expenditure accordingly. The hybrid buses are expected to arrive in Hong Kong in mid-2014, and the outstanding balance will be settled in 2014-15.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB249

(Question Serial No.0510)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (700) General non-recurrent

Programme: (4) Water

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.22):

In respect of the general non-recurrent expenses under Subhead 700, please provide the following information:

Regarding the “review and development of Marine Water Quality Objectives”, the accumulated expenditure as at 31 March 2013 was originally \$7.872 million, but the revised estimated expenditure for 2013-14 was \$841,000. What are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-kwok

Reply:

Regarding the study on “review and development of Marine Water Quality Objectives”, the accumulated expenditure is the actual total amount payable to the consultant for the completed work and study reports of this project. The accumulated expenditure of the study was \$7.872 million as at 31 March 2013. The \$841,000 reserved under the revised estimate for 2013-14 was for consultancy fee for the remaining work.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB250

(Question Serial No.:1864)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 2):

In December 2012, the Government deliberately set up the Food Wise Hong Kong Steering Committee to fulfill the Chief Executive's election manifesto commitment on food waste reduction. However, no performance indicators related to food waste are seen under the Waste programme. Will the Administration consider including relevant indicators to help the public monitor the effectiveness of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign in promoting food waste reduction? Does the Administration have any specific indicators for reference in monitoring generation of food waste by various sectors?

Asked by: Hon. MO, Claudia

Reply:

To take forward the Chief Executive's pledge to promote food waste reduction, the Government announced on 3 December 2012 the setting up of the Food Wise Hong Kong Steering Committee, which is chaired by the Secretary for the Environment and with members drawn from the relevant sectors, including catering and hotels, retail, property management, education, academia, green groups and food recipient organizations, as well as relevant government departments. The Steering Committee is tasked with formulating and overseeing the implementation strategies of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign (the Campaign), which aims to promote public awareness of food waste problems in Hong Kong and co-ordinate efforts within the Government and public institutions to lead by example in food waste reduction. The objectives of the Steering Committee also include instilling behavioural change at the individual and household levels to help reduce food waste generation, drawing up and promoting good practices of food waste reduction at commercial and industrial establishments, and facilitating food donation to charitable organizations from establishments with surplus food.

Since its launching, the Campaign has promoted a food wise and waste less culture and encouraged behavioural change to reduce food waste in the community through various schemes and activities. The "Big Waster" symbolising food wastage in the Campaign is gradually taking root in the community. As at 15 February 2014, 330 organisations have signed the Food Wise Charter and pledged to reducing food waste, and some 450 Food Wise Hong Kong Ambassadors have taken part in the food waste reduction training

workshops to prepare themselves for promotion of Food Wise message. We will keep in view the effectiveness of the Campaign. Meanwhile, in order to facilitate our understanding of the efforts and arrangements of the organisations on reducing food waste, an implementation progress form has been sent to all the Food Wise Charter signees to collect their feedback.

The Environment Bureau unveiled in February 2014 “A Food Waste & Yard Waste Plan for Hong Kong 2014-2022” (the Plan), mapping out a strategic framework, specific targets, policy initiatives and action plans for the treatment of food waste and yard waste. The Plan has set out four strategies as the backbone in addressing the challenge of food waste, namely reduction at source, reuse and donation, recyclable collection, and turning food waste into energy, with a view to reducing the food waste disposal at landfills by 40% by 2022.

The Environmental Protection Department issues reports on “Monitoring of Solid Waste in Hong Kong” every year, releasing statistics on various solid waste (including food waste) disposed of at landfills. The statistics can reflect the change in food waste disposal.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB251

(Question Serial No.: 1867)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 5):

The Administration states that efforts are being made to support the long-term and sustainable development of the recycling industry through various measures such as the establishment of a "Recycling Fund", enhanced training and promotion of green procurement. However, there are concerns in the industry that in the absence of a stringent licensing mechanism for the industry, inexperienced recyclers or social enterprises, which are not conversant with the recycling network and types of recyclables, may not be able to utilize the funding properly, leading to misuse and improper use of the Recycling Fund.

Has the Administration come up with the preliminary framework, criteria and application details of the Recycling Fund? Are there any measures to ensure that the Fund will be utilized effectively and the long-term development of the industry can be promoted?

Asked by: Hon. MO, Claudia

Reply:

To promote the sustainable development of the recycling industry, the Government has earmarked \$1 billion to set up a Recycling Fund. The Steering Committee to Promote the Sustainable Development of the Recycling Industry, chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration, will study the specific uses of the Recycling Fund in depth with a view to formulating effective, equitable and sustainable proposals. Reference will be made to the modes of financial assistance to the recycling industry in other regions and their effectiveness, and the unique situation of different types of recyclables in Hong Kong. We have maintained close liaison with the trade and relevant stakeholders, and a proposal on the specific uses of the fund is expected to be ready in the second half of this year for consultation with the Panel on Environmental Affairs of the Legislative Council.

After the Recycling Fund has come into operation, timely reviews will be conducted on its effectiveness, including the effects on raising the industry's standards of operation and the quantity and quality of recyclables treated in Hong Kong.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB252

(Question Serial No.: 1869)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 7):

According to the Administration, to further reduce waste at source, it is pressing ahead with the first phase development of the organic waste treatment facilities (OWTFs) in Siu Ho Wan, Lantau. Scheduled for commissioning in 2016, the facilities will convert food waste into energy and compost products. However, the "A Food Waste & Yard Waste Plan for Hong Kong 2014-2022" published earlier has pointed out that about 3 600 tonnes of food waste is sent to landfills every day. Some members of the trade commented that the current food waste recovery rate of only about 12 tonnes a day was inadequate, and that the commissioning of only one OWTF in 2016 certainly could not cope with over 3 000 tonnes of food waste a day. What measures does the Administration have in place to improve the problem of inadequate recovery rate, so that a sufficient quantity of food waste can be processed and the OWTF can reach its maximum efficiency? What are the expected capacity of the OWTF in the first year and the subsequent developments? Given that the locations and details of the other five to six OWTFs are not yet confirmed, are there any preliminary plan and timetable? Can we meet the target of achieving a 40% reduction by 2022? Are there other complementary measures?

Asked by: Hon. MO, Claudia

Reply:

The Environment Bureau unveiled "A Food Waste & Yard Waste Plan for Hong Kong 2014-2022" (the Plan) in February 2014, which maps out a comprehensive strategy, targets, policies and action plans for the management of food waste and yard waste. Four strategies have been identified in the Plan as the backbone to face the issue of food waste, namely reduction at source, reuse and donation, recyclable collection, and turning food waste into energy, with the target of reducing food waste disposal to landfills by 40% in 2022.

We have reviewed many types of technology for treating food waste. As Hong Kong has a large need for energy, our policy is to treat the city's collected food waste to produce renewable energy using anaerobic digestion as the core technology. We plan to build a network of around 5 to 6 organic waste treatment facilities (OWTFs), to enable food waste to be transported quickly from population centres to the facilities that are not too far away and turned into useful resources, thereby reducing potential nuisance arising from the transportation of food waste. The first phase of OWTF will be developed in Siu Ho Wan of North Lantau to treat about 200 tonnes of food waste per day. We plan to seek funding approval from the Legislative

Council Finance Committee in the second quarter of this year with a view to awarding the Design-Build-Operate contract in mid-2014 and commissioning the facility in 2016. For the second phase of OWTF at Sha Ling of the North District with a daily capacity of 300 tonnes, we have also completed the environmental impact assessment (EIA) study and we will proceed with tender preparation procedures. Besides, we will conduct the engineering and EIA studies for the third phase of OWTF at Shek Kong as soon as possible, and continue to look for suitable sites for further OWTFs.

We will continue to mobilize the community to reduce food waste at source and donate surplus food to people, while increasing the social momentum to separate waste as we start to build the network of OWTFs, in order to achieve the target of reducing food waste disposal to landfills by 40% in 2022.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB253

(Question Serial No.: 1870)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 8):

The Administration states that it is pressing ahead with the development of organic waste treatment facilities, community green stations, and waste electrical and electronic equipment processing facilities. Some members of the public expressed concerns that the community green stations (CGSs) are too close to the residential areas and the storage of recyclable materials in the CGSs for a prolonged period will affect the living environment. The Administration has indicated earlier that there will be collection vehicles for the CGSs to take turns in collecting the materials from within the community and deliver them to the recycling facilities after collection.

What measures does the Administration have in place to address the pollution problem caused by the preliminary cleaning and decomposing work in processing the recyclable materials? What is the estimated capacity/area for storing recyclable materials in the CGSs? Please provide relevant data such as the estimated quantity of recyclable materials to be recovered in each district. Will the Administration adjust the site area requirement of the CGSs according to the estimated quantity of recovered recyclable materials as per the population of each district? Will there be any risk of overloading? Has the Administration earmarked any resources to cope with the work of the CGSs? At present, how many recognized recyclers are there to support the recovery, delivery and recycling processes? Will there be any formulation of criteria to ensure the quality of recycling work conducted by the operators? If yes, please specify. If no, please provide solutions.

Asked by: Hon. MO, Claudia

Reply:

The Government plans to develop one community green station (CGS) in each of the 18 districts and provide funding to non-profit organisations for their operation. The CGSs aim to enhance environmental education and assist in the collection of recyclables of lower market value at the community level. However, there will be no treatment (including cleaning and dismantling) at the stations.

At present, the sites of the CGSs in Shatin and Eastern district have been confirmed, and the site area of the two CGSs is about 1 600 m² and 3 000 m² respectively. We are still conducting site search for other CGSs,

and the area of the sites has yet to be confirmed. With the CGSs in place, they will help gradually enhance the quality and quantity of recyclables collected and recover more recyclables of different types for local processing, with a view to promoting green living at the community level. If the recovery volume keeps increasing in the future, we may strengthen the logistics services (e.g. increasing the number of collection vehicles) to cope with the demand, so that there will be no accumulation of recyclable materials. We will also lay down provisions in the operation contract of the CGSs to require the operators to comply with the environmental, hygiene, occupational safety and health requirements. The Environmental Protection Department will carry out regular inspection and monitoring to ensure that the operators manage the CGS facilities effectively.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB254

(Question Serial No.: 2039)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 43):

Please list the average annual total cost of handling one tonne of municipal solid waste in the past three years, including the cost for transfer of waste and the disposal cost in landfills.

Asked by: Hon. MO, Claudia

Reply:

A breakdown of the average annual costs for transfer and disposal of municipal solid waste (MSW) at landfills is provided below:

	Actual 2011-12 (\$/tonne)	Actual 2012-13 (\$/tonne)	Projected 2013-14 (\$/tonne)
Transfer of MSW	202	204	205
Disposal of MSW at landfills	168	180	191
Total cost per tonne	370	384	396

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB255

(Question Serial No.: 2808)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Air
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 46):

It is mentioned in Programme (2) under Head 44 that the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will implement the ban of all forms of asbestos in 2014-15. Would the Government inform this Committee of the related specific measures, implementation schedule as well as the manpower and resources involved, and whether there are any measures to protect the health of the frontline staff when they are performing asbestos-related duties?

Asked by: Hon. POON Siu-ping

Reply:

Amendments to the Air Pollution Control Ordinance and the Factories and Industrial Undertakings (Asbestos) Regulation were passed by the Legislative Council on 22 January 2014 to ban the import, transshipment, supply and use of all forms of asbestos and asbestos-containing materials, and to ban work with asbestos in industrial undertakings. These requirements will come into operation on 4 April 2014.

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) and the Labour Department (LD) have commenced the publicity work, including the promotion of the statutory requirements to importers and trades that use asbestos materials, and related organisations. On the enforcement of the statutory asbestos-ban, the EPD will work with the Customs and Excise Department to conduct spot checks on suspect imported cargo, and also testing of, where necessary, potential asbestos-containing goods such as construction, fire resistant and thermal insulating materials as well as metalware and vehicle parts on the market, in order to monitor any illegal import or use of asbestos and asbestos-containing materials in Hong Kong. After the legislation comes into effect, the LD will step up the inspections of related work locations and take enforcement action when necessary to ensure compliance by the responsible person.

The regulation work on asbestos forms part of the routine integrated enforcement duties of the EPD and the LD, so there is no separate breakdown of the expenditure on this area. To protect the health of frontline staff, the EPD and LD have provided frontline staff responsible for enforcement duties with protective equipment as necessary, and suitable training has been arranged.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB256

(Question Serial No.: 2960)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (6) Nature Conservation
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 48):

1. The estimated provision for 2014-15 is 29.9% higher than the revised provision for 2013-14. Would the Administration explain the reasons for the increase in provision as well as the distribution and purpose of the increased provision?
2. The Administration has stated that it will continue to consult stakeholders on the draft Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan under the Convention on Biological Diversity in 2014-15. Would the Administration list out the actual expenditures and effectiveness of various consultation and activities regarding this policy in the past year as well as the details and expenditures of various consultation activities in the coming year?
3. Regarding the conservation policy on deep water fish and sustainable fisheries, would the Administration consider subsidising the related scientific research projects and developing local artificial fish breeding grounds? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. QUAT, Elizabeth

Reply:

1. The provision of \$ 8.7 million for 2014-15, which is \$ 2 million (29.9%) higher than the revised provision for 2013-14, is allocated mainly to meet increased operating expenses. The provision will be used to enhance conservation in collaboration with various sectors, and for continued promotion and public education of nature conservation in the community across sectors.
2. Regarding the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP), a committee with a three-tier structure was set up by the Administration in May 2013 to steer the formulation of BSAP. This committee consists of the Steering Committee, three standing Working Groups (Terrestrial Biodiversity Working Group, Marine Biodiversity Working Group, and Awareness, Mainstreaming and Sustainability Working Group), and focus groups that operate under the relevant Working Group. Members include academics, biodiversity experts and representatives from green groups, relevant stakeholders, private and public sectors and relevant government departments.

Meetings or forums on different topics are being held or organised by various focus groups. Those who are interested in the topics and experienced in the relevant areas are invited to join the discussions or submit their comments. Since October 2013, 16 meetings and 1 industry forum have been held by the focus groups, and the consultation work is still in progress.

On the other hand, we are conducting a series of public awareness and engagement activities, including setting up a dedicated website (www.afcd.gov.hk/bsap), distributing promotional pamphlets, broadcasting APIs, organising roving exhibitions and public lectures, etc. We are gauging views on BSAP from the public and various stakeholders through these activities. A public consultation on the draft of BSAP will also be conducted in the first half of 2015

3. Sustainable fisheries is under the policy purview of the Food and Health Bureau (FHB). According to the information provided by FHB, the Administration has set up the \$500 million Sustainable Fisheries Development Fund (“the Fund”) under the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department to fund projects that would contribute to fostering the sustainable development and enhancing the overall competitiveness of the fisheries industry. The scope of the Fund covers projects for developing local aquaculture and research projects on measures, which are conducive to the development of the local fisheries industry. Applications that support and contribute directly towards the sustainable development of the local fisheries industry will be considered on the basis of their merits.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB257

(Question Serial No.: 2961)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 49):

1. Please state in detail the operating costs of the three landfills in 2013-14 and the details of strategic landfill extension.
2. Has the Administration planned to offer grants to the recyclers according to different types of recyclable wastes? How does the Administration enhance the monitoring mechanism to ensure that the recyclers will not deliver the recyclable wastes to the landfills?
3. What were the expenditure and effectiveness of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign in 2013-14? Will the Administration consider expanding the existing food waste recycling programme to strengthen the recycling effect?
4. What were the enforcement details and expenditure of the statutory ban on idling vehicles with running engines in 2013-14? How does the Administration assess the effectiveness of the Ordinance since its implementation?
5. What are the details of the collaborative measures between Hong Kong Government and the Guangdong authorities to improve regional air quality and the estimated expenditure? What are the assessment outcomes on the effectiveness?
6. After the replacement of the previous Air Pollution Index by the new Air Quality Health Index, has the Government considered formulating new objectives accordingly to better monitor air pollution?

Asked by: Hon. QUAT, Elizabeth

Reply:

1. The operating costs for the Southeast New Territories (SENT) Landfill, the Northeast New Territories (NENT) Landfill and the West New Territories (WENT) Landfill in 2013-14 are \$216 million, \$154 million

and \$246 million respectively. Details of the projects, including the planned areas, capacities, estimated life span, and the latest estimated capital costs of the strategic landfill extensions are shown in the table below :

Landfill Extension	Area for the Proposed Extension (ha)	Estimated Capacity (million m³)	Estimated Life Span	Latest Estimated Capital Cost (at September 2013 price level) (\$ million)
SENT	13	6.5	6	1,412
NENT	70	19	10	4,442
WENT	200	81	15	10,547
Total	283	106.5	--	16,401

2. To promote the sustainable development of the recycling industry, the Government has earmarked \$1 billion to launch a Recycling Fund. The Steering Committee to Promote Sustainable Development of Recycling Industry, chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration, will draw on the experience and effectiveness of other regions on providing financial assistance to the recycling industry and Hong Kong's unique situation of different types of recyclables, and study in detail how the Fund should be designed to provide effective, equitable and sustainable support to the industry. We will continue to liaise with the trade and relevant stakeholders, and we expect to work out the detailed design of the Fund in the second half of this year for consultation with the Panel on Environmental Affairs of the Legislative Council. After bringing the Recycling Fund into operation, we will review its effectiveness in a timely manner, including the effects on raising the operation standards of the trade and the quantity and quality of the treatment of recyclables in Hong Kong. In order to ensure that recyclables are properly recycled and not sent to disposal, we will also set up an appropriate inspection and checking mechanism and will continue to exercise regular monitoring on the landfills and refuse transfer stations.

3. Since its launching, the Campaign has promoted a food wise and waste less culture and encouraged behavioural change to reduce food waste in the community through various schemes and activities. The "Big Waster" symbolising food wastage in the Campaign is gradually rooting in the general public. As at 15 February 2014, 330 organisations have signed the Food Wise Charter and pledged to reducing food waste, and some 450 Food Wise Hong Kong Ambassadors have taken part in the food waste reduction training workshops to prepare themselves for promotion of Food Wise message. We will keep in view the effectiveness of the Campaign.

The expenditures for advertising, promoting and campaigning of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign in 2012-13 and 2013-14 since its launching in December 2012 are shown in the table below:

Description	Expenditure 2012-13	Expenditure 2013-14
Advertising for the Campaign (including those in public transport system, publications and electronic platform, etc.)	Nil	About \$10.4 million
Drawing up and promoting good practices of food waste reduction in cooperation with the relevant trades and sectors	Not Applicable	

Launching the Food Wise Charter Scheme	Not Applicable	
Launching the Food Wise Hong Kong Ambassador Scheme	Not Applicable	
Meeting with the relevant sectors including women groups and the catering industry to conduct briefings and encourage participation	Not Applicable	
Establishing a supporting website for the Campaign, organizing food waste reduction training workshops for launching the Food Wise Hong Kong Ambassador Scheme and participation by the relevant sectors and interested parties.	About \$0.3 million	About \$0.5 million
Organizing publicity activities to promote the Food Wise message, including: - Launch ceremony of the Campaign - Food Wise Hong Kong Steering Committee First Anniversary Ceremony/Food Wise Caroling	About \$0.3 million	About \$2.4 million

The Environment Bureau unveiled in February 2014 “A Food Waste & Yard Waste Plan for Hong Kong 2014-2022” (the Plan), mapping out a strategic framework, specific targets, policy initiatives and action plans for the treatment of food waste and yard waste. The Plan has set out four strategies as the backbone in addressing the challenge of food waste, namely reduction at source, reuse and donation, recyclable collection, and turning food waste into energy, with a view to reducing the food waste disposal at landfills by 40% by 2022. We have reviewed many types of technology for treating food waste. As Hong Kong has a large need for energy, our policy is to treat the city’s collected food waste to produce renewable energy using anaerobic digestion as the core technology. We plan to build a network of around 5 to 6 organic waste treatment facilities (OWTFs), to enable food waste to be transported quickly from population centres to the facilities that are not too far away and turned into useful resources, thereby reducing potential nuisance arising from the transportation of food waste. The first phase of OWTF will be developed in Siu Ho Wan of North Lantau to treat about 200 tonnes of food waste per day. We plan to seek funding approval from the Legislative Council Finance Committee (LegCo FC) in the second quarter of this year with a view to awarding the Design-Build-Operate (DBO) contract in mid-2014 and commissioning the facility in 2016. For the second phase of OWTF at Sha Ling of the North District with a daily capacity of 300 tonnes, we have also completed the environmental impact assessment (EIA) study and we are proceeding with the preliminary preparation procedures. In addition, we will conduct the engineering and EIA studies for the third phase of OWTF as soon as possible, and continue to look for suitable sites for further OWTFs.

4. The Motor Vehicle Idling (Fixed Penalty) Ordinance (the Ordinance) prohibits drivers from idling a vehicle engine for more than 3 minutes in any 60-minute period. The Ordinance empowers Traffic Wardens (TW) and Environmental Protection Inspectors (EPI) to issue fixed penalty notices (FPNs) to offending drivers. FPNs are issued to drivers who contravene the idling prohibition in their daily patrol duties. To help drivers foster a green driving habit of stopping the engines of idling vehicles, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) collaborates with TWs and co-ordinates enforcement-cum-publicity exercises at idling engine black spots.

From April 2013 to February 2014, law enforcement officers have timed 1 798 vehicles with idling engines. Among them, 86 drivers who violated the Ordinance (i.e. not switching off their engines within 3 minutes) had been issued with FPNs. The remaining drivers either switched off the engines or drove their vehicles away immediately. We had conducted 253 enforcement-cum-publicity exercises at idling engine black spots.

To step up publicity efforts on fostering a green driving habit, we have distributed leaflets and posters, broadcasted reminders through television and radio stations, and displayed messages on parking metres and

banners. The associated expenditure is absorbed by the existing provision for the Air Programme of EPD.

Our observation shows that with the introduction of the Ordinance, drivers, in majority, comply with the requirement. For those who do not follow the requirement, most of them will turn off the engines when enforcement officers begin time counting.

5. Improving regional air quality has been one of the important work foci in environmental collaboration between Hong Kong and Guangdong. The governments of the two sides set up a Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection (the Joint Working Group) in 2000, with several special panels and task groups under the Joint Working Group to follow up on issues of mutual concern, including improving air quality of the Pearl River Delta (PRD) Region, promoting cleaner production, etc. In 2014-15, EPD will continue to work with the relevant authorities of Guangdong Province to implement air quality improvement measures, including the continued implementation of emission reduction initiatives in the two places, enhancement of the PRD Regional Air Quality Monitoring Network, commencement of a joint regional study on fine suspended particulates (PM_{2.5}), exploring collaboration on air pollution warning system and taking forward regional collaboration in air quality-related work, and the continued promotion of cleaner production technologies and practices for adoption by Hong Kong-owned factories in Guangdong Province, etc.

The various emission reduction measures implemented in Hong Kong and Guangdong in recent years have helped to improve the overall air quality of the PRD Region. The annual averages of sulphur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and respirable suspended particulates (PM₁₀) in the region have decreased by 62%, 17% and 24% respectively from 2006 to 2012.

Co-ordination with Guangdong authorities on environmental collaboration, including the promotion for improvement of regional air quality and cleaner production, is undertaken by the Cross-Boundary and International Division (CBD) of EPD. CBD has an establishment of 34 staff in 2014-15, a provision of some \$25 million is earmarked under Head 44 – EPD as personal emoluments for the posts and general departmental expenses, and for implementing various cross-boundary exchange and co-operation projects. Staff members in other divisions of EPD also take part in environmental collaboration work with the Mainland.

6. To provide more timely information to the public on the effect of air pollution to health, EPD introduced the Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) to replace the Air Pollution Index (API) on 30 December 2013. EPD will work out for air quality monitoring the New AQHI targets in 2014-15.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB258

(Question Serial No. 5516)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 75):

According to the recommendation by PAC report No. 61 – Management of Roadside Skips, the Transport and Housing Bureau (THB) should direct the Transport Department (TD) to take the lead in introducing a permit system for regulating and facilitating skip operations, having regard to the facts that skips are most often placed at roadside and roadside skips cause obstruction and pose safety risks to road users and it is the policy purview of the THB and the TD to ensure smooth vehicular traffic and road safety. In this connection, will the Administration inform this Committee about the THB's timetable to undertake this task as well as the provision and manpower to be allocated for this task in 2014-15?

Asked by: Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply:

Taking into account the views of the PAC, the Administration considered that it is important to address the multi-faceted issues of roadside skips involving, amongst others, road traffic and safety risks to road users, environmental and hygiene nuisance, occupation of roads and government land as well as effective law enforcement. In this connection, a Joint Working Group (JWG) led by the Environment Bureau / Environmental Protection Department has been set up to review the effectiveness of the existing regulatory and management regime on roadside skips and to explore measures to better regulate and facilitate the operation of roadside skips. The JWG is supported by the Development Bureau, Transport and Housing Bureau, Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, Home Affairs Department, Hong Kong Police Force, Highways Department, Lands Department and Transport Department.

The JWG will carefully examine the constraints of the existing management arrangements, the feasibility and effectiveness of the potential improvement measures, including the recommendation of the PAC on introducing a permit system, and the views of the trade and related stakeholders on how to better regulate and facilitate skip operations. The JWG has commenced work in February 2014 and would aim to complete the review in 2014. The review will be carried out with the existing resources of the relevant bureaux and departments.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB259

(Question Serial No.: 0706)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 31):

Regarding the programme of retrofitting Euro II and Euro III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices, would the Government provide the following information:

1. What were the emission levels from vehicles in Hong Kong by vehicle type in the past 5 years?
2. In the following table, please list the numbers of buses currently owned by each franchised bus company, and of which, the number of buses which have been retrofitted with selective catalytic reduction devices.

Franchised bus company	Pre-Euro/Euro I		Euro II		Euro III		Euro IV		Euro V		Total
	No.	Est. Retirement Year	No.	Est. Retirement Year	No.	Est. Retirement Year	No.	Est. Retirement Year	No.	Est. Retirement Year	
KMB											
LW											
NWFB											
CTB											
NLB											

3. What is the current progress of the programme? How many companies have taken part in the pre-qualification trial, and what are the details? When does the Administration expect to complete the retrofit programme?

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

1. According to the latest Air Pollutant Emission Inventory, which is compiled by the Environmental Protection Department every year, the emission levels from local vehicles in 2008-2012 are as follows:

Air pollutant emission	Vehicle type	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Respirable suspended particulates (RSP) (tonnes)	Motorcycle	10	10	10	10	10
	Private car	20	20	20	20	20
	Taxi	0	0	0	0	0
	Public light bus	80	80	80	70	70
	Private light bus	10	10	10	10	10
	Light goods vehicle (<=5.5 tonnes)	240	240	240	230	230
	Medium/Heavy goods vehicle (>5.5 tonnes)	870	770	770	650	670
	Non-franchised public/private bus	130	130	130	120	120
	Franchised public bus	140	110	80	70	70
	Total	1 500	1 370	1 340	1 180	1 200
Nitrogen oxides (NOx) (tonnes)	Motorcycle	210	200	180	180	150
	Private car	1 580	1 280	1 040	890	680
	Taxi	6 540	6 670	6 850	7 600	7 320
	Public light bus	960	970	970	1 040	990
	Private light bus	110	100	100	110	130
	Light goods vehicle (<=5.5 tonnes)	4 340	4 230	4 270	4 250	3 980
	Medium/Heavy goods vehicle (>5.5 tonnes)	11 700	10 570	10 640	10 100	9 340
	Non-franchised public/private bus	2 340	2 300	2 140	2 100	1 910
	Franchised public bus	6 810	6 650	6 490	6 390	6 200
	Total	34 590	32 970	32 680	32 660	30 700
Volatile organic compounds (VOC)# (tonnes)	Motorcycle	2 980	2 890	2 840	2 760	2 760
	Private car	1 970	1 810	1 610	1 410	1 270
	Taxi	420	470	520	590	680
	Public light bus	450	490	540	580	610
	Private light bus	50	40	40	40	40
	Light goods vehicle (<=5.5 tonnes)	530	500	490	440	430
	Medium/Heavy goods vehicle (>5.5 tonnes)	1 770	1 560	1 570	1 350	1 350
	Non-franchised public/private bus	190	180	170	150	150
	Franchised public bus	180	140	130	130	130
	Total	8 540	8 080	7 910	7 450	7 420
Carbon monoxide (CO) (tonnes)	Motorcycle	8 200	7 250	6 270	5 720	4 910
	Private car	21 030	18 950	16 490	14 600	12 870
	Taxi	13 020	13 630	13 940	14 880	15 840
	Public light bus	3 370	3 430	3 500	3 530	3 520
	Private light bus	570	400	410	400	410
	Light goods vehicle (<=5.5 tonnes)	2 000	1 820	1 750	1 580	1 590
	Medium/Heavy goods vehicle (>5.5 tonnes)	3 950	3 640	3 690	3 440	3 410
	Non-franchised public/private bus	780	810	760	760	750
	Franchised public bus	1 310	1 030	820	770	800
	Total	54 230	50 960	47 630	45 680	44 100

Evaporative emission is included in the emissions from motorcycle, private car, private light bus and light goods vehicle (<=5.5 tonnes).

Note:

The compilation of vehicular emission inventory involves collection, verification and analysis of data including number of vehicles, changes in overall emissions, traffic and meteorological conditions, etc. Such work is time-consuming, and we expect to publish the 2013 Air Pollutant Emission Inventory in early 2015.

- Franchised bus companies are required to provide their franchised bus services with buses under the age of 18, and have been replacing their serving buses accordingly. Therefore, all pre-Euro buses have been phased out. Moreover, currently there are no pre-Euro III franchised buses in NLB's fleet. The number of buses owned by each franchised bus company as at 31 December 2013, and of which, the number of Euro II and III buses which have been retrofitted with selective catalytic reduction devices (SCRs) (in parenthesis), are tabulated as follows:

Franchised bus company	Euro I		Euro II		Euro III		Euro IV		Euro V		Total
	No.	Last year of retirement	No.	Last year of retirement	No.	Last year of retirement	No.	Last year of retirement	No.	Last year of retirement	
KMB	423	2015	1 539 (1)	2019	1 097 (2)	2026	106	2029	679	2031	3 844 (3)
LW	0	N.A.	79	2018	18	2026	32	2028	43	2031	172
NWFB	35	2015	479 (1)	2019	75	2020	38	2027	88	2031	715 (1)
CTB	44	2015	474 (2)	2018	9	2020	28	2027	397	2031	952 (2)
NLB	0	N.A.	0	N.A.	62	2020	17	2022	29	2026	108

Note:

In response to stringent requirement on nitrogen oxides emissions in Euro IV and V emission standards, Euro IV or above franchised buses have been installed with SCRs or exhaust gas recirculation devices by the bus manufacturers, so as to reduce nitrogen oxides emissions.

- The design of SCRs will affect their emission reduction performance and compatibility with the bus engine. To ensure that the SCRs are of the right design, it is prudent for franchised bus companies to identify qualified SCR suppliers through a pre-qualification trial on the selected bus models before inviting tenders for the large-scale retrofit. The franchised bus companies are preparing to commence the pre-qualification trial in mid-2014, which will last for about 12 months and involve some 175 buses and 5 suppliers. At the end of the pre-qualification trial, the franchised bus companies will undertake a tender exercise to select suitable SCR suppliers from the pre-qualified ones for conducting the large-scale retrofit. The entire retrofit programme is expected to complete by the end of 2016.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB260

(Question Serial No.: 0715)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Air
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 32):

Regarding the one-off subsidy for the replacement of catalytic converters and oxygen sensors of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) taxis and light buses, would the Administration provide the following information:

- (a) the accumulated figures of LPG taxis and light buses participating in the programme and the participation rates by month since the replacement programme was launched;
- (b) the amount of subsidies provided by the Administration to service contractors as a whole and individually;
- (c) whether the Administration knows how many LPG taxis and light buses have not yet had their catalytic converters and oxygen sensors replaced; whether the Administration has any measures to encourage early replacement by these vehicle owners, and what is the related expenditure; and
- (d) when the Administration expects to strengthen the control of emissions of petrol and LPG vehicles; whether an adaptation period will be given to the vehicle owners, and whether assistance will be provided to LPG vehicle maintenance trade; if yes, the details; if no, the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

- (a) In August 2013, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) launched the one-off subsidy for the replacement of catalytic converters and oxygen sensors for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) taxis and light buses to help reduce the emissions of carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons and nitrogen oxides from LPG taxis and light buses. A total of 18 103 taxis and 3 572 light buses in Hong Kong are eligible to apply for the subsidy. The programme has 3 phases of application which closed on 31 January 2014. During the application period, a total of 2 881 light buses and 13 942 taxis were registered in the programme, with a participation rate at 78% of the eligible vehicles. The replacement is expected to conclude in April 2014. The cumulative figures of applications received in the 3 stages are listed below:

Type of vehicles registered in the programme	Cumulative figure of participating vehicles (Participation rate)		
	Phase One (up to October 2013)	Phase Two (up to December 2013)	Final stage (up to January 2014)
Light buses	1 977 (55%)	2 436 (68%)	2 881 (81%)
Taxis	10 104 (55%)	13 043 (72%)	13 942 (77%)
Total	12 081 (56%)	15 479 (71%)	16 823 (78%)

- (b) The EPD engaged through open tender a total of 3 parts suppliers and 52 vehicle repair garages to provide replacement services. The required parts are fully subsidised by the Government where their cost varies with the models of vehicle. According to the tender results, the amounts of subsidy provided directly to service contractors for the LPG taxi and light bus owners are as follows:

Vehicle type	Service fee for replacement of parts per vehicle (\$)	Costs of required parts per vehicle (\$)
Light buses	1,600	5,212 - 5,562
Taxis#	885	2,725 - 5,025

For about 60 hybrid and other less popular totaling 4 taxi models, the number of taxis per model is small. For the parts and replacement fee involved, after procurement by the Department, the subsidy per vehicle is about \$10,000 to \$17,000, including the replacement fee and parts.

Since the invoicing progress for different contractors varies and reimbursements take time, information on subsidy provided to individual contractors is not yet available. As at the end of February 2014, the paid amount under the contracts is about \$28 million.

- (c) Participation in the catalytic converter replacement is voluntary. To encourage more vehicle owners to join the programme, we announced, through a press release and the radio, a one-off special arrangement on 2-17 January 2014 for vehicle owners who missed the deadlines to submit late applications. About 1 300 late applications were received during the period. It is also noticed that the participation rate for the latest vehicle models is only 40%, and some vehicle owners do not intend to seek government subsidy as they believe the converter of their new vehicles is still operational. To improve roadside air quality, after the completion of the programme, the EPD will use roadside remote sensing equipment to step up monitoring of excessive emissions of petrol and LPG vehicles. Vehicles found with excessive emissions will be required to pass an advanced emissions test with the aid of a chassis dynamometer within a prescribed period of time. Otherwise, the vehicle's licence will be cancelled.
- (d) Upon completion of the replacement programme, the Government will strengthen the promotion on the control of emissions of petrol and LPG vehicles to vehicle owners and the maintenance trade, including television and radio advertisements, distributing promotional leaflets, technical seminars, demonstrations on vehicle emissions test, and free emissions tests for private car owners, etc. We aim to begin strengthening the control of emissions of petrol and LPG vehicles this year.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB261

(Question Serial No.: 3324)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:30):

Regarding the plan to phase out pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles (DCVs), would the Government provide the following information:

1. The numbers of DCVs in Hong Kong, by emission standard and vehicle type, in the past five years;
2. The number of applications, by emission standard and vehicle type, received by the Administration so far, and the expenditure involved;
3. As the plan may affect the motor vehicle repair trade, what measures will the Administration adopt to support the industry? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

1. According to the records of the Transport Department, the numbers of registered diesel commercial vehicles (DCVs) in Hong Kong, by emission standards and vehicle types, from 2009 to 2013 are as follows:

Vehicle Type	Numbers of registered DCVs as at end 2009 (By emission standards)						Total
	Pre-Euro	Euro I	Euro II	Euro III	Euro IV	Euro V	
Goods vehicle	25 835	20 985	19 379	28 284	17 693	0	112 176
Light bus	470	943	877	552	423	0	3 265
Non-franchised bus	300	409	2 233	2 851	1 775	0	7 568
Total	26 605	22 337	22 489	31 687	19 891	0	123 009

Vehicle Type	Numbers of registered DCVs as at end 2010 (By emission standards)						
	Pre-Euro	Euro I	Euro II	Euro III	Euro IV	Euro V	Total
Goods vehicle	22 142	14 715	21 573	27 463	27 279	0	113 172
Light bus	401	794	870	555	529	0	3 149
Non-franchised bus	223	242	1 979	2 812	2 313	0	7 569
Total	22 766	15 751	24 422	30 830	30 121	0	123 890

Vehicle Type	Numbers of registered DCVs as at end 2011 (By emission standards)						
	Pre-Euro	Euro I	Euro II	Euro III	Euro IV	Euro V	Total
Goods vehicle	20 663	15 012	20 248	27 880	31 876	0	115 679
Light bus	369	734	858	552	671	0	3 184
Non-franchised bus	197	191	1 568	2 759	2 854	0	7 569
Total	21 229	15 937	22 674	31 191	35 401	0	126 432

Vehicle Type	Numbers of registered DCVs as at end 2012 (By emission standards)						
	Pre-Euro	Euro I	Euro II	Euro III	Euro IV	Euro V	Total
Goods vehicle	18 935	13 795	18 881	27 793	36 941	2 163	118 508
Light bus	344	690	873	583	724	128	3 342
Non-franchised bus	192	140	1 013	2 687	3 111	469	7 612
Total	19 471	14 625	20 767	31 063	40 776	2 760	129 462

Vehicle Type	Numbers of registered DCVs as at end 2013 (By emission standards)						
	Pre-Euro	Euro I	Euro II	Euro III	Euro IV	Euro V	Total
Goods vehicle	17 261	13 224	17 492	27 680	36 898	11 347	123 902
Light bus	329	643	916	599	723	357	3 567
Non-franchised bus	178	131	626	2 583	3 095	1 018	7 631
Total	17 768	13 998	19 034	30 862	40 716	12 722	135 100

2. The Transport Department started accepting applications for the ex-gratia payment for phasing out pre-Euro IV DCVs on 1 March 2014. As at 7 March 2014, a total of 426 applications were received,

involving 424 goods vehicles, 1 light bus and 1 non-franchised bus. The numbers of these vehicles listed by emission standards and vehicle types are as follows:

Vehicle Type	Numbers of applications for ex-gratia payment for phasing out pre-Euro IV DCVs (By emission standards)				Total
	Pre-Euro	Euro I	Euro II	Euro III	
Goods vehicle	175	121	81	47	424
Light bus	1	0	0	0	1
Non-franchised bus	0	0	0	1	1
Total	176	121	81	48	426

Since the ex-gratia payment scheme has just commenced and the above applications are still under processing, we have not yet disbursed the ex-gratia payment to the applicants. The total funding approved for the ex-gratia payment scheme is about \$11.4 billion.

3. To assist the vehicle repair trade to acquire the technologies for maintaining new-generation DCVs (particularly Euro V models complying with the prevailing statutory emission standards for new vehicles), we have not only urged vehicle suppliers to provide information about vehicle maintenance to their customers, but have also discussed with the Vocational Training Council (VTC) and vehicle suppliers on collaboration to organise technical courses on maintaining new-generation DCVs. The expenditure incurred by the Environmental Protection Department on this front will be absorbed by internal resources and manpower. In addition, the VTC is making preparations for setting up a database on vehicle maintenance again and an enquiry hotline, as well as organising fault diagnosis and servicing basic training courses for Euro V vehicles this year, with a view to providing further technical support to the vehicle repair trade.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB262

(Question Serial No.: 4786)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 45):

Regarding the Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Management Programme, would the Government provide the following information:

1. What are the current standards for IAQ? What were the numbers of complaints related to IAQ in each of the past 5 years? Please list by type of complaints.
2. Please list by class and District Council the numbers of premises awarded with IAQ Certificates at present.
3. What measures does the Administration have to promote the IAQ Management Programme, and what is the associated expenditure?
4. Regarding the air quality inside air-conditioned public transport facilities, has the Administration reviewed the standards regularly (for buses and railways respectively)? What were the numbers of complaints related to air-conditioned public transport facilities in each of the past 5 years? What measures does the Administration have to ensure compliance of such standards by the operators?

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

1. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) launched the Indoor Air Quality Certification Scheme for Offices and Public Places (the certification scheme) in September 2003, and formulated a set of IAQ Objectives covering 12 parameters applicable to the scheme. The details are given in **Annex 1**.

The number of complaints against IAQ received by the EPD each year in 2009-2013 is tabulated below:

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Poor ventilation	6	-	-	-	-
Dust problems	-	1	-	-	-
Odour	-	-	-	-	1

Other cases without specific nature	1			5	1
Total	7	1	0	5	2

2. IAQ Certificates are issued under two classes, namely “Excellent Class” and “Good Class”. In 2013, a total of 976 premises were awarded with IAQ Certificates, 192 are “Excellent Class” and 784 are “Good Class”.

The number of premises awarded with IAQ Certificates in each of the 18 District Council districts is given in **Annex 2**.

3. The EPD has been striving to improve IAQ, and encourage public and private buildings to join the certification scheme.

To facilitate participation in the certification scheme, we set up the Indoor Air Quality Information Centre to provide information and technical support on IAQ for interested organisations and persons, organise seminars in which professionals are invited to share with property managers of the Government and the private sector how to achieve good IAQ, broadcast promotional messages on radio and television and organise roving exhibitions, so as to enhance public awareness on IAQ and the scheme.

In addition, we have held the Indoor Air Quality Certificate Award Ceremony since 2006 to commend organisations’ efforts in achieving good IAQ, thereby promoting the certification scheme and encouraging other organisations to join. In 2013, we also introduced the new IAQ labels, which are issued to certified buildings/premises for posting at prominent locations to make known to the public of such achievement, in order to promote the scheme.

Since the implementation of the certification scheme in 2003, the number of certificates issued has increased from 86 in 2004 to 976 in 2013.

In 2013-14, the expenditure involved in promoting the certification scheme and commissioning professional organisations for implementing related certification work by the EPD is about \$2.6 million.

4. In 2003, the EPD issued two sets of practice notes (Practice Notes) for managing indoor air quality (IAQ) in air-conditioned bus facilities and air-conditioned railway facilities respectively. In addition to specifying the benchmark levels for carbon dioxide concentration, the Practice Notes set out the requirements on the design, operational practice, maintenance and air monitoring of ventilation system for the facilities, in order to help public transport operators strengthen the management of relevant facilities on a self-regulatory basis and provide good IAQ in their compartments for passengers. The EPD has been monitoring the latest international developments on the management of IAQ in transport facilities for timely review and updates to the related Practice Notes.

The number of complaints against air quality inside air-conditioned public transport facilities received by the EPD in 2009-2013 is given below:

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number of complaints	0	1	2	3	4

Being public utility companies, the public bus and railway operators are responsible for providing good IAQ in their facilities for passengers. The EPD has asked the bus and railway operators to follow the

guidelines in the Practice Notes. Should there be any deviation from the Practice Notes, the EPD will urge them to improve the situation as soon as possible.

Indoor Air Quality Certification Scheme for Offices and Public Places
IAQ Objectives

Parameter	Unit	8-hour average	
		Excellent Class	Good Class
Room Temperature	°C	20 to < 25.5	< 25.5
Relative Humidity	%	40 to < 70	< 70
Air Movement	m/s	< 0.2	< 0.3
Carbon Dioxide (CO ₂)	ppmv	< 800	< 1 000
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	µg/m ³	< 2 000	< 10 000
	ppmv	< 1.7	< 8.7
Respirable Suspended Particulates (PM ₁₀)	µg/m ³	< 20	< 180
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂)	µg/m ³	< 40	< 150
	ppbv	< 21	< 80
Ozone (O ₃)	µg/m ³	< 50	< 120
	ppbv	< 25	< 61
Formaldehyde (HCHO)	µg/m ³	< 30	<100
	ppbv	<24	<81
Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOC)	µg/m ³	< 200	<600
	ppbv	< 87	<261
Radon (Rn)	Bq/m ³	< 150	< 200
Airborne Bacteria	cfu/m ³	< 500	< 1 000

Number of IAQ Certificates issued in 2013 by District Council district

District		Number of IAQ Certificates issued		
		Excellent Class	Good Class	Total
1	Central & Western	40	134	174
2	Eastern	16	54	70
3	Southern	15	20	35
4	Wan Chai	16	71	87
5	Kowloon City	10	42	52
6	Kwun Tong	18	58	76
7	Sham Shui Po	3	34	37
8	Yau Tsim Mong	28	92	120
9	Wong Tai Sin	0	20	20
10	Islands	5	27	32
11	Kwai Tsing	4	35	39
12	North	8	18	26
13	Sai Kung	1	23	24
14	Sha Tin	18	43	61
15	Tai Po	5	12	17
16	Tsuen Wan	3	41	44
17	Tuen Mun	1	37	38
18	Yuen Long	1	23	24
	Total	192	784	976

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB263

(Question Serial No.:4787)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Air
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question(Member Question No.: 46):

On conducting carbon audits for major government buildings and public facilities and encouraging the private sector to participate in carbon reduction initiatives, would the Administration provide the following information:

1. Has the Administration compiled any statistics on Hong Kong's carbon intensity over the past five years? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons? Has the Administration set any carbon emission reduction target? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
2. What are those major government buildings and public facilities where carbon audits have been conducted in the past five years? What are those carbon footprints with anticipated reduction following the audit? What are the details of the follow-up plans to offset carbon emission and the relevant expenditure?
3. Does the Administration know how many companies or organisations are carrying out carbon audit? Please provide the number of companies or organisations which have signed the Carbon Reduction Charter in the past five years, with a breakdown by the nature of organisation. Has the Administration reviewed the effectiveness of the Charter? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
4. What measures does the Administration have to encourage the private sector to participate in carbon reduction initiatives? What is the expenditure of these measures?

Asked by:Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

1. The Government has compiled Hong Kong's carbon intensity for 1990 and onwards. As lead time is required for collection and processing the emission data, the carbon intensity of Hong Kong is now updated till 2010. Carbon intensities in recent 5 years are provided in the following table:

Year	Carbon Intensity (kg CO₂-e/ HK Dollar GDP)
2006	0.027
2007	0.026
2008	0.025
2009	0.026
2010	0.023

In September 2010, the Government set out Hong Kong's Climate Change Strategy and Action Agenda and a carbon intensity reduction target of 50% to 60% by 2020 as compared with 2005 level, with a view to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

2. Since the promulgation of carbon audit practice in 2008, the major government buildings and public facilities where carbon audits have been conducted included government offices, public housing estates, community centres/halls, sports facilities, government secondary schools and indoor markets, etc. Following the audit, it is anticipated that carbon footprints could be reduced in respect of energy use (including air-conditioning, electrical installations, lifts/escalators, lightings, etc.), waste management and use of water, etc. Relevant carbon reduction measures include behavioural changes and implementation of improvement works. Expenses associated with implementation of carbon reduction measures were met by the recurrent expenditure of various departments.
3. The Government has been encouraging the private sector to participate in carbon reduction initiatives, and has published technical guidelines for conducting carbon audits. The Government will launch a carbon footprint repository in 2014-15 to facilitate listed companies to disclose carbon audit findings, and share carbon management experience and practices. By then, the public would be able to know more about the number of private enterprises that have participated in carbon auditing.

The Government launched the Green Hong Kong • Carbon Audit activity in 2008, inviting organisations from different sectors of the community to join and sign the Carbon Reduction Charter. So far, a total of 337 organisations from real estate development and property management sector, hotel industry, banking industry and logistics industry, as well as professional groups, universities, non-profit making organisations, etc. have joined the Charter. The Government will continue to encourage private organisations to conduct carbon audit and take carbon reduction action.

4. Apart from providing technical guidelines on carbon audit, holding carbon audit and carbon reduction seminars to enhance the enterprises' understanding of carbon auditing work, emission reduction measures and benefits, the Government has also provided \$10 million funding support to a CarbonSmart Programme through the Environment and Conservation Fund to incentivize about 200 private enterprises to conduct carbon audits. The Government will launch a carbon footprint repository in 2014-15 to facilitate listed companies to disclose carbon audit findings and share carbon management experience and practices. The relevant manpower and expenditure for promoting carbon audit has been absorbed under the operating expenses of Programme (2) Air of the Environmental Protection Department.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB264

(Question Serial No.: 4790)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 66):

Regarding the Organic Waste Treatment Facilities (OWTFs), would the Administration provide the following information:

1. The timetable and progress of the development of OWTFs Phase 1 and Phase 2;
2. How much food waste is expected to be treated daily by the two facilities respectively after their completion? What are the energy output and the quantity of compost products to be generated? Has the Administration assessed the local market demand for compost products in future? If yes, what are the findings of the assessment? If no, what are the reasons?
3. Are there any plans to develop more OWTFs? If yes, what are the details and the associated expenditures? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

The first phase of the Organic Waste Treatment Facilities (OWTF) will be developed in Siu Ho Wan of North Lantau with a daily capacity of 200 tonnes of food waste. We plan to seek funding approval from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council in the second quarter of 2014 and award the "Design, Build and Operate" contract in mid-2014. The facility is expected to be completed for commissioning in 2016. For the second phase of OWTF in Sha Ling of the North District with a daily capacity of 300 tonnes, we have completed the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study and are proceeding with the preliminary preparation procedures. We will commence the works and EIA Study on the third phase of OWTF as soon as possible and will continue to look for suitable sites for further OWTFs.

The first phase of OWTF will adopt the biological treatment technologies of anaerobic digestion and composting to turn food waste into biogases for generating electricity and producing about 7 000 tonnes of compost each year. The electricity generated not only can supply power for use by the whole facility, the

estimated 14 million kWh surplus power generated each year upon full commissioning can also be exported to nearby government facilities and public power grids. The second phase of OWTF will also adopt anaerobic digestion and composting technologies to turn food waste into biogases for generating electricity and gas as well as producing about 10 000 tonnes of compost each year. The electricity generated not only can supply power for use by the whole facility, the estimated 23 million kWh surplus power generated each year upon full commissioning can also be exported to nearby government facilities and public power grids.

Major infrastructure projects involving planting of trees and vegetation are the main consumers of compost products, however, the demand from them varies significantly from year to year. We estimate that the demand for compost/fertilizer is about 20 000 tonnes per year on average, and the demand from government departments and private sector should be big enough to absorb the compost generated from the two phases of OWTF.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB265

(Question Serial No.: 1583)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 20):

On “continuing to take forward the extension of the three strategic landfills, namely the West New Territories (WENT) Landfill, South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill and North East New Territories (NENT) Landfill”, please provide the following information:

- (1) Please tabulate as follows the quantities of waste received by various landfills in the past 4 years (i.e. 2010-2013).

	Overall Waste									Food Waste											
	2010			2011			2012			2013			2010		2011		2012		2013		
	Domestic	Commercial	Industrial	Domestic	Commercial	Industrial	Domestic	Commercial	Industrial	Domestic	Commercial	Industrial	Domestic	Commercial	Domestic	Commercial	Domestic	Commercial	Domestic	Commercial	
WENT Landfill, Tuen Mun																					
NENT Landfill, Ta Kwu Ling																					
SENT Landfill, Tseung Kwan O																					

- (2) What are the full capacities of various landfills and when will they be exhausted?

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Puk-sun, Michael

Reply:

1. The quantities of waste received at the three strategic landfills over the past 4 years (i.e.2010-2013) are summarised below:

Landfill	Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)							
	2010		2011		2012		2013	
	Domestic Waste	Commercial and Industrial Waste	Domestic Waste	Commercial and Industrial Waste	Domestic Waste	Commercial and Industrial Waste	Domestic Waste	Commercial and Industrial Waste
	<i>[Food Waste]</i>	<i>[Food Waste]</i>	<i>[Food Waste]</i>	<i>[Food Waste]</i>	<i>[Food Waste]</i>	<i>[Food Waste]</i>	<i>[Food Waste]</i>	<i>[Food Waste]</i>
West New Territories (WENT) Landfill	3989 <i>[1559]</i>	1104 <i>[326]</i>	3844 <i>[1627]</i>	1238 <i>[453]</i>	3919 <i>[1576]</i>	1337 <i>[380]</i>	3916 <i>[--]</i>	1507 <i>[--]</i>
North East New Territories (NENT) Landfill	1394 <i>[545]</i>	462 <i>[83]</i>	1358 <i>[575]</i>	470 <i>[113]</i>	1444 <i>[581]</i>	499 <i>[102]</i>	1591 <i>[--]</i>	551 <i>[--]</i>
South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill	753 <i>[294]</i>	1413 <i>[431]</i>	770 <i>[326]</i>	1315 <i>[490]</i>	924 <i>[372]</i>	1155 <i>[327]</i>	852 <i>[--]</i>	1130 <i>[--]</i>

Remarks:

1. The compilation of the 2013 figures on food waste is in progress.
 2. All figures shown are in tonnes per day.
 3. The quantity of food waste in square brackets is included in the quantity of waste received at the landfills. For example, out of the 3 989 tonnes of domestic waste disposed of daily at the WENT Landfill in 2010, 1 559 tonnes were food waste.
2. The total design capacity of the three strategic landfills in Hong Kong (i.e. the SENT, NENT and WENT Landfills) is 139 million cubic metres (Mm³) and the remaining capacity by end of 2012 is 7, 18 and 31 Mm³ respectively for SENT, NENT and WENT Landfill. It is estimated that the three existing landfills will be exhausted one by one in or before 2019.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB266

(Question Serial No.: 1585)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 22):

It is mentioned that the Department will “support the Steering Committee to Promote the Sustainable Development of the Recycling Industry”. Please advise on the following:

- 1) the details of the expenditure of the \$1 billion Recycling Fund;
- 2) the timetable and details of the work of the Steering Committee to Promote the Sustainable Development of the Recycling Industry; and
- 3) the cost-effectiveness of the \$1 billion budget.

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Pei-chun, James

Reply:

- 1) To promote the sustainable development of the recycling industry, the Government has earmarked \$1 billion to set up a Recycling Fund. The Steering Committee to Promote the Sustainable Development of the Recycling Industry, chaired by the Chief Secretary for Administration, will study the specific uses of the Recycling Fund in depth with a view to formulating effective, equitable and sustainable proposals. Reference will be made to the modes of financial assistance to the recycling industry in other regions and their effectiveness, and the unique situation of different types of recyclables in Hong Kong.
- 2) The work of the Steering Committee includes reviewing the current situation of collection and disposal of local recyclables, and relevant policies and support measures; studying viable measures to support the recycling industry, which covers setting up a "Recycling Fund" and its mode of operation; and enhancing the community recycling network. In addition, the Steering Committee will explore means to foster community support in recycling through public education and community involvement projects, and to promote research on relevant technologies as well as training and development of the workforce.

Apart from internal meetings, the Steering Committee held two meetings with the recycling industry and relevant stakeholders. The Environmental Protection Department also held several follow-up meetings with the trade to listen to their views on ways to promote the sustainable development of Hong Kong's recycling industry. The Steering Committee will continue to maintain close liaison with the trade and relevant stakeholders. It is anticipated that specific plans on the use of the Fund will be formulated and submitted to the LegCo's Panel on Environmental Affairs for consultation in the second half of this year.

- 3) After the Recycling Fund has come into operation, timely reviews will be conducted on its effectiveness, including the effects on raising the industry's standards of operation and the quantity and quality of recyclables treated in Hong Kong.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB267

(Question Serial No.: 1586)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 23):

The Environmental Protection Department is developing community green stations (CGSs) and enhancing the awareness of recycling. Please advise on the following:

- 1) The estimated number, location, area, expenditure and cost effectiveness of the CGSs to be developed;
- 2) The recovery rate of plastics, electrical and electronic equipment and glass beverage bottles in the past 10 years (from 2002 to 2013); and
- 3) The effectiveness and expenditure of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign launched since December 2012.

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Puk-sun, Michael

Reply:

- (1) The Government plans to set up one community green station (CGS) in each of the 18 districts and will provide funding for their operation. The capital works will cost about \$400 million. We will appoint non-profit organisations by way of open tender to operate the CGSs. The specific operating expenditures will depend on the financial proposals submitted by the individual operators in the open tender. The latest development for each of the CGSs is tabulated below:

District	Proposed Site	Site Area	Estimated schedule for commissioning	Estimated Capital Expenditure
Shatin	Junction of On Ping Street and On Sum Street, Shek Mun	About 1 600 m ²	2014	\$20.5 million
Eastern	Between Oi Shun Road and Hing Man Street, Shau Kei Wan, underneath the Island Eastern Corridor	About 3 000 m ²	First half of 2015	\$27.3 million

Others	(Preparation work started)	By phases	About \$350 million in total
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With the CGSs in place, they can help enhance the quality and quantity of recyclables collected and recover more recyclables of different types for local processing.

- (2) The recovery rates of plastics, electrical and electronic equipment and glass bottles in Hong Kong from 200 to 2012 are tabulated below:

Year	Recovery rate		
	Waste plastics	Waste electrical and electronic equipment	Glass bottles
2002	20%	Statistics not available	2.0%
2003	24%	Statistics not available	2.4%
2004	29%	Statistics not available	2.1%
2005	50%	79%	2.2%
2006	51%	85%	2.9%
2007	58%	84%	1.2%
2008	62%	82%	1.4%
2009	66%	89%	2.9%
2010	69%	82%	4.0%
2011	58%	88%	5.4%
2012	32%	80%	7.7%

The recovery rates of waste plastics decreased in 2011 and 2012 mainly due to substantial fluctuation in the export statistics of waste plastics, whereas disposal quantity of waste plastics remained stable and there was no significant increase.

- (3) Since the launch of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign (the Campaign), we have promoted a food wise and waste less culture and encouraged behavioural change to reduce food waste in the community through various schemes and activities. The "Big Waster" symbolising food wastage in the Campaign is gradually taking root in the community. As at 15 February 2014, 330 organisations have signed the Food Wise Charter and are committed to reducing food waste, and some 450 Food Wise Hong Kong Ambassadors have taken part in the food waste reduction training workshops to prepare themselves for promotion of Food Wise message. We will keep in view the effectiveness of the Campaign.

Details of the advertisements, promotional and educational activities organised since the implementation of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign in December 2012, the dates of implementation and the expenditures involved are shown in the table below:

Description	Date of Implementation	Expenditure Involved (\$)
Advertising for the Campaign (including those in public transport system, printed materials and electronic platform, etc.)	From May 2013 till now	About \$10.4 million
Drawing up and promoting good practices of food	From May 2013 till	Not applicable

waste reduction in cooperation with the relevant trades and sectors	now	
Launching the Food Wise Charter Scheme	From May 2013 till now	Not applicable
Launching the Food Wise Hong Kong Ambassador Scheme	From May 2013 till now	Not applicable
Meeting with the relevant sectors including women groups and the catering industry to conduct briefings and encourage participation	From March 2013 till now	Not applicable
Establishing a supporting website for the Campaign, organizing food waste reduction training workshops for launching the Food Wise Hong Kong Ambassador Scheme and participation by the relevant sectors and interested parties.	From December 2012 till now	About \$0.8 million
Organizing publicity activities to promote the Food Wise message, including: - Launch ceremony of the Campaign - Food Wise Hong Kong Steering Committee First Anniversary Ceremony/Food Wise Caroling	18 May 2013 17 December 2013	About \$2.7 million

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB268

(Question Serial No.: 1593)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 30):

The Government has already formulated a regulation under the Air Pollution Control Ordinance, setting out the retirement deadlines for pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles (DCVs) and a service life of 15 years for newly registered DCVs. In this connection, please advise on the following:

A) Please fill in the following table:

	Euro II or before	Euro III	Euro II or III retrofitted with catalytic converters	Euro IV	Euro V
Bus					
Light bus					
Taxi					
Goods vehicle					

B) When are the Euro II or before and Euro III vehicles expected to be phased out?

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Puk-sun, Michael

Reply:

A) The classification and numbers of registered DCVs as of 31 December 2013 are as follows.

Diesel vehicles	Euro II or before	Euro III	Euro IV	Euro V
Franchised bus*	3 130	1 262	221	1 237
Non-franchised bus	935	2 583	3 095	1 018
Light bus	1 888	599	723	357
Taxi*	2	0	0	0

Goods vehicle	47 977	27 680	36 898	11 347
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*The programme to phase out pre-Euro IV DCVs does not include franchised buses and taxis. Among the franchised buses, 6 Euro II and Euro III buses were retrofitted with selective catalytic reduction devices under the trial programme.

B) The Air Pollution Control (Air Pollutant Emission) (Controlled Vehicles) Regulation took effect from 1 February 2014. The Government will stop issuing licences to pre-Euro IV DCVs from the following dates:

Pre-Euro: 1 January 2016;
Euro I: 1 January 2017;
Euro II: 1 January 2018; and
Euro III: 1 January 2020.

In addition, we launched on 1 March 2014 an ex-gratia payment scheme for phasing out pre-Euro IV DCVs to assist affected eligible vehicle owners to phase out their DCVs with the ex-gratia payment.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB269

(Question Serial No.: 2522)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 49):

Regarding “rolling out a subsidy scheme to assist owners of private refuse collection vehicles to retrofit their vehicles to a fully enclosed design”, please advise:

- 1) How many private refuse collection vehicles were converted to a fully enclosed design as at December 2013?
- 2) How many private refuse collection vehicles have not been converted?
- 3) When does the Administration expect to complete all the conversion work?

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Puk-sun, Michael

Reply:

- (1) As at end of December 2013, 36 private refuse collection vehicles (RCVs) have been retrofitted to a fully enclosed design.
- (2) EPD estimates that about 330 RCVs will join the “RCV Retrofitting Subsidy Scheme” to become fully enclosed.
- (3) EPD aims to complete the retrofitting works of all existing private RCVs within 2014-15.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB270

(Question Serial No.: 2523)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Air
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 50):

With regard to the fact that “a subsidy programme for the replacement of catalytic converters and oxygen sensors of petrol and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) taxis and light buses started in August 2013”, some drivers said that the companies outsourced by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) to replace the catalytic converters and oxygen sensors were of poor quality, and some taxis broke down soon after the catalytic converters were replaced, making other drivers unwilling to go for the replacement. Please advise on the following:

- 1) the tender process taken by EPD for the above subsidy programme;
- 2) the expenditure of the tender and the tender sum;
- 3) the cost of replacement for each petrol and LPG taxi and light bus;
- 4) the number of petrol and LPG taxis and light buses eligible for replacement of catalytic converters and oxygen sensors in Hong Kong as at December 2013; and
- 5) the number of petrol and LPG taxis and light buses eligible for replacement but with their catalytic converters and oxygen sensors yet to be replaced as at December 2013.

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Puk-sun, Michael

Reply:

(1) - (3)

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) selected in December 2012 the parts suppliers and vehicle repair garages as service contractors to help implement the “one-off subsidy programme for the replacement of catalytic converters and oxygen sensors of petrol and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) taxis and light buses”, in accordance with established tender procedures of the Government through open tender and under the price competition principle. Expenditure on the tender exercise is met by existing resources of the EPD. After tender assessment, the EPD awarded contracts to 52 vehicle repair garages and 3 parts suppliers in July 2013.

Under the contracts, the contractors are paid for each vehicle a unit rate of subsidy, and there is no minimum requirement on the number of vehicles. The eventual contract amount will be determined by the number of vehicles for which the replacement of catalytic converters and oxygen sensors has been completed. If the price set by the contractor is above the subsidy limit, the contractor has the right to demand the difference from the vehicle owner. The subsidy amount was set with regard to the lowest tender price, and announced at the implementation of the programme.

To ensure the quality of catalytic converters and oxygen sensors, we set the specifications by making reference to stringent international requirements, and required suppliers to provide a 12-month warranty period for the products, which is more stringent than the current trade practice of not giving warranty. Besides, as precious metals are crucial to the effectiveness and service life of the converters, each production batch of converters is tested by independent third parties commissioned by the EPD, and accepted only when the precious metal content is found to be compliant. Since the installation began in October 2013, we have received feedback from many drivers and vehicle owners that they have seen substantial improvements in the horsepower and oil consumption after the replacement of catalytic converters and oxygen sensors.

The required parts are fully subsidised for eligible vehicle owners by the Government, and the cost of required parts per vehicle varies with the model of the vehicle. The amounts of subsidy provided directly to service contractors for the LPG taxi and light bus owners are as follows:

Vehicle type	Service fee for replacement of parts per vehicle (\$)	Costs of required parts per vehicle (\$)
Light buses	1,600	5,212 - 5,562
Taxis#	885	2,725 - 5,025

For about 60 hybrid and other less popular totaling 4 taxi models, the number of taxis per model is small. For the parts and replacement fee involved, after procurement by the Department, the subsidy per vehicle is about \$10,000 to \$17,000, including the replacement fee and parts.

(4) - (5)

A total of 18 103 taxis and 3 572 light buses in Hong Kong are eligible to apply for the subsidy for the replacement of catalytic converters and oxygen sensors. There were 3 phases of application under the programme, which began in August 2013 and closed on 31 January 2014. During the application period, a total of 2 881 light buses and 13 942 taxis were registered in the programme, with a participation rate at 78% of the eligible vehicles. Among them, the replacement for 12 000 vehicles in the first phase was completed by the end of 2013, and the replacement for the rest of the vehicles is expected to conclude in April 2014.

Participation in the subsidy programme is voluntary. Currently, the eligible vehicle owners of some 691 light buses and 4 161 taxis have not yet applied for subsidy under the programme. The participation rate for the latest vehicle models is only 40%, and some vehicle owners do not intend to seek subsidy as they believe the converter of their new vehicles is still operational.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB271

(Question Serial No.: 5675)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Air
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:25):

To support the Environmental Protection Department in implementing environmental measures, the Transport Department subsidised bus companies to include some bus routes in the trial of hybrid buses and electric buses in the past two years. Please advise:

1. What is the progress of the trial scheme? How many such buses in total have been tried out by bus companies with the subsidy respectively? What is the total amount of subsidy?
2. Where were the buses for trial manufactured?
3. After trial by bus companies, some buses seem not suitable for use on the roads in Hong Kong because of low capacity and insufficient horsepower. Some buses need significant alteration by bus companies. Does the Department think that the trial scheme is not very effective?

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply:

- (1) The Government has been approved funding of \$33 million to fully fund the procurement of 6 double-deck hybrid buses for trial by 3 franchised bus companies (including KMB, NWFB and Citybus). From the current progress of the procurements, the 2-year trial of the hybrid buses will commence in the second half of 2014.

As regards electric buses, the Government has been approved funding of \$180 million to fund the procurement of 36 single-deck electric buses by the five franchised bus companies (including KMB, NWFB, Citybus, LWB and NLB) for trial run in Hong Kong. The franchised bus companies are progressively tendering the procurement of the electric buses. It is anticipated that the trial will commence successively, starting from end of 2014, and will last for 2 years.

- (2) The 6 double-deck hybrid buses are all from the United Kingdom. For electric buses, as the tendering is still in progress, their places of origin are uncertain for the time being.

- (3) Apart from preparation works for the above government-funded electric bus trial programme, KMB also self-financed the trial of one single-deck electric bus between September 2012 and December 2013. According to KMB, the electric bus could cope with the hot and humid weather conditions in the summer of Hong Kong during the trial period. At the same time, positive feedbacks were received from passengers. Upon completion of the trials of the hybrid buses and electric buses by the franchised bus companies, we will assess the effectiveness of the trials and plan our next stage of work.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB272

(Question Serial No.: 1177)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Waste
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 12):

On the prosecutions for marine dumping offences:

1. What were the number of staff and provision for carrying out the inspection and prosecution work in 2013? There were 12 prosecutions in the original estimate for 2013, but eventually the actual number of prosecution is zero. What are the reasons?
2. Are there any statistics on the number of inspections conducted and verbal or written warnings issued in 2013? If yes, what are the details?
3. The actual prosecution figures in 2012 and 2013 were 12 and 0 respectively. The Government estimated that the figure would increase to 80 in 2014. Why is there such a big difference in the prosecution figures in these three years? What are the reasons and justifications for the Department to make such estimation for 2014?
4. Will the provision and manpower be suitably adjusted in light of the change in prosecution figures? If yes, what are the details, specifically the number of staff and posts involved in the adjustment of manpower? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. TSE Wai-chuen, Tony

Reply:

1. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has 12 staff responsible for, *inter alia*, processing applications for marine dumping permits and conducting inspections and enforcement work. As control of marine dumping is part of EPD's routine integrated enforcement work, there is no breakdown of expenditure in this area. There were 12 prosecutions in the original estimate for 2013, but the actual number of summonses for which prosecution to be concluded within the year is affected by many external factors, such as the date of discovery of an offence, the time required for investigation, the trial

arrangement by the court, etc. As the summonses laid within 2013 have not been concluded by the court, there was no completed prosecution recorded in 2013.

2. On the enforcement of the Dumping At Sea Ordinance, EPD conducted a total of 866 inspections, including those conducted at sea, on land and in the air and issued 87 written warnings in 2013.
3. The number of summonses for which prosecution will be concluded in 2014 is estimated to be 80, mainly because the 72 summonses laid in 2013 are being heard by the court and are expected to be concluded in 2014. We therefore expect an increase in the prosecution figure for 2014.
4. As part of EPD's routine integrated enforcement work, the number of prosecutions varies from time to time. We will deploy existing staff and resources to follow up on prosecutions. Additional provision and adjustment of manpower are not required.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB273

(Question Serial No.: 1178)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (000) Operational Expenses

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 13):

In 2014-15, there will be an increase of 89 non-directorate posts and one directorate post in the Environmental Protection Department. Please list in detail the distribution of these 90 posts by the posts involved, their terms of appointment, main areas of work/specific projects to be undertaken, remuneration levels, and whether these posts will be filled by new recruits or through internal deployment.

Asked by: Hon. TSE Wai-chuen, Tony

Reply:

In 2014-15, there will be a net increase of 90 civil service new posts, including 1 directorate and 89 non-directorate posts. The details are as follows:

Posts[@]	No.	Scope of work
1 SEPO, 3 EPO/AEPOs, 1 EPI	+5	To set up a Household Food Waste Section to enhance the studies and planning for the collection and handling of household food waste
2 SEPOs, 5 EPO/AEPOs, 1 SEPI, 2 EPIs	+10	To set up a Strategic Waste Facilities Planning Group to carry out planning for and development of sustainable waste management facilities in Hong Kong (All posts are time-limited for five years from 2014/15 to 2018/19)

Posts[@]	No.	Scope of work
1 ADEP, 2 SEPOs, 6 EPO/AEPOs, 2 SEPIs, 4 EPIs, 1 EOII, 1 CO, 1 ACO, 2 CAs, 1 PSI	+21	To set up a new division to provide support and implement the policies and initiatives formulated by the Steering Committee to support the sustainable development of the recycling industry (All posts are time-limited for three years from 2014/15 to 2016/17)
1 SEPO, 1 EPO/AEPO	+2	To enhance government green procurement policy and the related measures (All posts are time-limited for three years from 2014/15 to 2016/17)
1 Senior Stat, 1 Stat, 1 StatO II / Stu SO	+ 3	To set up a Statistics Unit to provide professional statistical support and oversee the compilation of waste statistics in Hong Kong
2 SEPOs, 6 EPO/AEPOs, 2 SEPIs, 4 EPIs, 2 ACOs	+16	To implement the Waste Diversion Plan, engage local stakeholders of the three landfill projects and stringent control on refuse collection vehicles (All posts are time-limited for two years from 2014/15 to 2015/16)
1 SEPO, 3 EPO/AEPOs, 1 SEPI, 3 EPIs, 2 A/AA*	+10	To set up a Territory-wide network of Community Green Stations and develop the new mandatory Producer Responsibility Scheme (* The two posts are time-limited for three years from 2014/15 to 2016/17)
2 EPO/AEPOs, 1 CEPI, 2 EPIs	+5	To support the Development Bureau in expediting land supply to meet the development needs of Hong Kong (All posts are time-limited for five years from 2014/15 to 2018/19)
4 EPO/AEPOs, 2 SEPIs, 4 EPIs	+10	To plan and implement infrastructure projects and/or community facilities for public housing developments (All posts are time-limited for five years from 2014/15 to 2018/19)
1 TA, 1 AOI 1SEO 1EO I	+ 4	To support the operation of Environment and Conservation Fund and monitor its investment return
1 EO I	+1	To enhance the management and operation of

Posts [@]	No.	Scope of work
		recruitment and promotion exercises
4 EPO/AEPOs	+4	To handle cases on environmental assessments including waste, marine sediment and land contamination etc.
3 EPO/AEPOs 2 EPIs 1 MD	+6	To manage regional air quality and support various air programmes / studies e.g. Fine Suspended Particulates Monitoring Programme, Hong Kong Supersite Air Quality Monitoring Programme and Regional Air Quality Scientific Studies etc.
1 EPO/AEPO, 2 SEPIs	-3	Time-limited posts to lapse on 1.4.2014
1 SEPO, 1 EPO/AEPO 1 EPI 1 OA	-4	To be deleted to tie in with the overall redeployment
Net Increase:	+90	

Note[@] : Pay scale of the relevant posts are as follows:

		<u>Pay Scale</u>
A	Architect	MPS 32 – 44
AA	Assistant Architect	MPS 19 – 27
ACO	Assistant Clerical Officer	MPS 3 – 15
ADEP	Assistant Director of Environmental Protection	DPS 2
AEPO	Assistant Environmental Protection Officer	MPS 16 – 21
AOI	Accounting Officer I	MPS 28 – 33
CA	Clerical Assistant	MPS 1 – 10
CEPI	Chief Environmental Protection Inspector	MPS 29 – 33
CO	Clerical Officer	MPS 16 – 21
EOI	Executive Officer I	MPS 28 – 33
EOII	Executive Officer II	MPS 15 – 27
EPI	Environmental Protection Inspector	MPS 8 – 21
EPO	Environmental Protection Officer	MPS 27 – 44
MD	Motor Driver	MPS 5 – 8
OA	Office Assistant	MPS 1-6
PSI	Personal Secretary I	MPS 16 – 21
Senior Stat	Senior Statistician	MPS 45 – 49
SEO	Senior Executive Officer	MPS 34 – 44
SEPI	Senior Environmental Protection Inspector	MPS 22 – 28
SEPO	Senior Environmental Protection Officer	MPS 45 – 49
Stat	Statistician	MPS 27 – 44
StatO II	Statistical Officer II	MPS 8 – 21
Stu SO	Student Statistical officer	TPS 4 – 5
TA	Treasury Accountant	MPS 30 – 44
DPS	Directorate Pay Scale	
MPS	Master Pay Scale	
TPS	Training Pay Scale	

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB274

(Question Serial No.: 1465)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Noise

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 28):

My office at Lower Ngau Tau Kok Estate has continuously received complaints against nuisance caused by MTR noise (including during early morning and post-midnight hours). What sections, policies and manpower does the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) have to regulate noise nuisance from MTR and handle residents' complaints in Kowloon East (including the residents of Lower Ngau Tau Kok Estate, Garden Estate and Telford Garden)?

How many related complaints were received by EPD in 2013-14? How were the complaints handled? Was it effective? Was there any negotiation with MTR for solutions? Will the Department deploy more manpower to handle noise nuisance from MTR in the new financial year? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon. TSE Wai-chun, Paul

Reply:

Pollution complaints in Kowloon East, including complaints against MTR train noise, are handled by the Regional Office (East) of the EPD. Upon receipt of complaints, EPD will conduct investigations and assess the noise levels according to the statutory provisions of the Noise Control Ordinance (NCO). Since 2013, we have received a total of two complaints against MTR train noise near Lower Ngau Tau Kok Estate, Garden Estate and Telford Garden. Although our investigation results indicated that the noise levels in question did not exceed the regulatory limits, we had also relayed the complaints to the MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) for their follow up. The MTRCL have over the years implemented a number of measures, including regular grinding of tracks and wheels, installation of wheel dampers, reduction of track joints and reducing train speed where applicable, in order to reduce the noise generated by their running trains.

Handling of noise complaints is part of the integrated pollution control activities of the EPD. We will continue to handle noise complaints actively with the resources and manpower allocated for these tasks.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB275

(Question Serial No.: 1479)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 9):

Could the Environment Bureau provide the names and number of government departments and public organisations that have used B5 biodiesel in the past 3 financial years and 2014-15, as well as the quantity and costs of procurement?

What policies will be taken by the Government in the new financial year to raise the consumption of B5 in replacement of traditional fossil diesel? What is the expenditure relating to the policies?

Asked by: Hon. TSE Wai-chun, Paul

Reply:

The use of biodiesel made of waste cooking oil is conducive to the sustainable use of resources. To test whether biodiesel is suitable for use in vehicles, vessels and machinery, starting from January 2012, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) commissioned a 16-month pilot scheme to use B5 diesel (a blend of 95% Euro V diesel and 5% biodiesel which is recycled from used cooking oil) in some government vehicles, vessels and machinery. In the first phase of the scheme, participant departments included the Drainage Services Department, Correctional Services Department, Hong Kong Police Force, Marine Department and EPD, with a total contract procurement amount of about 3.5 million litres and a contract value of \$25,084,300. Given the success of the scheme, EPD initiated the 24-month second phase on 1 May 2013, with the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and Government Logistics Department joining the scheme. The estimated total procurement amount is about 8 million litres, with a contract value of \$53,871,750. EPD has no record on the consumption of B5 diesel by public organisations.

Apart from taking the lead in using biodiesel by the Government, EPD will continue to collaborate with public organisations and other stakeholders, to further promote biodiesel through information exchange and seminars sharing the experience of using B5 diesel.

The above measures are part and parcel of EPD's work in respect of promotion of waste recycling and green procurement. Relevant resources are absorbed under Programme (1) (Waste) under Head 44 –EPD.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB276

(Question Serial No.: 2424)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 56):

The Financial Secretary (FS) made it clear in paragraph 52 of the Budget that the Government would “support the long-term and sustainable development of the recycling industry by setting up a Recycling Fund.....promoting green procurement”. As FS is promoting the policies of environmental protection and building a liveable city, will consideration be given to the motion passed by the Legislative Council on 27 March 2013 on setting up a mechanism to monitor the recycling of used cooking oil from food establishments? This will prevent law-breakers from extracting “gutter oil” from used cooking oil while promoting conversion of used cooking oil to bio-diesel (B5) for vehicles and machinery to facilitate recycling. If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. TSE Wai-chun, Paul

Reply:

From an environmental perspective, used cooking oil is suitable to be recovered and recycled to become useful products. To promote sustainable use of resources, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) encourages stakeholders to participate in and support the recycling of used cooking oil through a multi-pronged approach. The EPD encourages restaurants to reduce waste and pass their used cooking oil to reputable recyclers for recycling into bio-diesel through its “Restaurant Partnership Programme”. In addition, the EPD has listed the information of local recyclers who undertake the recycling of used cooking oil locally in Hong Kong on its “Waste Reduction Website”, so as to facilitate communications by restaurants who would like to support recycling and sustainable use of resources and for their reference. Moreover, the Government implements the green procurement policy and takes the lead in using bio-diesel. In this connection, EPD launched a pilot scheme to use B5 diesel made of recycled used cooking oil (a blend of 95% Euro V diesel and 5% biodiesel) in some government vehicles, vessels and machinery. This is to pioneer the use of bio-diesel in Hong Kong enabling its wider adoption progressively.

Apart from taking the lead to use bio-diesel by the Government, the EPD will continue to collaborate with the public sector and other stakeholders on sharing the experience of using B5 diesel through information exchanges and seminars to further promote the use of bio-diesel. We will liaise closely with the catering sector to study whether and how to deepen related work.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB277

(Question Serial No.: 4695)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 104):

On engaging "agency workers", please provide the following information:

	2013-14 (up to the latest situation)
Number of contracts of engaging employment agencies	()
Contract sum paid to each employment agency	()
Length of contract for each employment agency	()
Number of agency workers	()
Breakdown of positions held by agency workers	()
Monthly salary range of agency workers	
● \$30,001 or above	()
● \$16,001 to \$30,000	()
● \$8,001 to \$16,000	()
● \$6,501 to \$8,000	()
● \$6,240 to \$6,500	()
● \$6,240 or below	()
Length of service of agency workers in years	
● 15 years or longer	()
● 10 - 15 years	()
● 5 - 10 years	()
● 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 staff cost of the Department	()
Number of staff granted severance payment/ long service payment/ end-of-contract gratuities	()

Amount of severance payment/ long service payment/ end-of-contract gratuities granted	()
Number of staff whose accrued benefits derived from the employer's contribution in the Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) are used to offset their severance payment/ long service payment/ end-of-contract gratuities	()
Amount of severance payment/ long service payment/ end-of-contract gratuities offset by accrued benefits derived from the employer's contribution in the MPF	()
Number of workers with paid meal break	()
Number of workers without paid meal break	()
Number of workers working 5 days a week	()
Number of workers working 6 days a week	()

() denotes percentage of increase or decrease compared with the same period of 2012-13

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

The figures on the employment of agency workers in the Environmental Protection Department in 2013-14 are as follows:

	2013-14 (up to 30.9.2013)	
Number of contracts of engaging employment agencies	Others	11 (+22%)
	T-contract (Note1)	1 (-) (as at Mar 2014)
Contract sum paid to each employment agency	Others	\$110,000 to \$1.42m (+22%)
	T-contract	\$25.86m (+15%) (full year provision)
Length of contract for each employment agency	Others	9 months to 24 months
	T-contract	12 months
Number of agency workers	Others	37 (+16%)
	T-contract	59 (+4%)
Breakdown of 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, general project management works, etc.	
Monthly salary range of agency workers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● \$30,001 or above ● \$16,001 to \$30,000 ● \$8,001 to \$16,000 ● \$6,501 to \$8,000 ● \$6,240 to \$6,500 ● \$6,240 or below 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$30,001 or above • \$16,001 to \$30,000 • \$8,001 to \$16,000 • \$6,501 to \$8,000 	Others 1 (-) 0 (-) 32 (+28%) 4 (-33%)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$30,001 or above • \$16,001 to \$30,000
Length of service of agency workers in years <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 15 years or longer ● 10 - 15 years ● 5 - 10 years ● 3 - 5 years 	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.	

	2013-14 (up to 30.9.2013)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1 - 3 years ● less than 1 year 		
Percentage of agency workers in the total number of staff in the Department	Others	2.0% (+15%)
	T-contract	3.2% (-)
Percentage of amount paid to employment agencies in the total staff cost of the Department	Others	0.6% (+24%)
	T-contract	2.5% (+9%)
Number of staff granted severance payment/ long service payment/ end-of-contract gratuities	The Department has not entered into employment contracts with employment agencies or agency workers. Hence, we are not able to provide the information requested.	
Amount of severance payment/ long service payment/ end-of-contract gratuities granted		
Number of staff whose accrued benefits derived from the employer's contribution in the Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) are used to offset their severance payment/ long service payment/ end-of-contract gratuities		
Amount of severance payment/ long service payment/ end-of-contract gratuities offset by accrued benefits derived from the employer's contribution in the MPF		
Number of workers with paid meal break Number of workers without paid meal break		
Number of workers working 5 days a week	Others	35 (+9%)
	T-contract	59 (+4%)
Number of workers working 6 days a week	Others	2 (Not applicable)
	T-contract	NIL

Note1 T-contract refers to term contract centrally administered by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer.

Note2 The salary range quoted for T-contract includes both salaries and commissions.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB278****(Question Serial No.: 4696)**Head: (44) Environmental Protection DepartmentSubhead(No. & title): (000) Operational expensesProgramme:Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.: 105):

On engaging "outsourced workers", please provide the following information:

	2013-14 (up to the latest situation)
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, cleansing and information technology)	()
Monthly salary range of outsourced workers	
● \$30,001 or above	()
● \$16,001 to \$30,000	()
● \$8,001 to \$16,000	()
● \$6,501 to \$8,000	()
● \$6,240 to \$6,500	()
● \$6,240 or below	()
Length of service of outsourced workers	
● 15 years or longer	()
● 10 - 15 years	()
● 5 - 10 years	()
● 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 staff granted severance payment/ long service payment/ end-of-contract gratuities	()
Amount of severance payment/ long service payment/ end-of-contract gratuities	()

granted	
Number of staff whose accrued benefits derived from the employer's contribution in the Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) are used to offset their severance payment/ long service payment/ end-of-contract gratuities	()
Amount of severance payment/ long service payment/ end-of-contract gratuities offset by accrued benefits derived from the employer's contribution in the MPF	()
Number of workers with paid meal break	()
Number of workers without paid meal break	()
Number of workers working 5 days a week	()
Number of workers working 6 days a week	()

() denotes percentage of increase or decrease compared with the same period of 2012-13

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

The figures on the employment of outsourced workers in the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) in 2013-14 are as follows:

	2013-14 (up to 28.2.2014)
Number of outsourced service contracts	17(+13%)
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	\$10.85M (+14%)
Length of contract for each outsourced service provider	2 to 24 months
Number of workers engaged through outsourced service providers	For most of the outsourced service contracts, 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.
Details of the positions held by outsourced workers (e.g. customer service, property management, security, cleansing and information technology)	
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 workers is not available.
Length of service of outsourced workers	
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	1%
Number of staff granted severance payment/ long service payment/ end-of-contract gratuities	The information requested is not available as we do not have access to employment information of the service providers and their workers.
Amount of severance payment/ long service payment/ end-of-contract gratuities granted	
Number of staff whose accrued benefits derived from	

the employer's contribution in the Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) are used to offset their severance payment/ long service payment/ end-of-contract gratuities	
Amount of severance payment/ long service payment/ end-of-contract gratuities offset by accrued benefits derived from the employer's contribution in the MPF	
Number of workers with paid meal break	
Number of workers without paid meal break	
Number of workers working 5 days a week Number of workers working 6 days a week	

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB279

(Question Serial No.: 4697)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 106):

Regarding the employment of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff, please provide the following information:

	2013-14 (up to the latest situation)
Number of NCSC staff	()
Distribution of posts taken up by NCSC staff	()
Salary expenditure for NCSC staff	()
Monthly salary range of NCSC staff	
● \$30,001 or above	()
● \$16,001 to \$30,000	()
● \$8,001 to \$16,000	()
● \$6,501 to \$8,000	()
● \$6,240 to \$6,500	()
● \$6,240 or below	()
Length of service of NCSC staff in years	
● 15 years or longer	()
● 10 - 15 years	()
● 5 - 10 years	()
● 3 - 5 years	()
● 1 - 3 years	()
● less than 1 year	()
Number of staff converted to civil servants	()
Percentage of NCSC staff in the total number of staff in the Department	()
Percentage of payment for NCSC staff in the total staff costs of the Department	()
Number of staff granted severance payment/ long service payment/ end-of-contract gratuities	()
Amount of severance payment/ long service payment/ end-of-contract gratuities granted	()

Number of staff whose accrued benefits derived from the employer's contribution in the Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) are used to offset their severance payment/ long service payment/ end-of-contract gratuities	()
Amount of severance payment/ long service payment/ end-of-contract gratuities offset by accrued benefits derived from the employer's contribution in the MPF	()
Number of workers with paid meal break	()
Number of workers without paid meal break	()
Number of workers working 5 days a week	()
Number of workers working 6 days a week	()

() denotes percentage of increase or decrease compared with the same period of 2012-13

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

The figures on the employment of NCSC staff in the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) in 2013-14 are as follows:

	2013-14
Number of NCSC staff*	107 (-0.9%)
Distribution of posts taken up by NCSC staff	
● Comparable to Environmental Protection Officer (EPO) or equivalent	37
● Comparable to Assistant Environmental Protection Officer (AEPO) or equivalent	30
● Comparable to Environmental Protection Inspection (EPI) or equivalent	13
● Comparable to ranks below EPI or equivalent	27
Salary expenditure for NCSC staff #	\$33.5m (-5.1%)
Monthly salary range of NCSC staff	
● \$30,001 or above	37 (+8.8%)
● \$16,001 to \$30,000	31 (-8.8%)
● \$8,001 to \$16,000	39 (-2.5%)
Length of service of NCSC staff in years	
● 5 - 10 years	10 (-23.1%)
● 3 - 5 years	16 (-11.1%)
● 1 - 3 years	30 (+20%)
● less than 1 year	51 (0%)
Number of staff converted to civil servants [^]	1
Percentage of NCSC staff in the total number of staff in the Department	5.8%
Percentage of payment for NCSC staff in the total staff costs of the Department	3.2%
Number of staff granted end-of-contract gratuities	76
Amount of end-of-contract gratuities granted [#]	\$2.42m
Number of staff whose accrued benefits derived from the employer's contribution in the Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF)	76

are used to offset their end-of-contract gratuities	
Amount of end-of-contract gratuities offset by accrued benefits derived from the employer's contribution in the MPF [#]	\$0.97m
Number of workers with paid meal break	106
Number of workers without paid meal break	1
Number of workers working 5 days a week	107
Number of workers working 6 days a week	0

() denotes percentage of increase or decrease compared with the same period of 2012-13

* Position as at 31 December 2013.

As the actual expenditure in 2013-14 has yet to be concluded, the figure in 2013-14 is derived from the revised estimate of the year.

^ The figure here refers to ex-NCSC staff in EPD who were appointed as EPI/AEPO/EPO through open recruitment exercises. We do not have information on ex-NCSC staff in EPD who may have been appointed to fill other civil service vacancies.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB280

(Question Serial No.: 0487)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Air
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 28):

The Administration encourages ocean-going vessels (OGVs) to take part in the Port Facilities and Light Dues Incentive Scheme and use low sulphur fuel when berthing in Hong Kong waters. In this connection, please provide the following information:

1. How many applications have been received in total by the Administration since the Scheme was launched? What are the participation rate and expenditure involved? What is the total reduction in emission?
2. What is the progress of installing on-shore power (OPS) supply facilities at the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal? When will it be completed? What is the relevant expenditure? Has the Administration considered installing OPS facilities at other cruise terminals? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
3. What is the progress of the legislative work of requiring OGVs to switch to the use of cleaner fuel while at berth in Hong Kong waters? When will the Administration introduce the Bill into the Legislative Council?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

1. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has implemented the 3-year Port Facilities and Light Dues Incentive Scheme since September 2012 to encourage the use of low sulphur fuel by ocean going vessels (OGVs) while berthing in Hong Kong waters, which could reduce the emission of sulphur dioxide (SO₂) and respirable suspended particulates (RSPs). As at the end of February 2014, we have received a total of 4 758 applications, 4 592 of them were approved and 25 were rejected due to non-compliance with the fuel switch requirement. The remaining 141 applications are being processed. The approved applications account for about 12% of OGV arrivals. The amount of port facilities and light dues concession was about \$25 million. As at the end of 2013, about 880 tonnes of SO₂ and 70 tonnes of RSPs emissions have been reduced since the implementation of the Scheme.

2. The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department engaged a consultancy service in November 2013 to examine the technical feasibility of installing onshore power (OPS) facilities at Kai Tak Cruise Terminal, which could help to work out the work details of OPS installation and estimate the cost. We expect that the study will be completed in mid-2014. The expenditure for the study is about HK\$1.6 million, which will be absorbed within EPD's existing resources. Moreover, in February 2013 we proposed to the operator of the Ocean Terminal the provision of OPS facilities at its Terminal by mail. The operator is considering the feasibility of the proposal.
3. We had obtained the support of the Legislative Council (LegCo) and shipping trade in 2013 to require OGVs to switch to low sulphur fuel while at berth through legislation. We are drafting the relevant legislation and planning to introduce the Bill into the LegCo in the second half of this year.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB281

(Question Serial No.: 1169)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Air
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 35):

Regarding exploration with the governments of the Pearl River Delta (PRD) Region on the feasibility of mandating fuel switch for ocean-going vessels berthing in PRD waters, would the Government please provide the following information?

1. What are the details of the Fair Winds Charter (FWC)? By the nature of business, how many companies have signed the FWC currently? Has the Administration promoted the FWC? If yes, what are the details and the relevant expenditure? If no, what are the reasons?
2. Has the Administration assessed the effectiveness of the FWC and what was the relevant emission reduction? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
3. Has the Administration considered expanding the scope of the FWC to cover ports in the PRD and setting up an emission control area in the PRD? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

1. The Fair Winds Charter (FWC) is a two-year voluntary scheme initiated by the Hong Kong shipping trade in January 2011 and supported by the Government to reduce emissions by ocean going vessels (OGVs) at berth. The signatory shipping companies committed their OGVs to switching to fuels containing 0.5% sulphur or below while at berth in Hong Kong as far as possible (i.e. fuel switch at berth). Upon expiry of the two-year term of the FWC (i.e. end of 2012), the trade renewed it twice till the end of 2014. Currently a total of 17 shipping companies have signed up to FWC.

To encourage OGVs to switch fuel while at berth, the Government launched a three-year incentive scheme in September 2012, reducing 50% of the port facilities and light dues for the OGVs if they switch fuel voluntarily while berthing in Hong Kong waters, and we are also preparing new legislation to enforce the requirement of mandatory fuel switch at berth for OGVs in Hong Kong waters. As at end of February 2014, the amount of port facilities and light dues concession is about \$25 million.

2. According to the information provided by the shipping companies, a total of 6 275 calls of OGVs participated in the FWC from January 2011 to December 2012. It was estimated that a total emission of 1 560 tons of sulphur dioxide and 150 tons of respirable suspended particulates were reduced.
3. We are exploring with the relevant departments in the Mainland the feasibility of requiring OGVs to switch fuel while berthing at Pearl River Delta (PRD) ports. As regards setting up an emission control area in PRD waters, we must obtain approval from the Central People's Government and complete the relevant assessments and studies in accordance with the requirements of the International Maritime Organization before materialising the plan. Since the work involved is complicated and extensive, it takes a longer time to study and discuss in order to achieve this long-term target. This is our long-term goal.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB282

(Question Serial No.: 5242)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 18):

What is the 2014-15 estimate for the Environmental Protection Department's duty visits or exchanges to the Mainland? Please advise on the themes of the duty visits or exchanges to the Mainland planned for 2014-15. How will the Administration prevent activities irrelevant to official duties from taking place during duty visits outside Hong Kong? And how will the Administration prevent applications for revising visit destinations from becoming a mere formality?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yuk-man

Reply:

Officers of the Environmental Protection Department will conduct duty visits outside Hong Kong in 2014-15 with regard to operational needs, including promoting regional cooperation with the Mainland, and attending relevant conferences, etc. There are no specific plans for the time being.

Duty visits, if publicly funded, are subject to control under relevant regulations and guidelines to ensure effective monitoring and proper use of public funds. There is control on aspects, such as duty visits should only be conducted when there are strong operational reasons; all duty visits should obtain prior approval formally and should avoid non-official activities; the officers concerned should provide all necessary information in respect of the proposed visit as far as possible when submitting the application; if there are any subsequent changes to the arrangements, the officers concerned should inform the approving officers as soon as possible who should then assess whether re-consideration of the applications is needed.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB283

(Question Serial No.: 1527)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 7):

Regarding the work of encouraging ocean going vessels (OGVs) to use low-sulphur fuel, please inform this Committee of:

1. The number of OGVs participated in the Port Facilities and Light Dues Incentive Scheme since its introduction, the percentage of the total number of OGV-calls they account for, the emission reduction achieved and the total amount of government's revenue forgone due to the Incentive Scheme.
2. What efforts have been made to explore the feasibility of requiring OGVs to switch to low-sulphur fuel while berthing in the Pearl River Delta waters? How many meetings have been convened? When will the results come out? What are the expenditure and manpower involved?
3. What is the progress of the legislative procedures for requiring OGVs to switch fuel while berthing in Hong Kong? When will the legislative procedures commence? What is the earliest time that the legislation can take effect?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

1. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has implemented the 3-year Port Facilities and Light Dues Incentive Scheme since September 2012 to encourage the use of low sulphur fuel by ocean going vessels (OGVs) while berthing in Hong Kong waters to reduce the emission of sulphur dioxide and respirable suspended particulates (RSPs). As at the end of February 2014, we have received a total of 4 758 applications, 4 592 of them were approved and 25 were rejected due to non-compliance with the fuel switch requirement. The remaining 141 applications are being processed. The approved applications account for about 12% of the OGVs arrivals. As at the end of February 2014, the amount of port facilities and light dues concession is about \$25 million, and about 880 tonnes of sulphur dioxide and 70 tonnes of RSPs emissions have been reduced since the implementation of the Scheme.
2. We have introduced our vessel emission reduction measures to the government of Guangdong in various meetings on cooperation and exchange between Hong Kong and Guangdong since early 2013, and

explored the feasibility of requiring OGVs to switch to low sulphur fuel while berthing in the waters of the Pearl River Delta. Both sides plan to set up a working group for collaboration in this area. The work is undertaken by the Air Policy Division of the EPD, and we have no breakdown on the manpower and expenditure involved for the exchanges and studies.

3. We secured the support of the Legislative Council (LegCo) and the shipping trade in 2013 to require OGVs to switch to low sulphur fuel while at berth through legislation. We are drafting the relevant legislation and we expect to introduce it to the LegCo in the second half of this year.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB284****(Question Serial No.: 1528)**Head: (44) Environmental Protection DepartmentSubhead(No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (3) NoiseControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.:8):

Regarding the retrofitting programme, what are the details of the noise barrier projects to be implemented by the Government in the coming three years? FC was briefed last year on the 22 noise barrier projects being planned or reviewed by the Government. What is the progress of the review? Are there any new projects? What are the details, including location, progress of review, estimated implementation timetable and expenditure, of these projects?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-waiReply:

The retrofitting works at the Fanling Highway (MTR Fanling Station to Wo Hing Road) section was completed last year under the programme for retrofitting noise barriers on existing roads. Together with the 9 works items completed previously, a total of 10 retrofitting works items have been completed. The 7 retrofitting works items in progress are expected to be completed in the next 3 years. In addition, we have completed the planning and design process for the retrofitting works at Tuen Mun Road (Town Centre Section) and the Tuen Mun Road (Fu Tei Section), which are undergoing tendering and the concerned gazettal procedures respectively. We will seek funding approval for these two sections, in order to start the noise barrier retrofitting works early. These 9 works items, including the 7 in progress and the 2 about to start, are listed below:

Ref. No.	Road Section	Estimated Expenditure (\$ million)
1	Tuen Mun Road (Tsuen Wan)	1,257
2	Tuen Mun Road (Yau Kom Tau)	
3	Tuen Mun Road (Castle Peak Bay)	
4	Tuen Mun Road (Anglers' Beach)	
5	Tuen Mun Road (Sham Tseng)	
6	Tuen Mun Road (Tsing Lung Tau)	
7	Tai Po Tai Wo Road (near Po Nga Court)	97

8	Tuen Mun Road (Town Centre Section)	520
9	Tuen Mun Road (Fu Tei Section)	559

At present, there are still 21 road sections under planning and review for retrofitting, or under review in the light of circumstances of individual sections. We will work out their implementation schedules and estimate the relevant expenditures in accordance with the planning and review result. These 21 works items are listed below:

1. Tai Po Road (Sha Tin Section);
2. New Clear Water Bay Road;
3. Sha Tin Road;
4. Po Shek Wu Road;
5. Long Tin Road;
6. Tsuen Wan Road;
7. Hoi On Road;
8. Ma Wang Road;
9. Po Ning Road;
10. Tam Kon Shan Road;
11. San Tin Highway;
12. Po Lam Road North;
13. Island Eastern Corridor (near Heng Fa Chuen);
14. Yuen Wo Road;
15. Castle Peak Road (Ping Shan);
16. Tai Po Road (Sham Shui Po);
17. Chai Wan Road;
18. Fanling Highway (near Tsung Pak Long);
19. Jockey Club Road and San Wan Road (near Fanling Wai);
20. Castle Peak Road (Hung Shui Kiu); and
21. Sha Tin Road near Wong Uk Village.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB285

(Question Serial No.:1529)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (4) Water

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 9):

Regarding “continue to improve the water quality of the Victoria Harbour”, please advise on:

- 1) in the past three years, the numbers of cases of mis-connected sewers discovered by the Government, listed by District Council district; the numbers of cases where rectification was made, source was not found and rectification was not made for other reasons;
- 2) the manpower and expenditures used for the above programme in the past three years; the relevant manpower and expenditure in the coming year;
- 3) apart from continuing to pursue the phased implementation of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme, what plans does the Government have to improve the near shore water quality? Overall speaking, what were the expenditures used for improving the water quality of the Victoria Harbour listed by year in the past three years?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

- 1) The number of cases of mis-connected sewers discovered by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) in Victoria Harbour and its vicinity districts in the past three years was as follows:

District	No. of misconnections of sewers		
	2011	2012	2013
Central & Western	3 (all rectified)	0	1 (all rectified)
Eastern	3 (all rectified)	1 (all rectified)	11 (10 rectified)
Wanchai	6	3	3

	(all rectified)	(all rectified)	(1 rectified)
Kowloon City	13 (8 rectified)	20 (9 rectified)	5 (3 rectified)
Kwun Tong	3 (in progress)	2 (all rectified)	3 (in progress)
Sham Shui Po	1 (all rectified)	4 (all rectified)	1 (all rectified)
Wong Tai Sin	2 (all rectified)	1 (all rectified)	4 (3 rectified)
Yau Tsim Mong	23 (20 rectified)	10 (4 rectified)	17 (12 rectified)
Kwai Tsing	2 (all rectified)	1 (all rectified)	3 (all rectified)
Tsuen Wan	2 (all rectified)	5 (all rectified)	2 (all rectified)
Total	58 (47 rectified)	47 (30 rectified)	50 (36 rectified)

Rectification of misconnection of sewers requires discussions and follow-up actions amongst the relevant government departments, building owners, owners' corporations, etc. Some cases take a longer processing time. The Administration will continue to process the outstanding cases.

- 2) The government departments concerned have been cooperating to handle cases of mis-connected sewers with their existing manpower and resources. As this is part of the routine work of the departments, no separate breakdown on such expenditure is available. The Administration will continue to absorb the work by existing resources in the coming year.
- 3) Upon completion of Harbour Area Treatment Scheme Stage 2A, near shore pollution in Victoria Harbour will become our priority water quality problem. We plan to carry out a consultancy study to work out practical options and a programme, to improve the environment of our popular waterfront areas by tackling near shore pollution. We will consult stakeholders in the next few months on the scope and details of the consultancy study.

In the past three years, the capital and recurrent expenditures for improving the water quality of Victoria Harbour were as follows:

Year	2011-12 (actual)	2012-13 (actual)	2013-14 (estimate)
(\$m)	2,784	2,497	3,258

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB286****(Question Serial No.: 2566)**Head: (44) Environmental Protection DepartmentSubhead(No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) WasteControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.: 45):

Regarding the setting up of community green stations (CGSs) in the 18 districts, please provide details of the CGSs by the 18 districts in the table below, including (i) district, (ii) proposed site, (iii) proposed site area, (iv) progress of the project and (v) expenditure and estimated expenditure of each CGS:

(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-waiReply:

The Government plans to set up one community green station (CGS) in each of the 18 districts and will provide funding to non-profit organizations for their operation. The capital works will cost about \$400 million. The latest development of each CGS is provided in the table below:

District	Proposed Site	Site Area	Progress of Project (estimated)	Estimated Capital Expenditure
Shatin	Junction of On Ping Street and On Sum Street, Shek Mun	About 1,600 m ²	To be commissioned in 2014	\$20.5 million
Eastern	Between Oi Shun Road and Hing Man Street, Shau Kei Wan, underneath the Island Eastern Corridor	About 3,000 m ²	To be commissioned in the first half of 2015	\$27.3 million
Others	Site search in progress		To be commissioned by phases	About \$350 million in total

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB287

(Question Serial No.: 2567)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 46):

On promoting the use of vehicles running on cleaner energy, please advise this Committee:

- (1) Apart from encouraging the trial of hybrid buses and electric buses by franchised bus companies, is there any plan to introduce other vehicles powered by clean energy including natural gas? If yes, what are the details of the plan? If no, what are the reasons?
- (2) It is noted that the batteries used by electric vehicles (EV) requires special treatment before disposal. What measures are taken by the Government currently to treat waste EV batteries? What are the related details and expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

- (1) The Government set up in March 2011 a \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund (the Fund) to subsidise transport operators to test out green and innovative transport technologies. Successful applicants will be required to share the trial findings with their peers to promote the use of successful technologies. As at the end of February 2014, 73 trials have been approved under the Fund, including 72 electric vehicles (EV) (including taxis, coaches, light buses and goods vehicles) and 53 hybrid vehicles (including goods vehicles and light buses). We will continue to provide information regarding the Fund and the technology and findings of the trials through various channels, including briefings and letters to the transport trade. The trial findings will be published on the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) website. We will also encourage product suppliers to introduce more products for the transport trade to test out new technologies using the Fund. Publicity and promotion efforts will be stepped up as well, which include promoting the Fund to the trade and the public in an international conference on vehicle emission control technology to be hosted by Hong Kong in mid-2014.

Trials of liquefied natural gas (LNG) vehicles are eligible for subsidy under the Fund as well. To our knowledge, some transport operators are considering applying for the Fund to test out LNG

vehicles. The biggest challenge to large-scale introduction of LNG vehicles is the availability of adequate sites that can satisfy safety requirements for the construction of filling stations given the high-density development in Hong Kong.

- (2) According to some EV suppliers, they will recycle used EV batteries for electricity storage in other devices. The recovery, disposal or export for recycling of EV batteries is regulated under the existing Waste Disposal Ordinance and Waste Disposal (Chemical Waste) (General) Regulation to ensure proper treatment. The enforcement of waste control is part of the EPD's routine enforcement and regulatory work. The Department has no breakdown on the expenditure and staffing involved.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB288

(Question Serial No.: 5000)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (4) Water

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 58):

Regarding the review and improvement of sewerage systems in various districts in Hong Kong, what are the planned projects? How does the Environmental Protection Department decide on the priority of works in various districts? What is the anticipated priority of works? In what districts are the works expected to be conducted in the coming three years?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

For planning the public sewerage system, the whole of Hong Kong has been divided into 16 sewage catchment areas, each with a Sewerage Master Plan (SMP) produced. The SMPs provide a blueprint of the required sewerage infrastructure, aimed at collecting sewage on a catchment-by-catchment basis for conveyance to sewage treatment works for processing.

In determining the priority for implementation of new projects, we will consider various factors including the extent of the environmental problems and benefits of the new sewerage, future development of the areas, population projections, proximity to trunk sewers, cost-effectiveness, project readiness, and local views and support.

We are implementing a number of sewerage works (about 50 major projects) in the various districts of Hong Kong. For the next three years, we are already planning to submit funding proposals in the 2014-15 Legislative Council session for the construction of trunk sewers in Tuen Mun, with a view to supporting housing development in the area, and for the extension of the public sewerage to some unsewered areas in Tuen Mun. In order to meet the development of Fanling, Sheung Shui and North District, we also plan to seek funding approval for the provision of advance works and engaging consultants to carry out detailed design and investigations for Shek Wu Hui sewage treatment works—further expansion phase 1A. In future, we will continue to implement sewerage works in various districts according to priorities, subject to actual resources.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB289

(Question Serial No.: 5024)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 129):

Regarding the operation of refuse transfer stations (RTSs), please inform this Committee of the amount of waste received by each RTS in 2013-14 by name.

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

The average amount of waste received by each refuse transfer station per day in 2013 was as follows:

Refuse Transfer Station	The amount of municipal solid waste (MSW) received (tonnes per day)
Shatin Transfer Station	1 118
West Kowloon Transfer Station (*)	2 385
Island East Transfer Station	798
Island West Transfer Station	556
Outlying Islands Transfer Facilities (*)	81
North Lantau Transfer Station	188
North West New Territories Refuse Transfer Station	1 045

(*) Apart from MSW, West Kowloon Transfer Station and Outlying Islands Transfer Facilities also receive and handle other wastes:

- West Kowloon Transfer Station - handles grease trap waste (461 tonnes per day on average);
- Outlying Islands Transfer Facilities - receives construction waste (25 tonnes per day on average) and a small amount of other wastes.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB290

(Question Serial No.: 5025)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 130):

Regarding matters related to air pollution, please inform this Committee of the following:

- 1) Has assessment been made on whether the original 2015 and 2020 emission reduction targets can be achieved under the present emission situation of sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, respirable suspended particulates and fine suspended particulates?
- 2) Has assessment been made on whether the emissions of various pollutants in the Pearl River Delta Region cities can meet the original 2015 and 2020 emission reduction targets?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

- 1) Every year, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) compiles an emission inventory covering major air pollutants and assesses the progress towards achieving the emission reduction targets for 2015 and 2020. Compared with the base year of 2010, the 2012 emission levels of sulphur dioxide (SO₂), respirable suspended particulates (RSP) and volatile organic compounds (VOC) in Hong Kong had decreased by 2% to 8%; however, due to the shortfall in the supply of natural gas for electricity generation, more coals were used for electricity generation to meet electricity demand and the increase in aviation and construction activities, the emission level of nitrogen oxides (NO_x) has increased by 6%.

In order to achieve the emission reduction targets for 2015 and 2020, and to meet broadly the new Air Quality Objectives by 2020, a series of emission reduction measures are being implemented, including:

- a) providing a one-off subsidy from mid-August 2013 for the replacement of worn-out catalytic converters and oxygen sensors of liquefied petroleum gas taxis and light buses to reduce the emission of NO_x;

- b) phasing out progressively from 1 March 2014 over 82 000 heavily polluting pre-Euro and Euro I to III diesel commercial vehicles to reduce the emission of NOx and RSP;
- c) retrofitting Euro II and III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices in 2015 to upgrade their emission performance to a level comparable to Euro IV;
- d) tightening the cap on the sulphur content of locally supplied marine diesel from 0.5% to 0.05% in 1 April 2014 to reduce the emission of SO₂; and
- e) drafting the legislation to require ocean going vessels to switch to fuel with sulphur content not exceeding 0.5% while at berth in Hong Kong waters, with a view to implementation in 2015.
- f) promulgating the Second and Third Technical Memoranda made under the Air Pollution Control Ordinance to tighten total emissions caps for power companies from 2015 and 2017 onwards. The two power companies have to use more natural gas for power generation and prioritise coal-fired generation units retrofitted with emission abatement facilities.

These measures will help us achieve the emission reduction targets for 2015 and 2020, and further improve the air quality of Hong Kong.

- 2) Improvement of regional air quality has been one of the important work foci in environmental collaboration between Hong Kong and Guangdong. The governments of the two sides set up a Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection (the Joint Working Group) in 2000, with several special panels under the Joint Working Group to follow up on issues of mutual concern, including improving regional air quality. In November 2012, the Joint Working Group endorsed the emission reduction targets for 2015 and the emission reduction ranges for 2020, and proposed relevant emission reduction measures. In devising the reduction targets/ranges, both sides have taken account of their respective 2010 pollution emission levels, different characteristics of emission sources, emission control and reduction measures that have been implemented and their effectiveness, as well as the reduction potential of various sectors. The two sides agreed to carry out an interim review in 2015 to assess the state of socio-economic development at the time and progress made in emission reduction, with a view to finalising the emission reduction targets for 2020. The two governments are striving to implement relevant emission reduction measures so as to meet the reduction targets.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB291

(Question Serial No.: 5026)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 131):

Please advise this Committee on the numbers of prosecutions and convictions under the Motor Vehicle Idling (Fixed Penalty) Ordinance in 2013-14.

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

The Motor Vehicle Idling (Fixed Penalty) Ordinance (the Ordinance) prohibits drivers from idling a vehicle engine for more than 3 minutes in any 60-minute period. It empowers Traffic Wardens (TW) and Environmental Protection Inspectors to issue fixed penalty notices (FPNs) to offending drivers. The TWs will issue FPNs to drivers who contravene the idling prohibition in their daily patrol duties. The Environmental Protection Department will co-ordinate enforcement-cum-publicity activities with TWs at idling engine black spots.

From April 2013 to February 2014, law enforcement officers have timed 1 798 vehicles with idling engines. Among them, 86 drivers who violated the Ordinance (i.e. not switching off their engines within 3 minutes) had been issued with FPNs. The remaining drivers either switched off the engines or drove their vehicles away immediately.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB292

(Question Serial No.: 5027)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (5) Environmental Assessment and Planning
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question(Member Question No.: 132):

Regarding environmental assessment and planning, please advise this Committee on:

- (a) the number of works projects for which environmental assessment was conducted in accordance with the new and original air quality objectives respectively in 2013-14; and
- (b) the number of government works projects for which environmental impact assessment was conducted in accordance with the new air quality objectives in 2013-14.

Asked by:Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

The new air quality objectives (AQOs) became effective on 1 January 2014. Prior to the implementation of the new AQOs, environmental impact assessment (EIA) reports of 13 work projects were submitted and approved in 2013 based on the original AQOs. With the implementation of the new AQOs on 1 January 2014, all EIA studies must be conducted in accordance with the new AQOs. At present, EIA studies for 42 government projects are being conducted with study briefs issued and none of them has been approved since 1 January 2014.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB293

(Question Serial No.:5028)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (6) Nature Conservation
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:133):

Regarding the making of agreement with private land owners under the New Nature Conservation Policy, please advise this Committee on:

- 1) the latest details of the 12 programmes in progress as at March 2014, including the work details of these programmes and the relevant expenditure in 2012-13 and 2013-14;
- 2) apart from the proposed List of Priority Sites for Enhanced Conservation, are there any other new proposed sites to be incorporated into the programmes? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

1) Under the New Nature Conservation Policy (NNCP) promulgated in 2004, we have identified 12 priority sites (Priority Sites) of high ecological importance for enhance conservation. We are now processing the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) project for Sha Lo Tung. As with the PPP proposal for Fung Lok Wai, which covers areas located within the Ramsar Site Priority Site and Deep Bay Wetland outside Ramsar Site Priority Site, the project proponent's application was approved on condition by the Town Planning Board in November 2013, subject to compliance with PPP and land requirements. In 2012-13 and 2013-14, the Fung Yen Priority Site, Long Valley and Ho Sheung Heung Priority Site, Ramsar Site Priority Site and Deep Bay Wetland outside Ramsar Site Priority Site will continue to be managed under the Management Agreement (MA) Scheme. Under the MA scheme, funding support would be provided under the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) to enable competent NGOs to enter into management agreements with landowners of the priority sites for enhancing conservation. Apart from conservation work, the Scheme also includes provision of educational activities to raise public awareness of nature conservation. The above MA projects are funded by the ECF and summarised as follows:

Project Title	Relevant Priority Sites	Project Period	Approved Funding (\$million)
Management Agreement on the Private Land with High Conservation Value at Fung Yuen Valley Site of Special Scientific Interest in Tai Po, Hong Kong (2013-2016)	Fung Yen	1/2/2013 - 31/1/2016	7.77
Nature Conservation Management for Long Valley (2012-2015)	Long Valley and Ho Sheung Heung	1/3/2012 - 28/2/2015	9.80
Fishpond Conservation Scheme in Ramsar Site (2013-2015)	Ramsar Site	1/3/2013 - 28/2/2015	4.93
Hong Kong Got Fishpond - Eco-fishpond Management Agreement Scheme (2013-2015)	Deep Bay Wetland outside Ramsar Site	1/3/2013 - 28/2/2015	6.67

2) Apart from the 12 Priority Sites, to further enhance conservation of country parks, we have extended the MA Scheme to cover private land in country park enclaves and within country parks.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB294

(Question Serial No.: 5029)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (6) Nature Conservation
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 134):

Regarding the need to oversee the measures to protect country park enclaves as mentioned in the Programme, please inform this Committee how many enclaves will go through the relevant procedures in 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

In the 2010-11 Policy Address, the Government undertook to either include the enclaves into country parks, or determine their proper uses through statutory planning to meet conservation and social development needs. Subsequent to the Sai Wan incident, of the 54 enclaves not yet included as part of the country parks or protected by statutory plans, Kam Shan, Sai Wan and Yuen Tun were incorporated into the Kam Shan Country Park (KSCP), the Sai Kung East Country Park (SKECP) and the Tai Lam Country Park (TLCP) respectively on 30 December 2013. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has, after assessment, considered that the enclaves of Fan Kei Tok, Sai Lau Kong and the site near Nam Shan were suitable for inclusion as part of country parks. AFCD has sought advices on the proposal from the Country and Marine Parks Board and will proceed to solicit the views of relevant stakeholders in 2014-15.

In addition, 25 enclaves (including Sai Wan) are covered by Development Permission Area Plans gazetted under the Town Planning Ordinance and 6 enclaves are covered by Outline Zoning Plans. The Planning Department will continue with the relevant work in 2014-15.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB295

(Question Serial No.: 5030)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (700) General non-recurrent

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 135):

Regarding Item 813 "Extension of the Cleaner Production Partnership Programme" under the Subhead, please advise the Committee on the details of the Programme which incurred an expenditure of \$24,989,000 in 2013-14, as well as its effectiveness. Please also advise on the number of projects funded, the scope of subsidy and the production technologies involved.

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

"Extension of the Cleaner Production Partnership Programme" (the Programme) is implemented by the Environment Bureau of Hong Kong in collaboration with the Economic and Information Commission of Guangdong Province to encourage and facilitate Hong Kong-owned factories operating in Guangdong Province 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 cleaner production demonstration projects and engage third party verification services on effectiveness of improvement projects. The involved cleaner production technologies include air pollutant emissions reduction, effluent and pollutant control, energy saving, etc. The Programme also organises awareness promotion and publicity activities such as seminars, workshops, briefings and factory visits to enhance factories' knowledge about cleaner production, as well as produces promotional materials and operates a dedicated website on cleaner production through the Hong Kong Productivity Council.

As of end February 2014, a total of 261 funding applications were approved and 38 technology promotion activities were organized under the Programme in 2013-14.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB296

(Question Serial No.: 5031)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (700) General Non-recurrent Expenses

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 136):

Regarding Item 840 "Pilot Green Transport Fund" under the Subhead, please advise this Committee on the details of projects which incurred an expenditure of \$57,203,000 in 2013-14 and their effectiveness. Please provide the number of funded projects, the number of funded companies or body corporates and the details and expenditure of each project.

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

In the 2013-14 financial year, the estimated expenditure of the Pilot Green Transport Fund is about \$57 million, mainly used to subsidise 35 trial projects involving 32 companies or body corporates. To help successful applicants receive competitive tenders during the tendering exercise, we will not disclose the subsidy amounts of individual approved projects. During the trial, we will upload the trial interim reports onto the Department's website to share the trial results with the trades and the public. Details of the approved projects are listed below:

	Name of Subsidy Recipient	Trial Project	Trial Products and Quantity	Trial Duration
1	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Electric Shuttle Buses on Campus	2 electric buses	2 years
2	The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Electric Vans on Campus	2 electric van type light goods vehicles	2 years
3	Federal Express (Hong Kong) Limited	Electric Vans for Courier Service	3 electric van type light goods vehicles	2 years
4	Kwoon Chung Motors Company Limited	Electric Buses for Resident	2 electric buses	2 years

	Name of Subsidy Recipient	Trial Project	Trial Products and Quantity	Trial Duration
		Shuttle Service		
5	International Trademart Company Limited	Electric Buses for KITEC and MTR Kowloon Bay Station Shuttle Service	2 electric buses	2 years
6	Kwai Bon Transportation Limited	Hybrid Light Goods Vehicles for Logistics Service	3 hybrid light goods vehicles	2 years
7	A. S. Watson Group (HK) Limited	Hybrid Light Goods Vehicles for Supermarket	1 hybrid light goods vehicle	2 years
8	MTR Corporation Limited	Hybrid Light Goods Vehicles for Transportation Industry	1 hybrid light goods vehicle	2 years
9	Kerry Distribution (Hong Kong) Limited	Hybrid Medium Goods Vehicles for Logistics Service	3 hybrid medium goods vehicles	2 years
10	On Mei Tak Environmental Technology Limited	Hybrid Medium Goods Vehicles for Transportation of Recycling Materials	3 hybrid medium goods vehicles	2 years
11	Swire Beverages Limited	Hybrid Light Goods Vehicles for Beverage Delivery	3 hybrid light goods vehicles	2 years
12	Swire Beverages Limited	Hybrid Medium Goods Vehicles for Beverage Delivery	3 hybrid medium goods vehicles	2 years
13	UPS Parcel Delivery Service Limited	Hybrid Light Goods Vehicles for Courier Service	2 hybrid light goods vehicles	2 years
14	S.F. Express (Hong Kong) Limited	Hybrid Light Goods Vehicles for Courier Service	3 hybrid light goods vehicles	2 years
15	Kwoon Chung Motors Company Limited	Electric Vans for Servicing Passenger Transport Industry	2 electric van type light goods vehicles	2 years
16	Sun Bus Limited	Electric Bus for Hong Kong Disneyland Shuttle Service	1 electric bus	2 years
17	Yan Yan Motors Limited	Hybrid Light Buses for Green Minibus Service	2 hybrid light buses	2 years
18	Teamwise Corporation Limited	Hybrid Light Buses for Green Minibus Service	2 hybrid light buses	2 years
19	Glory Success Transportation Limited	Hybrid Light Buses for Green Minibus Service	3 hybrid light buses	2 years
20	Hong Kong Metropolitan Bus Limited	Hybrid Light Bus for Green Minibus Service	1 hybrid light bus	2 years
21	Sunny Engineering Company	Electric New Territories Taxi	1 electric taxi	2 years
22	Shu Sang Taxi Company	Electric New Territories Taxis	2 electric taxis	2 years

	Name of Subsidy Recipient	Trial Project	Trial Products and Quantity	Trial Duration
23	Kam Tsang Taxi Company	Electric New Territories Taxi	1 electric taxi	2 years
24	Lai Sun Motors Company Limited	Electric New Territories Taxi	1 electric taxi	2 years
25	Discovery Bay Transit Services Limited	Electric Buses for Resident Service in Discovery Bay	2 electric buses	2 years
26	Hong Kong & China Transportation Consultants Limited	Hybrid Light Buses for Green Minibus Service	3 hybrid light buses (1 started trial)	2 years
27	Big Three Limited	Hybrid Light Bus for Green Minibus Service	1 hybrid light bus	2 years
28	CM Geotechnics Limited	Electric Van for Civil Engineering Industry	1 electric van type light goods vehicle	2 years
29	Cinpek Engineering Limited	Electric Van for Civil Engineering Industry	1 electric van type light goods vehicle	2 years
30	BioCycle (Hong Kong) Limited	Electric Vans for Pest Management Service	2 electric van type light goods vehicles	2 years
31	New Method Cleaning Services Limited	Electric Van for Cleaning Service	1 electric van type light goods vehicle	2 years
32	Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation	Solar Air-conditioning System for Shuttle Bus	1 solar air-conditioning system	2 years
33	Hong Kong International School Association Limited	Electric Van for School	1 electric van type light goods vehicle	2 years
34	Mak Hang Kei (Hong Kong) Construction Limited	Electric Vans for Construction Industry	2 electric van type light goods vehicles	2 years
35	Hotel ICON Limited	Electric Light Buses for Hotel Guest Shuttle Service	2 electric light buses	2 years

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB297

(Question Serial No.: 5032)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (700) General non-recurrent

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 137):

Regarding Item 842 "Trial of Hybrid Buses by Franchised Bus Companies" and Item 850 "Trial of Electric Buses by Franchised Bus Companies" under this subhead, please advise this Committee on the details of the projects which incurred an expenditure of \$16,500,000 and \$20,000,000 respectively under these two items in 2013-14, as well as the effectiveness of the projects.

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

Trial of Hybrid Buses

The Government has been approved funding of \$33 million to fully fund the procurement of 6 hybrid buses for trial by 3 franchised bus companies (KMB, NWFB and Citybus). The franchised bus companies have already placed orders for the procurement of the 6 double-deck hybrid buses. Payment will be made in three instalments, in which EPD's estimated expenditure for this project in 2013-14 was around \$16.5 million. The provision was used to pay for the second instalments of the purchases (representing half of the total payment). Judging by current progress, the trial of hybrid buses will commence in the second half of 2014. According to the bus manufacturer, compared with conventional diesel buses, the estimated emission reductions achieved by these hybrid buses are:

- 20% nitrogen oxides and nitrogen dioxide;
- 40% particulates; and
- 30% carbon dioxide (fuel consumption will also be reduced accordingly).

Trial of Electric Buses

The Government has been approved funding of \$180 million to fully fund the procurement of 36 single-deck electric buses by the five franchised bus companies for trial run in Hong Kong. The franchised bus companies are progressively tendering the procurement of the electric buses. It is

anticipated that the trial will commence successively, starting from end of 2014, and will last for 2 years. The estimated expenditure for the project in 2013-14 was around \$200 million. The provision was used to pay for the first installment of purchases of electric buses and charging facilities. Replacing conventional buses with electric buses will improve roadside air quality more effectively as electric buses do not have tailpipe emissions.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB298

(Question Serial No.: 5084)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (700) General non-recurrent

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 152):

Regarding the three water management projects under this subhead, namely item 914 "Review and development of Marine Water Quality Objectives", item 939 "Pearl River Estuary Water Quality Management Planning Advance Study" and item 970 "Support to the Second Review of the Deep Bay (Shenzhen Bay) Water Pollution Control Joint Implementation Programme", please advise this Committee on the work progress and anticipated completion dates of these three projects in 2013-14.

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

The First Stage Public Engagement on the consultancy study of the "Review and Development of Marine Water Quality Objectives" was completed between September and December 2009 to gauge views from the community. To facilitate the review of the water quality objectives, the consultancy study collected information on the latest scientific knowledge, overseas practices, current uses of local waters, etc. It is expected that the main study will be completed in 2014. EPD will take into consideration the study outcomes in mapping out the way forward.

The "Pearl River Estuary Regional Water Quality Joint Management Planning Advance Study" is a project of the Hong Kong-Guangdong Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection. EPD is working with the Department of Environmental Protection of Guangdong Province to evaluate the pollution load carrying capacity of the Pearl River Estuary. The study will provide a scientific basis for the formulation of a regional water quality management strategy. The project contractor is responsible for collecting data and information, which the water quality modelling consultant is to apply to the Pearl River Delta water quality model to evaluate the pollution load carrying capacity of the Pearl River Estuary. The project contractor is preparing a final report on the study findings which, upon completion, will be submitted to us and our Guangdong counterpart for review.

EPD and the Human Settlements and Environment Commission of Shenzhen Municipality are taking forward the second review of the "Deep Bay (Shenzhen Bay) Water Pollution Control Joint Implementation Programme" (the JIP), which would mainly analyse the latest development planning and water quality condition in the Deep Bay catchment area, review the progress of various water pollution control measures

of the JIP, as well as predict the future water quality of Deep Bay so as to evaluate the effectiveness of the JIP and to draw up the necessary additional pollution control measures. We and our Shenzhen counterpart are collecting the required data and information for the second review. The project is expected to be completed by end of 2016.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB299****(Question Serial No.: 2192)**Head: (44) Environmental Protection DepartmentSubhead(No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme: (2) AirControlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.: 34):

What were the number of applications for using the Pilot Green Transport Fund to try out innovative green transport technologies, the contents of the projects and the amount of funds involved in 2013-14? Please also advise this Committee on the details of the Environmental Protection Department's work plan on further encouraging the transport trade to make use of the Pilot Green Transport Fund to try out innovative green transport technologies in 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon. YICK Chi-ming, FrankieReply:

In 2013-14, the Pilot Green Transport Fund (the Fund) approved 29 trial projects with subsidies totalling about \$16 million. The Fund requires the successful applicant to procure the trial products through tendering. To avoid affecting the tender exercises, we do not release the approved subsidy for individual applications. Information of the 29 approved projects is tabulated below:

	Subsidy Recipient	Trial Title	Trial Product, Technology and Quantity
1	New Method Cleaning Services Limited	Electric Van for Cleaning Service	1 electric van type light goods vehicle
2	Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation	Solar Air-conditioning System for Shuttle Bus	1 solar air-conditioning system
3	Hong Kong International School Association Limited	Electric Van for School	1 electric van type light goods vehicle
4	C & C Logistic Services Company Limited	Electric Van for Logistics Service	1 electric van type light goods vehicle
5	Ray Ray Limited	Electric Van for Exhibition Production and Stage Decoration Services	1 electric van type light goods vehicle
6	Swire Beverages Limited	Electric Vans for Beverage Delivery	2 electric van type light goods vehicles
7	Mak Hang Kei (Hong Kong)	Electric Vans for Construction Industry	2 electric van type light

	Subsidy Recipient	Trial Title	Trial Product, Technology and Quantity
	Construction Limited		goods vehicles
8	Geotech Engineering Limited	Electric Vans for Construction Industry	2 electric van type light goods vehicles
9	Hotel ICON Limited	Electric Light Buses for Hotel Guest Shuttle Service	2 electric light buses
10	Kam Lung Trading Co	Hybrid Light Goods Vehicle for Vegetable Delivery	1 hybrid light goods vehicle
11	Airport Authority Hong Kong	Electric Vans for Airport Operation	3 electric van type light goods vehicles
12	DHL Express (Hong Kong) Limited	Electric Van for Courier Service	1 electric van type light goods vehicle
13	DKSH Hong Kong Limited	Hybrid Light Goods Vehicle for Logistics Service	1 hybrid light goods vehicle
14	DKSH Hong Kong Limited	Hybrid Medium Goods Vehicles for Logistics Service	2 hybrid medium goods vehicles
15	The Kowloon Motor Bus Company (1933) Limited	Engine Repower for Franchised Buses	4 buses engines retrofit
16	Cathay Pacific Catering Services (H.K.) Limited	Electric Van for Catering Service	1 electric van type light goods vehicle
17	Vegetable Marketing Organization	Electric Van for Vegetable Delivery	1 electric van type light goods vehicle
18	Taxixchange.com Limited	Electric New Territories Taxi	1 electric taxi
19	Yellow Taxi Group Limited	Electric New Territories Taxi	1 electric taxi
20	Union Winner Limited	Electric New Territories Taxis	2 electric taxis
21	Union Investment Holdings Limited	Electric New Territories Taxis	2 electric taxis
22	Jet Profit (HK) Investments Limited	Electric New Territories Taxis	2 electric taxis
23	Forest (Asia) Limited	Electric New Territories Taxis	2 electric taxis
24	E. Tech Management (HK) Limited	Hybrid Light Goods Vehicle for Recycling Industry	1 hybrid light goods vehicle
25	Welcome Construction Company Limited	Hybrid Light Goods Vehicles for Construction Industry	3 hybrid light goods vehicles
26	Welcome Construction Company Limited	Hybrid Medium Goods Vehicles for Construction Industry	3 hybrid medium goods vehicles
27	China Prosper Engineering Limited	Hybrid Light Goods Vehicles for Construction Industry	3 hybrid light goods vehicles
28	China Prosper Engineering Limited	Hybrid Medium Goods Vehicles for Construction Industry	3 hybrid medium goods vehicles
29	Hong Kong Automobile Association	Electric Van for Emergency Vehicle Rescue Service II	1 electric van type light goods vehicle

Since the launch of the Fund in 2011, the Environmental Protection Department has been encouraging the transport trade and transport product suppliers to make use of the Fund to try out green innovative transport technologies. A number of briefing sessions have been held to explain the application criteria and procedures to the trade. A hotline has also been set up to answer enquiries from the trade. We have arranged with suppliers of electric vehicles to introduce their alternative fueled vehicles to the trade and enable the interested parties to ride on the vehicles. In 2014-15, we will continue to provide information about the

Fund, and the technology and findings of the trial projects through various channels, including briefing sessions and letters to the transport trade. We will also encourage product suppliers to introduce more products, allowing the transport trade to test new technology using the Fund. We will step up publicity and promotion efforts as well, including promoting the Fund to the trade and the general public in an international conference on vehicle emission control technology to be held in Hong Kong in mid-2014.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB300

(Question Serial No.:2193)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Air
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 35):

Please advise on EPD's specific work plans and timetable for promoting the use of electric vehicles in 2014-15, including the number of additional quick chargers to be provided in various districts and their locations.

Asked by: Hon. YICK Chi-ming, Frankie

Reply:

The Government has been actively promoting the use of electric vehicles (EVs), taking the lead in using EVs and working with the commercial sector to set up charging facilities for EVs. Currently, the Government has installed 500 standard charging facilities in 18 public car parks administered by the Transport Department and the Government Property Agency. The commercial sector has also installed more than 500 charging facilities. In addition, 10 quick chargers have been set up at various locations in Hong Kong, such that there is one quick charger within around 20 km.

In 2014-15, specific measures for promoting the use EVs include:

- i. Setting up an additional 100 medium chargers in government car parks of various districts to shorten charging time. The chargers are scheduled for operation in stages starting from mid of this year;
- ii. Launching a trial scheme that enables suppliers of electric taxis to install quick chargers at six car parks, in City Hall in Central, Tin Hau, Shau Kei Wan, Sheung Fung Street in Wong Tai Sin, Tsuen Wan and Rumsey Street in Sheung Wan, administered by the Transport Department. It is estimated that a maximum of 50 quick chargers can be set up. Depending on the requirements electric taxi suppliers and the progress of construction works, it is expected that the quick chargers will commence operation in stages by end of this year;
- iii. Continuing to liaise closely with EV manufacturers to encourage them to supply EVs into the Hong Kong market; and
- iv. Continuing to encourage and subsidise the transport trade to test out the use of EVs through the Pilot Green Transport Fund.

We will also closely monitor the growth in the number of EVs and consider the need to further expand the charging network in a timely manner.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB301

(Question Serial No.:2194)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Air
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 36):

In 2014-15, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will continue to encourage the wider use of cleaner vehicles, fuels and technologies that can help reduce air pollution. Please advise on the relevant work details and the estimate involved.

Asked by: Hon. YICK Chi-ming, Frankie

Reply:

The work of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) in 2014-15 regarding encouragement of the wider use of cleaner vehicles, fuels and technologies that can help reduce air pollution is detailed as follows:

Promoting the use of electric vehicles

The Government has been actively promoting the use of electric vehicles (EVs), taking the lead in using EVs and working with the commercial sector to set up charging facilities for EVs. Currently, the Government has installed about 500 standard charging facilities in 18 car parks administered by the Transport Department and the Government Property Agency, and the commercial sector has also installed more than 500 charging facilities. In addition, 10 quick chargers have been set up at various locations in Hong Kong, such that there is one quick charger within around 20 km on average. In 2014-15, specific measures for promoting the use EVs include:

- i. The provision of additional 100 medium chargers in government car parks of various districts to shorten charging time. The chargers are scheduled for operation in stages starting from the middle of this year;
- ii. Launching a trial scheme that enables suppliers of electric taxis to install quick chargers at six car parks in the City Hall, Central, Tin Hau, Shau Kei Wan, Sheung Fung Street, Wong Tai Sin, Tsuen Wan and Rumsey Street, Sheung Wan, administered by the Transport Department . It is

anticipated that a maximum of about 50 quick chargers will be provided under the scheme. Depending on the requirements of the suppliers of electric taxis and the progress of work, it is expected that the quick chargers will commence operations in stages by the end of the year;

- iii. To continue to liaise closely with EV dealers from various places to encourage them to introduce EVs into the Hong Kong market; and
- iv. To continue to encourage and support the transport trade to test out the use of EVs through the Pilot Green Transport Fund.

We will also closely monitor the growth in the number of EVs and consider the need to further expand the charging network in a timely manner. In 2014-15, we will allocate about \$11.4 million to promote the use of EVs through various channels. The expenditure is partly used for installations of more medium chargers and upgrading of ancillary charging facilities in car parks, as well as rendering assistance to the dedicated support team in the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department and other publicity activities.

Pilot Green Transport Fund

The Government set up in March 2011 a \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund (the Fund) to encourage the transport trade to test out green and low-carbon transport technologies, including EVs and hybrid vehicles. Since the launch of the Fund, we have been encouraging the transport trade and transport product suppliers to make use of the Fund to conduct trials on green innovative transport technologies. A number of briefing sessions have been held to explain to the trade the eligibility criteria and application procedures. A hotline has also been set up to answer the enquiries from the trade. In addition, we have arranged with suppliers to introduce their alternative fuel vehicles to the trade and enable the interested parties to ride on the vehicles. In 2014-15, we will continue to provide information regarding the Fund and the technology and findings of the trials through various channels, including briefing sessions and letters to the transport trade. We will also encourage suppliers of green innovative transport products to introduce more of their products for the new technology to be tested out by the transport trade using the Fund. Publicity and promotion efforts will be stepped up as well, including an international conference on vehicle emission control technology to be hosted by Hong Kong in mid-2014. We will promote the Fund to the trade and the general public during the conference, with a view to identifying more potential participants of trials or suppliers of innovative green transport technologies. The work forms part of the routine duties of the EPD, and will be absorbed by the existing resources.

Trials of hybrid buses and electric buses

The Government was approved with a funding of \$33 million and \$180 million to fully subsidise the franchised bus companies to procure six hybrid buses and 36 electric buses for trial run in Hong Kong. The franchised bus companies have already placed orders for the procurement of the six hybrid buses, and are inviting tenders for procuring the electric buses. The estimated expenditures in 2014-15 for trials of hybrid buses and electric buses are \$13.2 million and \$130 million respectively. These reflect the progress of procurement by the franchised bus companies. It is expected that the two trial schemes will be rolled out by end of 2014.

Tax Incentives Scheme for environment-friendly vehicles

We will continue to offer concessions in the First Registration Tax for environment-friendly petrol private vehicles and environment-friendly light-duty commercial vehicles to encourage the general public and the transport trade to opt for environment-friendly vehicles. We will also review and update the qualifying

standards of environment-friendly vehicles annually in the light of motor technological advancement to ensure that the tax incentives are available only to vehicles with an outstanding environmental performance. The work forms part of the routine duties of the EPD, and will be absorbed by the existing resources.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB302

(Question Serial No. 0329)

Head: (60) Highways Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Capital Projects
Controlling Officer: Director of Highways (K K LAU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 9):

In this Programme, the Highways Department is responsible for works for retrofitting of noise barriers. Will the Administration give information on:

1. the staffing and expenditure involved in 2013-14 and the estimated resources to be allocated in 2014-15; and
2. the number of noise barrier installation works across the territory over the next five years and the locations and timetable of such works.

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-kok

Reply:

1. In 2013-14, the Highways Department (HyD) has engaged consultants in the design and supervision of the retrofitting of noise barriers and deployed in-house staff to oversee the implementation of the projects. In 2014-15, the anticipated staffing and resources devoted to this project will be similar to that of 2013-14.
2. In the coming five years, HyD will continue with the 7 retrofitting noise barriers projects in progress. The relevant locations and dates of commencement are listed below:

Retrofitting of noise barriers item	Area/location (approximate length)	Date of commencement
1 - 6	Tuen Mun Road – Near <i>Anglers' Beach</i> (0.9 km) – Near <i>Sham Tseng</i> (0.6 km) – Near Yau Kom Tau (1 km) – Near <i>Tsing Lung Tau</i> (0.9 km) – Near Tsuen Wan (2.2 km) – Near <i>Castle Peak Bay</i> (0.5 km)	January 2009

7	Tai Po Tai Wo Road near <i>Po Nga Court</i> (0.2 km)	March 2012
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HyD is also inviting tenders for the project of retrofitting noise barriers of approximately 0.8 km long on Tuen Mun Road (Town Centre Section near Tseng Choi Street) and having the project of retrofitting approximately 0.8 km of noise barriers on Tuen Mun Road (Fu Tei section) gazetted. Upon approval by the Finance Committee, these two projects will commence in 2014-15 and 2015-16 respectively. In the coming five years, HyD and the Environmental Protection Department will continue to launch other retrofitting projects through the Public Works Programme.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB303

(Question Serial No. 6419)

Head: (100) Marine Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Port Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Marine (Michael W.L. WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 396):

In the past 5 years, what are the numbers of oil spill incidents in Hong Kong waters; what is the average area affected by each oil spill incidents in Hong Kong waters each year; and what is the average time taken in dealing with each oil spill incident in Hong Kong waters each year?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

The numbers of oil pollution reports received by the Marine Department in the past 5 years are as follows:

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
No. of oil pollution reports	145	168	158	136	143
No. of oil pollution incidents confirmed and clean-up actions required	50	66	55	55	36

As shown in the above table, only one-third of the reported cases were actual oil pollution incidents. The remaining ones were misreported cases unrelated to oil spillage.

The actual oil pollution incidents occurred in the past were mainly minor in nature, with the majority of them being pollution in the form of oil film. The area affected in general ranged from tens to hundreds of square metres and the time taken in dealing with each case was about 3 to 10 hours.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB304

(Question Serial No. 1336)

Head: (100) Marine Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Port Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Marine (Michael W.L. WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 1):

Regarding harbour scavenging services, will the Administration advise on the following -

- (a) the expenditure involved and staffing of the Pollution Control Unit of the Marine Department in the recent 5 years, and the estimates for 2014-15;
- (b) the amounts of floating refuse collected and refuse collected from ships year-on-year over the past 10 years;
- (c) the existing criteria and indicators of marine cleanliness control;
- (d) whether the Administration plans to allocate more resources for stepping up work related to and long-term strategies for the prevention of harbour pollution, and if so, the details; and
- (e) the Administration's contingency and notification mechanism in case of emergency pollution incidents (e.g. oil spillages)?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) There are currently 14 staff in the Pollution Control Unit of the Marine Department (MD), including 1 Marine Officer, 1 Senior Assistant Shipping Master, 2 Marine Inspector Is, 5 Marine Inspector IIs, 2 Pollution Control Artisans, 1 Workman II, 1 Assistant Clerical Officer and 1 Clerical Assistant. The expenditure of the outsourcing contracts for marine cleansing services (including the scavenging of floating refuse and collection of refuse from ships, clean-up of maritime oil pollution, and maritime hazardous and noxious substances) over the past 5 years and the estimates for 2014-15 are as follows:

Year	(\$million)
2009-10	38
2010-11	40
2011-12	41
2012-13	42
2013-14	43
2014-15	45

- (b) The amounts of floating refuse collected and refuse collected from ships (including ocean-going vessels, locally licensed vessels and river trade vessels) over the past 10 years are as follows:

Year	Floating refuse (tonnes)	Refuse collected from ships (tonnes)
2004	10 790	3 084
2005	11 727	3 258
2006	12 167	4 043
2007	12 209	4 341
2008	12 913	4 261
2009	11 726	4 469
2010	11 368	4 420
2011	11 100	4 299
2012	10 996	4 351
2013	10 900	4 348

- (c) MD has introduced a cleanliness index system in the marine cleansing services contract for measuring the cleanliness of the sea and monitoring the performance of the contractor. The cleanliness index ranges from 0 to 10, with 7 or above being “satisfactory”. MD’s pollution control staff perform daily patrol duties to monitor the cleanliness condition of the sea, give assessment and oversee the contractor’s cleansing work. When the cleanliness index of a particular area falls below the “satisfactory” level (i.e. 7), the contractor is required to restore the cleanliness condition of the area concerned within a specified time frame. The average cleanliness index of Hong Kong waters in 2013 was 8.24.
- (d) The Government has in place response plans for special incidents that may cause marine pollution. In 2008, MD signed the Co-operative Arrangement on Regional Maritime Oil Spill from Ships Response Plan for the Pearl River Estuary with the maritime authorities of Guangdong Province, Shenzhen and Macao with a view to establishing a reciprocal notification mechanism in case of major maritime oil spillages in the Pearl River Estuary region and seeking assistance from maritime authorities of nearby ports when necessary. In addition, the Government established response plans in 2011 and 2013 respectively to deal with the adverse environmental impacts caused by maritime hazardous and noxious substances spills and maritime fallen cargoes and to enhance government departments’ response and co-ordination in dealing with those incidents.
- (e) In case of a maritime oil spillage, MD will deploy staff to the scene for clean-up actions. If the geographical location of the spill permitted, oil booms would be used to contain the spill and the spilt oil would be recovered with absorbing materials. Oil dispersant or seawater may also be used to disperse the spilt oil whenever possible. On confirming a marine pollution incident, MD will promptly notify the Environmental Protection Department in accordance with the relevant contingency plan (e.g. the Maritime Oil Spill Response Plan). Depending on the area or location that is being affected or may be potentially affected, concerned government departments will be notified for follow-up actions in accordance with the established procedures. For example, if the pollution may affect gazetted beaches, non-gazetted beaches, fish culture zones or marine parks/marine reserves in the vicinity, MD will notify the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department or the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department accordingly. Taking into account of the situation, the departments concerned will then decide whether the facilities affected should be closed, the stained sand be cleaned, monitoring/precautionary actions be taken and the public be notified.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB305

(Question Serial No. 6022)

Head: (100) Marine Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Port Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Marine (Michael W.L. WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 581):

The Estimates on Expenditure Volume 1 Page 699 indicates that:

	2012 (Actual)	2013 (Actual)	2014 (Estimate)
refuse collected from ships (tonnes)	2 519	2 537	2 537
floating refuse collected (tonnes)	10 996	10 900	10 900

Please advise whether the Marine Department has investigated and assessed the seasonal amounts of the above 2 types of refuse, and the percentage of the above mentioned quantity of refuse collected against the total amount.

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply:

Floating refuse scavenging and ship refuse collection services are provided by a contractor commissioned by the Marine Department (MD). The contractor provides free-of-charge refuse collection services to vessels in anchorages lest vessels unable to dispose of their daily refuse should cause marine pollution.

According to the statistics of MD, more floating refuse is collected during the rainy season (i.e. from June to September), which amount to over 1 000 tonnes each month. As MD does not have the estimation of total amount of floating refuse, therefore the percentage of the amount of floating refuse collected against the total amount is not available.

However, MD has introduced a cleanliness index system in the marine refuse cleansing contract for measuring marine cleanliness and monitoring the performance of the contractor. The cleanliness index ranges from 0 to 10, with 7 or above being "satisfactory". The contractor is required to cleanse floating refuse to ensure that the marine cleanliness condition is at or above the "satisfactory" level. MD's pollution control staff perform daily patrol duties to monitor the cleanliness condition of the sea, give assessment and oversee the contractor's cleansing work. When the cleanliness index of a particular area falls below the "satisfactory" level (i.e. 7), the contractor is required to restore the cleanliness condition of the area concerned within a specified time frame. The average cleanliness index of Hong Kong waters in 2013 is 8.24.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB306

(Question Serial No. 2162)

Head: (100) Marine Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Port Services
Controlling Officer: Director of Marine (Michael W.L. WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 3):

How much were spent on the collection of refuse from ships and floating refuse in the past 3 financial years (2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14)? What are the action plan, targets and estimates for the publicity for marine cleanliness in 2014?

Asked by: Hon. YICK Chi-ming, Frankie

Reply:

In the past 3 financial years, the Marine Department (MD)'s expenditure on the outsourced services for the cleansing of floating refuse at sea and the collection of refuse from ships are as follows:

around \$35 million in 2011-12;
around \$36 million in 2012-13;
around \$37 million in 2013-14.

In 2013, MD conducted over 60 publicity activities on marine cleanliness. These activities include visiting and inspection of facilities such as fish whole sale markets, typhoon shelters, anchorages, public piers, marine works areas, public cargo working areas, etc. Persons-in-charge and operators of the facilities were advised to maintain marine cleanliness. Moreover, MD worked with green groups in beach clean-up campaigns. Meetings with representatives of the fishing community were also conducted to remind them of keeping the waters clean when their fishing vessels stayed inside typhoon shelters during Chinese New Year and the fish moratorium periods.

In 2014, MD will continue the work in the above areas with a view to reducing the amount of marine refuse. As such publicity programmes are carried out in tandem with MD officers' routine duties of monitoring marine cleanliness, there are no additional resources involved.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB307

(Question Serial No.: 2858)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 51):

Would the Bureau set out in the following table the details of studies commissioned by the Environment Bureau to the consultants or research agencies, including details of the estimate regarding the mid-term review of the Scheme of Control Agreements conducted with the two power companies? What are the commissioned research projects, their purpose, scope, research agencies, manpower and expenditure?

Research Project	Purpose of Research	Scope Involved	Research Agency	Manpower	Expenditure

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Chi-chuen

Reply:

Information on the consultancy studies commissioned by the Environment Bureau in the past three years is provided in the table below.

Research Project	Purpose of Research	Scope Involved	Research Agency	Manpower	Expenditure
Public engagement process on "Combating Climate Change: Energy Saving and Carbon Emission Reduction in Buildings"	Independent analysis of public views for the public engagement process of the Council for Sustainable Development (SDC) on "Combating Climate Change: Energy Saving and	Independent analysis of the public views on combating climate change through energy saving and carbon emission reduction in buildings collected from the public engagement	Office of Service Learning, Lingnan University	Consultancy service	\$861,000

	Carbon Emission Reduction in Buildings”	process			
Computer Aided Sustainability Evaluation Tool (CASET)	Review of the Computer Aided Sustainability Evaluation Tool	Review and updating of the CASET	Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Ltd.	Consultancy service	\$1,221,000
Public engagement process on “Waste Reduction by Charging - How to Implement?”	Independent analysis of public views for the public engagement process of the Council for Sustainable Development (SDC) on “Waste Reduction by Charging - How to Implement?”	Independent analysis of the public views on municipal solid waste charging and related issues collected from the public engagement process	Social Sciences Research Centre, The University of Hong Kong	Consultancy service	\$850,000
Review of permitted returns under the Scheme of Control Agreements	Review of permitted returns under the Scheme of Control Agreements	Review of permitted returns under the Scheme of Control Agreements	London Economics International LLC	Consultancy service	\$420,500
Consultancy Study on purchasing electricity from China Southern Power Grid (CSG)	Study the feasibility of purchasing electricity from CSG	Study the feasibility of purchasing electricity from CSG	Guangdong Electric Power Design Institute	Consultancy service	\$1,300,000

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB308

(Question Serial No.:1692)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:63)

In the 2014-15 estimates, the financial provision for Programme (2) Power is 39.3% higher than the revised estimate for 2013-14, mainly due to the review on the regulatory framework for electricity market. What are the details of the relevant work?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

As stipulated in the Scheme of Control Agreements signed between the Government and the two power companies, before implementing any change to the regulatory regime, the Government will take into account all relevant factors and will discuss with the power companies market readiness, potential future changes to the electricity supply regulatory framework and transition issues before 2016. With a view to exploring the feasibility of introducing more competition to the electricity market and whether such action will bring benefits to electricity users, the Environment Bureau has set up a dedicated team and commenced the review of the regulatory framework for the post-2018 electricity market ("the Review").

The Review will cover a wide range of policy, economic, legal, technical and financial issues that require thorough examination, and entail substantial work, including formulation of possible regulatory options that may be suitable for Hong Kong, handling various consultancy studies with other relevant teams, undertaking a public consultation exercise and engagement activities to gauge the views of the public and various stakeholders, extensive discussion and negotiation with power companies, formulation of implementation plan for possible changes to the regulatory framework, etc..

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB309

(Question Serial No.: 1726)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 31):

Please advise the Committee on the situation of the measures adopted by the Administration to promote green building or building energy efficiency in government buildings/public facilities in the past year, the effectiveness, as well as the expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

In 2013-14, the Architectural Services Department sought the approval of the Public Works Sub-Committee and Finance Committee for 7 applications for new government buildings. The total costs of these projects costs were \$17.6 billion, of which a total estimate of \$168 million was spent on the installation of energy conservation, greening and recycled features, accounting for about 1% of the total estimate of all project costs. The estimated annual energy saving for these projects is about 6% of the total energy consumption.

In 2013-14, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department was allocated about \$25 million for implementing energy saving projects for various government buildings and public facilities. These projects include installation 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 upon completion of the projects is estimated to be 3.4 million kWh. Apart from these projects, there were other minor works and capital works projects adopting energy efficient features funded by resources allocated to other departments or project votes for individual capital works projects.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB310

(Question Serial No.: 1727)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 32):

(a) The Administration specially mentioned in Volume 1 of the Expenditure Estimates that during 2014-15, it would conduct public consultation on the future fuel mix for power generation, but the Scheme of Control Agreements (SCA) between the Government and the two power companies has been implemented for more than half of the term, and that the Administration would also commence the review on the regulatory framework for electricity market after 2018. What is the progress of the public consultation on the future fuel mix for power generation by the Administration? Will the Administration have to continue to adopt the existing fuel mix in the SCA after 2018 because of failure to complete the review on the future fuel mix and formulate the implementation strategy in a timely manner?

(b) The Administration also specially mentioned that it would promote wider application of renewable energy. What work and measures will the Administration commence? What are the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

(a)

As the existing coal-fired generating units will start to retire in the coming years and the electricity supply infrastructure requires long-term planning, we have carried out the review on the future fuel mix for electricity generation in a timely manner, in order to meet the future electricity demand of Hong Kong and to improve the environment. We also launched on 19 March 2014 a three-month public consultation. Separately, the current Scheme of Control Agreements between the Government and the two power companies will expire in 2018, with an option exercisable by the Government to extend them for five more years, i.e. until 2023. The Government will review the post-2018 electricity market regulatory framework and will discuss with power companies any possible changes before 2016. The future fuel mix for electricity generation will affect the mode of electricity supply in Hong Kong and set the scene for the review of the post-2018 regulatory framework for the electricity market.

(b)

On the promotion of wider application of renewable energy (RE), the Government is committed to promoting the adoption and development of RE by taking the lead where technically feasible and cost effective. In 2005, the Government issued a technical circular on “Adoption of Energy Efficient Features and Renewable Energy Technologies in Government Projects and Installations”, requiring Government departments to consider the adoption of RE technologies in all new Government buildings and major retrofitting projects in existing Government buildings. Moreover, the Government promulgated a comprehensive target-based green performance framework for new and existing Government buildings in April 2009, which includes setting a target for application of RE in new Government buildings. Having regard to actual site conditions, the Government has been installing RE systems in various public facilities and venues including Government offices, departmental headquarters, fire stations, prisons, museums, parks, playgrounds, town halls, recreational centres, holiday villages, theatres, Government quarters, hospitals, schools, sewage treatment plants and landfills, etc. In 2013-14, 11 building projects were completed by Architectural Services Department with renewable energy features.

The Environment and Conservation Fund provides funding support for schools and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to set up RE facilities such as solar panels, wind turbines and solar water heaters since 2008. As at end February 2014, a total of 259 projects have been approved for the installation of these facilities, including 235 projects at schools, 6 at camp sites and 4 at organic farms for public use, and 14 at service units of NGOs (such as elderly homes). The Government aims to further promote the use of RE through demonstration of these cases and encourage more residential estates and commercial and industrial buildings to follow suit.

To encourage wider adoption of RE in private buildings and organisations, the Government has been providing tax incentives since 2008 on the capital expenditure incurred in relation to installation of RE power systems in private premises. The capital expenditure of the private organisation's RE power system in building can be deducted over a 5-year period starting from the year of purchase. To facilitate the public in better understanding the application of RE technologies, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has published on its website relevant information, guidance notes and guidelines on RE. It has also launched a thematic website "HK RE Net" (re.emsd.gov.hk) to provide technical details and information on RE.

The work mentioned above, including the installation of RE systems in various public facilities and venues, involves various bureaux and departments. For the Environment Bureau and EMSD, existing manpower is deployed for the activities. As the staff concerned have other responsibilities, we do not have separate breakdown of the resources involved.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB311

(Question Serial No.: 0057)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): Not specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 112):

Regarding the Environment Bureau's work on power, please advise:

- a) Regarding the follow-up actions on the recommendations of the Task Force on External Lighting for tackling the external lighting problem, what are the current progress and timetable, as well as the expenditure and manpower involved?
- b) Under what circumstances, conditions and criteria will the Administration decide to regulate excessive external lighting by legislation?
- c) How many complaints about (excessive) external lighting and "light pollution" were received in each of the past 10 years? What were the details of the follow-up actions taken by the Administration and the time required? Please list the details by the 18 District Council districts and year.
- d) Among the complaint cases in item (c), how many were repeatedly lodged by the complainants and what were the details of these cases? Please list the details by case, the 18 District Council districts and year.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

To address the concerns about the light nuisance and energy wastage problems that may be caused by external lighting installations, the Government set up the Task Force on External Lighting (Task Force) in August 2011, with members drawn from different professional bodies, relevant trades and green groups. The Task Force published on 19 August 2013 the Document for Engaging Stakeholders and the Public to invite comments from the public and stakeholders on the Task Force's findings as well as the proposed switch-off requirement and the preset time, the scope of the requirement and the implementation approach. In respect of the implementation approach, the Task Force invited the public to consider various options, including the introduction of a charter scheme to invite owners of external lighting to pledge to switch off the lighting at the preset time, and the implementation of the switch-off requirement by way of legislation. The engagement exercise was closed on 18 November 2013. The Task Force is carefully considering and

analyzing the comments received and will submit its recommendations to the Government.

In 2013-14, \$1 million was allocated to support the Task Force for the stakeholder engagement activities following the publication of the Document for Engaging Stakeholders and the Public in August 2013. As for 2014-15, the Government will consider the recommendations made by the Task Force before deciding on the follow-up actions to be taken and the need for deployment of resources.

The numbers of complaints about external lighting received by the Environmental Protection Department in the past 10 years are at Annex. As some of the complaints were anonymous complaints, it is difficult to ascertain the exact number of complaints that were repeatedly lodged by the same complainant.

No. of complaints about external lighting received by the Environmental Protection Department

district	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
year										
Central & Western	0	2	5	1	6	20	25	20	23	27
Wanchai	1	1	4	3	8	44	22	42	30	18
Eastern	0	3	3	1	5	22	15	20	22	17
Southern	1	0	1	2	1	4	2	9	8	2
Yau Tsim Mong	0	5	3	8	11	19	42	41	34	69
Sham Shui Po	0	1	1	3	7	13	17	4	9	14
Kowloon City	1	2	3	2	5	15	16	15	16	30
Wong Tai Sin	0	1	1	2	3	3	6	7	4	5
Kwun Tong	7	3	0	6	4	9	7	7	7	9
Tsuen Wan	1	3	0	4	5	5	5	13	2	12
Tuen Mun	0	1	4	3	4	2	4	8	13	3
Yuen Long	0	0	2	2	1	3	4	11	18	11
North	0	0	1	1	2	7	9	2	6	3
Tai Po	0	0	1	0	1	1	5	2	4	4
Sai Kung	0	0	1	0	6	29	14	6	4	9
Sha Tin	0	4	3	2	9	9	22	18	16	17
Kwai Ching	1	5	0	0	3	5	9	4	7	8
Islands	1	2	2	0	1	3	2	5	2	1
Total	13	33	35	40	82	213	226	234	225	259

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB312

(Question Serial No.: 0102)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question(Member Question No.: 103):

What were the respective numbers of overseas visits, study tours and other work carried out by the Secretary for the Environment and his staff; numbers of personnel; post titles of the officials involved; duration, details of the visits (including the names of the countries or cities, duration of stay, numbers of personnel, etc.), subjects of the study tours, as well as the expenditure and manpower involved in each of the past five years? Please set out the information by year and by itinerary of each visit.

Asked by:Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Information on the overseas visits, study tours and other work carried out by the Secretary for the Environment and his staff; purposes of visits; countries visited; number of visits and officials involved as well as the expenditure involved in each of the past five years is provided in the table below.

Financial Year	Purposes of Visits	Country	No. of Visits	Number of Officials	Expenditure (HK\$)
2009-10	Experience sharing and liaison on environmental protection, energy and related policies.	China, South Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, Japan, Israel, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, Belgium, Germany,	35	62	1,172,779
2010-11			35	76	1,265,014
2011-12			22	45	1,052,432
2012-13			25	65	899,562
2013-14 (up to 8 March 2014)			31	97	365,775*

		France, Austria, Norway, Russia, Canada, U.S.A., Mexico, Brazil, South Africa			
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*Expenditure incurred up to end January 2014. Expenditure for the last 4 visits (between 3 February and 8 March 2014) is not yet available.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB313

(Question Serial No.: 0103)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): Not specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 104):

Regarding the Environment Bureau's work on power, please advise:

- a) What is the work progress so far?
- b) The Administration pointed out that the general public would be consulted on the fuel mix for power generation in the second half of 2013. However, as at February 2014, the work has not commenced yet. What are the reasons? What are the additional expenditure and staffing resources incurred due to the delay respectively?
- c) What were the details (e.g. venues, time, attendance, government representatives, etc.) of the consultations (e.g. public consultations, industry meetings, meetings with different groups, etc.) on the future fuel mix for power generation, as well as the related expenditure and staffing resources in each of the past five years? Please list them by year and by each of the consultations.
- d) Has the Administration's work progress been affected by the Fukushima nuclear incident in Japan? If yes, what are the details of the impact, the delay incurred, the additional expenditure and staffing resources involved, as well as whether additional studies or follow-up work on use of nuclear energy has been conducted because of this nuclear incident? If yes, what are the details of the work, results, expenditure and staffing resources involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

To reduce the carbon emission from power generation and to combat climate change, the Government proposed in 2010 to improve the future fuel mix for power generation for Hong Kong. The Fukushima incident took place shortly after the consultation period, and various sectors in the community have different views on the application of nuclear energy. We have therefore temporised our relevant analysis, which incurred no extra resources.

As the existing coal-fired generating units will start to retire in the coming years and the electricity supply infrastructure requires long-term planning, we have carried out the review on the future fuel mix for

electricity generation in a timely manner, in order to meet the future electricity demand of Hong Kong and to improve the environment. We also launched on 19 March 2014 a three-month public consultation.

In the light of the profound impact of the fuel mix review, during the past year we have engaged various stakeholders, including experts, academics, industry and business sectors, and non-governmental organisations to solicit their views. Each fuel source has its own merits and demerits; we have striven to strike a balance among the four energy policy objectives of safety, reliability, affordability and environmental protection in reviewing the fuel mix for electricity generation.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB314

(Question Serial No.0109)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title): - Not Specified

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 105):

Regarding the fuel mix for power generation in Hong Kong, please advise on the following:

- (a) What were the percentages of each type of fuel of Hong Kong, CLP Power Hong Kong Limited and the Hongkong Electric Company Limited respectively in the overall fuel mix in each of the past five years? Please set out the information by year.
- (b) In early 2014, CLP Power Hong Kong Limited announced that it had reached an agreement with the Daya Bay Nuclear Power Station for increasing supply of nuclear power to Hong Kong in the next five years. Is the Administration aware of the agreement? If yes, when did the Administration know the agreement? What are the details and results of the follow-up work regarding the agreement, as well as the expenditure and manpower involved respectively? Has the Administration assessed the prices of power supply under the agreement, as well as the impacts on the electricity tariffs, emissions, safety, the use of other energy sources in Hong Kong, the development plan of the two power companies for the future five years and the forthcoming review on the fuel mix by the Administration respectively?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- a) Please refer to the Annex attached.
- b) As indicated in the Legislative Council Brief on the 2014-18 Development Plan and 2014 Tariff Review of the Two Power Companies issued on 10 December 2013, the Government was working with CLP to mitigate the tariff impact over the coming years mainly due to increase in fuel costs, and CLP was considering additional import of a small amount of electricity from Daya Bay. This responds positively to calls from the Legislative Council and the community to explore means to address the rising fuel cost.

CLP has been importing on average 70% of the electricity generated annually by the Daya Bay nuclear power station under a contract expiring in 2034. CLP has now made arrangements for importing extra 10% nuclear electricity in the coming five years through its existing transmission infrastructure. This is a temporary, short-term measure to alleviate tariff pressure for the benefit of the electricity users. With this arrangement, CLP's average total tariff is expected to be lowered by 1-2% over the period 2015-2018. It requires no additional investment on infrastructure, nor does it require Daya Bay to increase new generation capacity. Moreover, nuclear generation virtually has zero air pollutants and greenhouse gas emission. We are conducting the public consultation of the future fuel mix

for electricity generation in Hong Kong and it would have a planning horizon going beyond 2020. Since the arrangement of importing additional nuclear electricity from Daya Bay will commence from 2014 Q4 until end 2018, this arrangement will not affect the public consultation on fuel mix. As the related officers of the Environment Bureau also handled other duties concurrently, it is not possible to identify separately the relevant manpower and expenditure involved.

Year	Fuel mix by sent out generation														
	2008 Actual			2009 Actual			2010 Actual			2011 Actual			2012 Actual		
<u>Fuel type</u>	CLP	HKE	Overall	CLP	HKE	Overall	CLP	HKE	Overall	CLP	HKE	Overall	CLP	HKE	Overall
Coal	41%	84%	52%	44%	80%	53%	40%	67%	46%	49%	67%	53%	49%	68%	53%
Natural gas	28%	16%	25%	25%	20%	24%	30%	33%	31%	21%	33%	24%	18%	32%	22%
Oil and renewables	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2%	-	2%
Nuclear	31%	-	23%	31%	-	23%	30%	-	23%	30%	-	23%	31%	-	23%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB315

(Question Serial No.: 3612)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 128):

Regarding the political work undertaken by the Environment Bureau, please advise on:

- a) the number of meetings or exchanges between the Administration and non-governmental organisations and green groups (based on the Environmental Protection Department's website), the details of the meetings or exchanges (e.g. venue, time, number of participants, government representatives, etc.), as well as the expenditure and manpower involved in each of the past five years. Please list by year, institution and organisation;
- b) What are the salaries of the Secretary, the Under Secretary and the Political Assistant of the Bureau? What are their respective administrative roles? Is there any mechanism to access and review their performance? Is there any mechanism to determine their salary level according to their performance? If yes, what are the details and what were the assessment results in each of the past five years? Please list by year.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- a) When implementing its policies and services, our Bureau conducts exchanges and discussions from time to time with relevant stakeholders, including government bureaux/departments, non-government organisations/green groups/environmentalists, some of which may be through correspondences, meetings or public consultations. As many organisations and individuals are involved, we have not compiled statistics on the number of meetings or exchanges held.
- b) For budgetary purposes, the provisions for the salary in respect of the positions of Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in the Environment Bureau for 2014-15 are \$3.38 million, \$2.54 million and \$1.18 million respectively.

According to the Code for Officials under the Political Appointment System, Directors of Bureau are responsible for their respective portfolios designated to them by the Chief Executive and lead the executive departments within their respective portfolios. Directors of Bureau are responsible for

formulating, explaining and defending government policies as well as canvassing support from the public and the Legislative Council. They are accountable to the Chief Executive for the success or failure of their policies. Under Secretaries are responsible principally for assisting Directors of Bureau in undertaking the full range of political work, and are subordinates of the Directors of Bureau and work under the latter's direction. They will deputise for the relevant Directors of Bureau during the latter's temporary absence, attend meetings of the Legislative Council, its committees, subcommittees and panels and speak on behalf of the Government. Political Assistants are responsible for assisting Directors of Bureau in the liaison and lobbying work, including reaching out to the public at district level, gauging views in the community on issues of concern, and explaining government policies to the public.

The Bureau Secretaries concerned are responsible for supervising and assessing the work of the Under Secretaries and Political Assistants of their Bureaux.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB316

(Question Serial No.: 5977)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 612):

Regarding promoted environmental protection and energy conservation in government buildings through a target-based performance framework, please advise:

- a) What was the work to promote environmental protection and energy conservation in government buildings in each of the past five years? What were the expenditure, changes in electricity charges and manpower involved? Please list by year and building.
- b) Were energy conservation targets set for government buildings in each of the past five years? If yes, what were the details? Please list by year.
- c) What are the future energy conservation targets and work details? What are the expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

(a) In the past five years (i.e. 2009-2013), the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department implemented 405 energy conservation projects for the existing buildings of various government departments and public bodies. These projects involved the installation of energy efficient lighting and control systems, light emitting diode (LED) exit signs, and energy efficient air conditioning and control systems etc. From 2009-10 to 2013-14, the estimated expenditure for implementing energy conservation projects was about \$389 million. The estimated annual saving in electricity cost is \$36.6 million. A breakdown is given in the table below:

Year	Buildings/facilities involved	Expenditure of energy conservation project	Annual saving in electricity cost#
2009-10	arts and cultural facilities; carpark buildings;	\$180.1 million	About \$17.4 million

Year	Buildings/facilities involved	Expenditure of energy conservation project	Annual saving in electricity cost#
2010-11	court buildings; cooked food centres;	\$88.8 million	About \$6 million
2011-12	dockyards; clinics; community centres;	\$58.2 million	About \$6.6 million
2012-13	departmental headquarters; fire stations;	\$35.8 million	About \$3.2 million
2013-14 *	government offices; government quarters; hospitals; libraries; markets; museums; parks and playgrounds; police stations; prisons; public toilets; recreation centres regional depots; schools; sewage treatment works; sports centres; stadia; swimming pools ; town halls; workshops, etc.	\$25.6 million	About \$3.4 million

* Projects in 2013-14 are in progress and the expenditure involved is subject to change.

Savings in electricity cost are based on the assumption that the average electricity tariff is \$1 per kWh.

As the above projects are undertaken by existing staff, we do not have a breakdown on the manpower involved.

In addition, the Architectural Services Department obtained the approval of the Public Works Sub-Committee and Finance Committee for 62 new works projects in the past 5 years. The total estimated costs of these projects were \$56 billion, of which \$691.5 million was allocated for green features including energy saving features, greening and recycling facilities. These features accounted for about 1.2% of the total estimated project costs. It is expected that an annual saving of electricity cost of \$26.2 million can be achieved. A breakdown is provided in the table below:

Year	Buildings/facilities involved	Expenditure of environmental projects	Annual saving of electricity cost#
2009-10	arts and cultural facilities; court buildings;	\$213.9 million	About \$8.1 million
2010-11	community centres; department headquarters;	\$100.6 million	About \$5 million

Year	Buildings/facilities involved	Expenditure of environmental projects	Annual saving of electricity cost#
2011-12	fire stations; government offices;	\$80.3 million	About \$3.38 million
2012-13	government quarters; hospitals; cruise terminal;	\$128.6 million	About \$3.38 million
2013-14	libraries; parks and playgrounds; police stations; public toilets; schools; sports centres; swimming pools; town halls; Monitoring centres for food safety; Crematoriums; Workshops etc.	\$168.1 million	About \$6.33 million

Savings in electricity cost are based on the assumption that the average electricity tariff is \$1 per kWh.

As the above projects are undertaken by existing staff, we do not have a breakdown on the manpower involved.

- (b) In 2009, the Government set the target of achieving 5% saving in the total electricity consumption in Government buildings from 2009-10 to 2013-14, using the electricity consumption in 2007-08 as the baseline and under comparable operating conditions. The latest figures show that the electricity consumption of government buildings in 2012-13 was reduced by 7.6%, which has exceeded the original target.
- (c) We will consolidate the experience in implementing the energy saving target from 2009-10 to 2013-14 and consider the way forward for energy conservation. As the relevant duties are absorbed by existing staff, we do not have a breakdown of the manpower involved.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB317

(Question Serial No.: 5979)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 613):

Regarding the mandatory implementation of the Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance, please advise:

- a) What are the number of registered energy assessors and the number of buildings which required energy audits since the implementation of the Ordinance?
- b) What are the expenditure and manpower for publicity each year since the implementation of the Ordinance?
- c) Has the Administration assessed the effectiveness of the promotion of energy efficiency?
- d) Has the Administration assessed the non-compliance cases since the implementation of the Ordinance? What are the numbers of improvement notices issued by the Administration and cases where fines were imposed? What is the accumulated amount of fines (please list by Level-4 and Level-3 respectively)?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- a) The Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance came into full operation in September 2012. The Ordinance requires commercial buildings and commercial portions of composite buildings to conduct energy audits once every 10 years. It is estimated that there are about 6 000 of such buildings. To help owners or responsible persons of the buildings to comply with requirements of the Ordinance, the Ordinance provides for the establishment of a registration system for Registered Energy Assessors. As at 28 February 2014, 792 persons have been registered as Registered Energy Assessors in accordance with the Ordinance.
- b) The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) is responsible for publicity relating to the Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance. In 2012-13 and 2013-14, the expenditures involved in publicity were \$1.3 million and \$1.4 million respectively. In 2014-15, EMSD has earmarked about \$2 million for publicity and education initiatives. As EMSD handles the publicity of the Ordinance with existing staff, we do not have a breakdown of the manpower involved.

- c) The Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance helps to enhance energy efficiency of buildings. For new buildings, a saving of more than 2.8 billion kWh of electricity is expected in the first decade of the Ordinance's implementation. The Ordinance has just been implemented. In the longer term, EMSD should be able to make a more accurate assessment of the effectiveness of the Ordinance in promoting energy efficiency on the basis of accumulated information.

- d) As at 28 February 2014, EMSD issued 34 Improvement Notices pursuant to section 26 of the Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance, including Notices that required the developers of new buildings to submit Stage One Declarations, or required the owners or responsible persons of existing buildings to submit Forms of Compliance for major retrofitting works to declare that the building services installations concerned are in compliance with the prescribed energy efficiency standard. Improvement Notices have also been issued to require the owners of existing buildings to conduct energy audits according to the specified timetable. Among these cases involving the issue of Improvement Notices, there were 18 cases in which the irregularities have been rectified before the deadlines specified in the Notices. As for the other 16 cases, the deadlines have yet to expire and hence no fines have been imposed.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB318

(Question Serial No.: 5980)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 614):

Regarding the inter-departmental steering committee on green buildings, what are the membership, appointment criteria, members' attendances, work details, and the expenditure and manpower involved? What is the number of meetings held by the Committee so far? Please provide the agenda of each meeting and the timetables of future meetings. Have the Administration and the Committee assessed the number of buildings and the necessary expenditure and manpower involved in conducting free electricity audits on all buildings in Hong Kong?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The inter-departmental Steering Committee for the Promotion of Green Building (Steering Committee) was set up in January 2013 under the chairmanship of the Secretary for the Environment. It comprises standing members from more than 10 bureaux and departments, including the Environment Bureau, the Development Bureau and the Transport and Housing Bureau as well as the departments under their purview. The Steering Committee acts as the central coordinating body to coordinate efforts by various bureaux and departments in promoting green building in Hong Kong in a holistic manner. So far, the Steering Committee has held three meetings with the participation of representatives from the relevant departments. Apart from conducting discussions at the meetings, the Steering Committee has also organized an engagement forum for stakeholders to seek views and suggestions from relevant professional groups, trades, academic organisations and environmental groups on the promotion of green building. The Steering Committee will continue to liaise with stakeholders and to enhance coordination among departments, with a view to formulating appropriate implementation strategy and detailed proposals for promoting green building developments in both the public and private sectors. These tasks are undertaken by the existing staff. As they have other responsibilities, we do not have a breakdown of the resources involved.

With \$450 million allocated by the Environment and Conservation Fund, the Buildings Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes (BEEFS) were launched on April 2009 to subsidise owners' corporations, owners' organizations or residents' organizations of buildings (including residential buildings) to conduct energy-cum-carbon audits (ECAs) and to carry out energy efficiency improvement works. On the part concerning ECAs, funds are granted on a matching basis, subject to a limit of 50% of the approved total actual expenditure spent for the audit and a ceiling of \$150,000 per building. The Schemes were completed in 2012

as scheduled. A total of 233 applications for ECAs were received, of which 73 applications involving 353 buildings with total funding support of \$2.7 million were approved. The schemes have achieved their intended purposes, namely, promoting the building owners' awareness of the benefits of building energy efficiency and encouraging them to take concrete action to seek improvements. We will continue to actively promote the enhancement of building energy efficiency, including the full operation of the Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance in September 2012. Under the Ordinance, all commercial buildings and the commercial portions of composite buildings are required to carry out an energy audit once every 10 years in accordance with the Code of Practice for Building Energy Audit.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB319

(Question Serial No.: 5981)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:615):

Regarding the Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme, please advise:

- a) What were the work details, expenditure and manpower involved and effectiveness in each of the past five years?
- b) What are the products covered in the two phases of the Scheme and what are the quantities of various products?
- c) There were reports earlier that the dehumidifying efficacy of compressor type dehumidifiers covered in the Scheme had been exaggerated. Is the Administration aware of this? If yes, what plans does the Administration have to improve the situation and what are the expenditure and manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- a) The first and second phases of the Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme (MEELS) came into operation in 2009 and 2011 respectively. Engineers and inspectors from the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) are responsible for the implementation of MEELS. As the staff concerned have other responsibilities, we do not have separate breakdown on the manpower involved. The expenditure involved in the work is as follows:

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Relevant expenditure (\$ million)	1.5	2.0	2.2	2.2	2.2

The relevant expenditure was to support the publicity activities and the monitoring of compliance with MEELS.

So far, there are over 5 900 listed models under the five types of prescribed products of MEELS. MEELS can encourage and help the public to choose more energy efficient products, and bring about a saving in electricity which is estimated to be about 175 GWh.

b) The products covered in the two phases and the number of product models are as follows:

Products Covered	First Phase			Second Phase		Total
	Air Conditioners	Refrigerators	Compact Fluorescent Lamps	Washing Machines	Dehumidifiers	
Number of Product Models	1 952	886	2 382	549	212	5 981

c) According to the requirements of MEELS, compressor type dehumidifiers must bear energy labels indicating the results measured under the standard environment. EMSD was aware of the earlier reports about the dehumidifying capacity of dehumidifiers. According to EMSD's understanding, the relevant test results were not obtained under the standard environment stipulated under MEELS.

EMSD will continue to monitor compliance with the energy efficiency levels displayed on the energy labels through inspection and enforcement actions, and to enhance public understanding about the information displayed on the energy labels through public education and promotional activities. The resources involved are included in the expenditure and manpower mentioned in the reply to (a).

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB320

(Question Serial No.: 5986)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 618):

Regarding the construction and operation of the District Cooling System in the Kai Tak Development, please advise:

- a) What are the expenditure and manpower involved, work progress and works schedule of the project?
- b) What is the effectiveness of the project?
- c) Are there any plans or studies on the setting up of such systems in other districts? If yes, what are the details, estimated expenditure and manpower, and timetable?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) A project estimate of \$3.1459 billion (in money-of-the-day (MOD) prices) was approved by the Finance Committee of LegCo in June 2013 for implementing Phases I, II and III (Package A) works of the District Cooling System (DCS) in Kai Tak Development (KTD). As at February 2014, the cumulative expenditure of the project stood at \$1.7423 billion (in MOD prices), representing 55.4% of the approved project estimate. Works for Phase I were completed in early 2013, while works for Phase II were 93% complete and are expected to be fully completed by end of 2014. Works for Phase III (Package A) were 14% complete and are expected to be fully completed by end of 2017.

The Environment Bureau and the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) are responsible for overseeing the construction and operation of the DCS in the KTD. As the staff concerned have other responsibilities, we do not have separate breakdown of the resources involved.

- (b) DCS is one of the major infrastructure facilities in support of the sustainable and environmentally-friendly development at Kai Tak. Compared with traditional air-cooled air-conditioning systems and individual water-cooled air-conditioning systems using individual cooling towers, the DCS consumes 35% and 20% less electricity respectively. Upon completion of the DCS, we expect the DCS will save as much as 85 million kilowatt-hour of electricity and reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 59 500 tonnes per year. EMSD has been providing district cooling services to Kai Tak Cruise Terminal building and Ching

Long Shopping Centre since 2013 and will provide service to other developments in the district in accordance with the development schedule of KTD.

- (c) The proposed DCS at KTD is the first of its kind in Hong Kong. The experience in operating DCS at KTD can serve as a reference for other bureaux/departments responsible for the planning of new development areas.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB321

(Question Serial No.: 5987)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:619):

According to Programme (2) of the Environment Bureau, the estimated expenditure for 2014-15 is 41.2% higher than the original estimate for 2013-14. What are the reasons? Please list the distribution of this additional amount in various items under this Programme. There is an increase of three posts in 2014-15. What are the salary expenditure, ranks and functions of these posts?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

As stipulated in the Scheme of Control Agreements signed between the Government and the two power companies, before implementing any change to the regulatory regime, the Government will take into account all relevant factors and will discuss with the power companies market readiness, potential future changes to the electricity supply regulatory framework and transition issues before 2016. With a view to exploring the feasibility of introducing more competition to the electricity market and whether such action will bring benefits to electricity users, the Environment Bureau has set up a dedicated team and commenced the review of the regulatory framework for the post-2018 electricity market ("the Review").

The Review will cover a wide range of policy, economic, legal, technical and financial issues that require thorough examination, and entail substantial work, including formulation of possible regulatory options that may be suitable for Hong Kong, handling various consultancy studies with other relevant teams, undertaking a public consultation exercise and engagement activities to gauge the views of the public and various stakeholders, extensive discussion and negotiation with power companies, formulation of implementation plan for possible changes to the regulatory framework, etc.. The three newly created posts in 2014-15 include one Senior Administrative Officer, one Senior Executive Officer and one Personal Secretary I. Their salaries in 2014-15 are \$1,153,800, \$845,880 and \$356,640 respectively.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB322

(Question Serial No.: 5991)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (3) Sustainable Development
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 620):

Regarding the Environment Bureau's work on sustainable development, please advise:

- a) What are the work details, expenditure and manpower involved for the Council for Sustainable Development (SDC) in conducting its public engagement process on waste charging scheme?
- b) What is the amount of waste generated during the SDC's public engagement process on waste charging scheme? How is the waste handled? Please list it out by waste type.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- a) The Council for Sustainable Development (SDC) launched a public engagement process on municipal solid waste (MSW) charging. Relevant work included the engagement with stakeholders and the general public, and the compilation of the responses collected on the basis of which the SDC would submit a report of recommendations to the Government. The estimated expenditure for the public engagement process is about \$4.09 million. Eight staff in the SDC Secretariat (i.e. the Sustainable Development Division of the Environment Bureau) provide support to the relevant work.
- b) SDC arranged activities for the public engagement process and prepared relevant documents on the basis of conserving resources and waste less principle. Examples include the avoidance in the use of disposable items and the uploading of SDC's Invitation for Response Document on a dedicated website for public information. The display panels produced for the SDC's roving exhibitions held in the 18 districts and venues of other organizations are still being kept which can be reused for public education purpose when such opportunities arise.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB323****(Question Serial No.: 5992)**

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Sustainable Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 621):

Regarding the Sustainable Development Fund and the sustainability assessment system, what were their uses and operation in the past year? What were the expenditure and manpower involved in each item? Please list them out by item.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Sustainable Development (SD) Fund provides funding support to projects which help develop a strong public awareness of the concept of SD and encourage sustainable practices in Hong Kong. The Education and Publicity Sub-committee (EPSC) established under the Council for Sustainable Development (SDC) provides advice on the awards of grants from the SD Fund. Approved projects are monitored by the SDC Secretariat (i.e. the Sustainable Development Division of the Environment Bureau) in accordance with the established mechanism, including vetting progress reports, financial statements, and schedule of activities; and conducting on-site visits to project activities as appropriate to ensure the projects are implemented within the timeframe and in the manner as stipulated in the approved proposals. At the same time, evaluation reports will also be submitted to the EPSC. The relevant work is taken up by five staff in the SDC Secretariat, with an estimated staff cost of about \$2.338 million.

Six projects were approved in 2013-14, with a total grant of \$6,361,760. Details are as follows:

Project name	Amount of funding awarded (\$)
A Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment on Denim Garments - Guidance for Consumers	1,130,200
Conserve Our Resources When Young	399,050
Community Mushroom Growing Project	494,520
Southern District Sustainable Development Education Programme	1,340,950
Energising Kowloon East: Sustainable Development of Made in Hong Kong Project	1,515,600
Upcycling the Tai Po Community Project	1,481,440

The sustainability assessment system, of which bureaux/departments are required to conduct sustainability assessments for major proposals and new policy initiatives, provides a structured framework for bureaux/departments to integrate sustainability considerations into the policy formulation process. With the aid of the Computer-Aided Sustainability Evaluation Tool (CASET), the sustainability assessment system enables bureaux/departments to assess the sustainability implications of their proposals. The Sustainable Development Division of the Environment Bureau also works closely with bureaux/departments to provide them with advice, assistance and technical support in the application of the sustainability assessment system. Training courses and workshops are also provided regularly to brief bureaux/departments on the sustainability principles and the sustainability assessment system. Such work is undertaken by six staff in the Sustainable Development Division, and the total expenditure in 2013-14 is about \$3.52 million.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB324

(Question Serial No.: 0280)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 37)

For 2014-15, will the Administration advise this Committee:

- (1) What is the estimated expenditure on salaries of the Secretary, the Under Secretary and the Political Assistant of the Bureau?
- (2) What are the estimated entertainment expenses within Hong Kong of the Director of Bureau's Office?
- (3) What is the estimated expenditure on duty visits and study tours overseas (including the Mainland) of the Director of Bureau's Office?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply:

- (1) For budgetary purposes, the provisions for the salary in respect of the positions of Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in the Environment Bureau for 2014-15 are \$3.38 million, \$2.54 million and \$1.18 million respectively.
- (2) For budgetary purposes, the provisions for entertainment expenses within Hong Kong of the Director of Bureau's Office for 2014-15 are about \$200,000.
- (3) For budgetary purposes, the provisions for duty visits outside Hong Kong of the Director of Bureau's Office for 2014-15 are about \$400,000.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB325

(Question Serial No.:0281)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:38)

What are the operational expenditure, manpower establishment and estimated expenditure on remuneration under this Programme in 2014-15?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply:

In 2014-15, the estimate for Programme (2) is \$31.9 million, and the number of posts is 19. The estimated expenditure on remuneration under Programme (2) is about \$18.1 million.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB326

(Question Serial No.: 0282)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): Not specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 39):

Under this Programme, the Administration has stated that the provision for 2014-15 will increase by \$9 m as compared with that of 2013-14, and that the increase in estimated provision is mainly due to the increased provision for reviewing the regulatory framework for the electricity market. Would the Administration advise the Committee on the following:

- (1) The operational expenses for the review of the regulatory framework for the electricity market in 2014-15.
- (2) The major work involved in reviewing the regulatory framework for the electricity market in 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply:

(1)&(2)

As stipulated in the Scheme of Control Agreements signed between the Government and the two power companies, before implementing any change to the regulatory regime, the Government will take into account all relevant factors and will discuss with the power companies market readiness, potential future changes to the electricity supply regulatory framework and transition issues before 2016. With a view to exploring the feasibility of introducing more competition to the electricity market and whether such action will bring benefits to electricity users, the Environment Bureau has set up a dedicated team and commenced the review of the regulatory framework for the post-2018 electricity market ("the Review").

The Review will cover a wide range of policy, economic, legal, technical and financial issues that require thorough examination, and entail substantial work, including formulation of possible regulatory options that may be suitable for Hong Kong, handling various consultancy studies with other relevant teams, undertaking a public consultation exercise and engagement activities to gauge the views of the public and various stakeholders, extensive discussion and negotiation with power companies, formulation of implementation plan for possible changes to the regulatory framework, etc.. The estimated expenditure covers the salaries

for the three newly created posts in 2014-15, and the provision earmarked for conducting consultancy studies, amounting to \$12.36 million in total.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB327

(Question Serial No.: 5367)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 124):

Please provide details of the government fleet under the Environmental Protection Department:

	Quantity	Operational expenses for 2013	Estimated operational expenses for 2014-15
VIP Car			
Large Saloon Car (Grade A)			
Large Saloon Car (Grade B)			

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply:

Details of the government fleet under the Environmental Bureau are as follows:

	Quantity	Operational expenses for 2013	Estimated operational expenses for 2014-15
VIP Car	0	-	-
Large Saloon Car (Grade A)	0	-	-
Large Saloon Car (Grade B)	2	\$78,000 approximately	\$80,000 approximately

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB328

(Question Serial No.: 5956)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:667):

Regarding the monitoring of the two power companies, please advise on:

1. the time, expenditure and manpower spent on the mid-term review of the Scheme of Control Agreements conducted with the two power companies; and
2. the expenditure and establishment for the past financial year and the budget and establishment for the next financial year in respect of the review of regulatory framework for the electricity market.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

1.
In 2013-14, the existing manpower and resources were deployed to carry out the Mid-term Review of the Scheme of Control Agreements ("SCAs") with the two power companies.
2.
As stipulated in the SCAs signed between the Government and the two power companies, before implementing any change to the regulatory regime, the Government will take into account all relevant factors and will discuss with the power companies market readiness, potential future changes to the electricity supply regulatory framework and transition issues before 2016. With a view to exploring the feasibility of introducing more competition to the electricity market and whether such action will bring benefits to electricity users, the Environment Bureau has commenced the review of the regulatory framework for the post-2018 electricity market ("the Review").

In 2013-14, we carried out the preparatory work of the Review by existing manpower and resources. In 2014-15, the estimated expenditure covers the salaries for the three newly created posts in 2014-15, and the provision earmarked for conducting consultancy studies, amounting to \$12.36 million in total.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB329

(Question Serial No.: 6399)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:66):

Regarding the framework of advisory and statutory bodies under the Environment Bureau, would the Administration advise on the names, functions, numbers of members by sex and age (below 30 and over 30) of various advisory and statutory bodies, as well as the total expenditure involved in the past five years?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

At present, there are 27 Advisory and Statutory Bodies (ASBs) under the purview of the Environment Bureau (ENB) and its departments. The responsibilities of these ASBs are set out in the relevant webpage of ENB at http://www.enb.gov.hk/en/boards_committees/index.html.

As at 8 March 2014, the above ASBs have a total of 405 government appointed non-official members, of whom 76.3% are male and 23.7 % are female. The 405 non-official members of the ASBs provided their date of birth in the appointment forms. Of them, 0.2% are below the age of 30, and 99.8% are at the age of 30 or above.

The secretariat posts of the aforesaid ASBs are civil servant posts and the posts are part of the establishment of ENB and its departments. The service of these civil servants to the aforesaid ASBs is part and parcel of their duties for the relevant subject areas and hence will be difficult to be quantified separately.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB330

(Question Serial No.: 6461)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (3) Sustainable Development
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 614):

Please advise this Committee on details of the educational and publicity programmes implemented by the Council for Sustainable Development in the past three years.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

The Council for Sustainable Development (SDC) implements education and publicity initiatives in collaboration with stakeholder organisations to promote sustainable development (SD) to various sectors of the community. The details of the education and publicity initiatives in the past three years (2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14) are as follows:

SD School Outreach Programme (SOP)

The SD SOP is an on-going educational initiative of the SDC to promote SD concepts and practices in the school community. It takes place in the form of school talks, workshops and interactive drama performances, during which there will be an introduction on the SD concept and concrete examples with reference to current global and local issues, as well as discussion on how to put SD principles into practice in daily lives.

SD School Award Programme (SAP)

The SD SAP is an award programme to encourage schools to participating in activities that promote public awareness of SD and encourage SD practices in schools and the community. Through activities launched by the students in the community, SD practices can be promoted at the community level. Under the Programme, there are mainly two levels of awards, namely SD Participation Award and SD Community Project Award.

SD Conference

The SDC organised a conference on “Sustainable Development through Energy Efficiency and Conservation” in January 2013 to sustain the momentum of the SDC’s last public engagement process on ‘Combating Climate Change: Energy Saving and Carbon Emission Reduction in Buildings’. The conference provided a suitable platform for stakeholders to explore good practices in enhancing energy efficiency and saving in corporate/organisations, as well as sharing views on green business opportunities in Hong Kong arising from energy efficiency and cross-sector collaboration.

Publicity and Media Promotion

The SDC has procured the production of promotional short videos to disseminate, promote and enhance the public understanding of SD through different media channels.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB331

(Question Serial No.: 0322)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): Not specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.15):

According to Programme 2 “Power”, the estimated financial provision for 2014-15 for the Environment Bureau is \$31.9 m, representing an increase of \$9 m or 39.3%. This is mainly due to the increased provision for reviewing the regulatory framework for the electricity market. There will be an increase of three posts in the new financial year. Please advise on the details of the work involved in the increased provision. What areas of work will the new posts be responsible for?

Asked by: Hon. CHUNG Kwok-pan

Reply:

As stipulated in the Scheme of Control Agreements signed between the Government and the two power companies, before implementing any change to the regulatory regime, the Government will take into account all relevant factors and will discuss with the power companies market readiness, potential future changes to the electricity supply regulatory framework and transition issues before 2016. With a view to exploring the feasibility of introducing more competition to the electricity market and whether such action will bring benefits to electricity users, the Environment Bureau has set up a dedicated team and commenced the review of the regulatory framework for the post-2018 electricity market (“the Review”).

The Review will cover a wide range of policy, economic, legal, technical and financial issues that require thorough examination, and entail substantial work, including formulation of possible regulatory options that may be suitable for Hong Kong, handling various consultancy studies with other relevant teams, undertaking a public consultation exercise and engagement activities to gauge the views of the public and various stakeholders, extensive discussion and negotiation with power companies, formulation of implementation plan for possible changes to the regulatory framework, etc..

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB332

(Question Serial No.3315)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment
Question (Member Question No.:59):

What measures will the Environmental Protection Department take in 2014-15 to reduce the impact of light pollution in urban areas? What is the estimated provision in this regard?

Asked by: Hon. CHUNG Shu-kun, Christopher

Reply:

To address the concerns about the light nuisance and energy wastage problems that may be caused by external lighting installations, the Government set up the Task Force on External Lighting (Task Force) in August 2011, with members drawn from different professional bodies, relevant trades and green groups. The Task Force published on 19 August 2013 the Document for Engaging Stakeholders and the Public to invite comments from the public and stakeholders on the Task Force's findings as well as the proposed switch-off requirement and the preset time, the scope of the requirement and the implementation approach. The engagement exercise was closed on 18 November 2013. The Task Force is carefully considering and analyzing the comments received and will submit its recommendations to the Government.

In 2014-15, the Government will consider the recommendations made by the Task Force before deciding on the follow-up actions to be taken and the need for deployment of resources.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB333

(Question Serial No.: 2316)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 49):

It is mentioned in the Brief Description that the Environment Bureau “conducted a review of the future fuel mix for power generation and launched a public consultation on the subject”. Would the Administration inform this Committee of the following: The Administration conducted a public consultation on increasing the ratio of nuclear energy in the fuel mix for power generation years ago. However, it has not made any clear decision so far on the fuel mix issue. What are the reasons? What is the progress of the review so far? When will the Administration expect to conduct a public consultation again? Will it consider giving up on increasing the ratio of nuclear energy?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

To reduce the carbon emission from power generation and to combat climate change, the Government proposed in 2010 to improve the future fuel mix for power generation for Hong Kong. The Fukushima incident took place shortly after the consultation period, and various sectors in the community have different views on the application of nuclear energy. We have thus temporised our analysis.

As the existing coal-fired generating units will start to retire in the coming years and the electricity supply infrastructure requires long-term planning, we have carried out the review on the future fuel mix for electricity generation in a timely manner, in order to meet the future electricity demand of Hong Kong and to improve the environment. We also launched on 19 March 2014 a three-month public consultation. Two fuel mix options were put forward for public consultation, including (a) “grid purchase”, under which we proposed importing electricity through purchase from the Mainland power grid; and (b) “local generation”, under which we proposed using more natural gas for local generation. We will map out the way forward upon completion of the public consultation.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB334

(Question Serial No.:0767)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:40)

Will the Administration inform the Committee of the estimated expenditure on the salaries of Secretary for the Environment, Under Secretary for the Environment and Political Assistant to Secretary for the Environment in the past year and in the coming year?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

In 2013-14, the salary expenditures for Secretary for the Environment, Under Secretary for the Environment and Political Assistant to Secretary for the Environment are \$3.38 million, \$2.54 million and \$1.18 million respectively. For budgetary purposes, the provisions for the salary in respect of these positions in 2014-15 are the same as those in 2013-14.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB335****(Question Serial No.: 2317)**

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 50):

In the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014-15, it is mentioned that the Bureau will “formulate proposals on the energy efficiency grading structure and scope of coverage under the Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme for consultation with the trade”. Would the Administration inform this Committee of the details of the above work and the number of cases in which products were found not complying with the energy efficiency levels as shown in the labels each year since the implementation of various phases of the Scheme? How would the Administration follow up on such cases? Has the Administration considered further upgrading the standards of energy efficiency levels and including more electric and electronic products in the Scheme? If yes, what is the timetable of implementation? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

Regarding the formulation of proposals on the energy efficiency grading structure under the Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme (MEELS), we have drawn up a proposal to upgrade the energy efficiency grading standards of 3 types of products, namely air-conditioners, refrigerators and washing machines, and had commenced consultation with the trade in early 2014. We expect that the new standards will be introduced by the end of the year. We also plan to formulate proposals to extend the coverage of the Scheme for consultation with the trade in the second half of 2014.

The MEELS came into operation in November 2009. The number of products that have been found not compliant with the energy efficiency levels displayed on the energy labels is tabulated below:

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Number of Cases	9	84	10	14	5

These product models have been removed from the record of the Scheme and are not allowed to be supplied in Hong Kong.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB336****(Question Serial No.: 5647)**

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Sustainable Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 60):

Would the Administration inform this Committee of: the number of applications for the Sustainable Development (SD) Fund received in the past two years; the titles of the funded projects under the Fund; the amount of grant for each project, completion date and responsible organisation of each project; the estimated expenditure and overall account of the SD Fund in the coming two years.

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

The Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) provides funding support to projects which help develop a strong public awareness of the concept of sustainable development (SD) and encourage sustainable practices in Hong Kong. The number of applications received and projects approved in the past two years is as follows—

Year	No. of applications received	No. of projects approved
2012-13	56	6
2013-14	65	6

Details of the approved projects are attached. We have earmarked \$5 million under the SDF for 2014-15 and 2015-16 to meet the anticipated cash flow requirements of both existing and new projects. Payment of grants will be made on a reimbursement basis subject to submission of expenditure claims by fund recipients.

Year	Title of funded project	Recipient organisation	Amount of funding awarded (\$)	Anticipated completion date
2012-13	Cultural Sustainable Project Through a Group of Cultural Service-Learning Ambassadors	Lingnan University	1,200,144	Early 2015

Year	Title of funded project	Recipient organisation	Amount of funding awarded (\$)	Anticipated completion date
	“Upcycling - Action for Kwun Tong Community” – a project to promote the concept of upcycling business and encourage community participation in sustainable model of industrial production in Kwun Tong	Hong Kong Women Workers’ Association	385,850	Early 2014
	“3-Tree Sustainable Leadership Project” – a project to raise awareness of traditional culture and environmental protection of Lamma Island among children and teenagers	St. James’ Settlement	623,300	Concluded in early 2014
	Food Cherisher	Friends of the Earth (Hong Kong)	1,284,700	Mid 2014
	Create Life - Sustainable Lifestyle Initiatives	Community Art Network	1,515,700	Mid 2014
	Corporate Sustainability Reporting Platform in Hong Kong	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	1,953,425	Late2014
Total amount of funding awarded (\$)			6,963,119	

Year	Title of funded project	Recipient organisation	Amount of funding awarded (\$)	Anticipated completion date
2013-14	A Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment on Denim Garments – Guidance for Consumers	Clothing Industry Training Authority	1,130,200	Mid 2015
	Conserve our Resources when Young	Drama Gallery Limited	399,050	Mid 2014
	Community Mushroom Growing Project	The Food Education Association	494,520	Late 2014
	Southern District Sustainable Development Education Programme	The Warehouse Teenage Club Limited	1,340,950	Late 2015
	Energising Kowloon East: Sustainable Development of Made in Hong Kong Project	Hulu Culture Limited	1,515,600	Early 2016
	Upcycling the Tai Po Community Project	Hong Kong Federation of Women’s Centres	1,481,440	Mid 2015
Total amount of funding awarded (\$)			6,361,760	

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB337

(Question Serial No.: 5648)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (3) Sustainable Development
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 61):

Would the Administration inform this Committee of: the subject drawn up for public engagement under the Council for Sustainable Development in the past year and the expected subject(s) for the coming two years, as well as the expenditure and manpower involved for each engagement exercise?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

In 2013-14, the Council for Sustainable Development (SDC) launched a public engagement process on municipal solid waste (MSW) charging, which included the engagement with stakeholders and the general public, and the compilation of the responses collected on the basis of which the SDC would submit a report of recommendations to the Government. The estimated expenditure for the public engagement process is about \$4.09 million. Eight staff in the SDC Secretariat (i.e. the Sustainable Development Division of the Environment Bureau) provide support to the relevant work.

Upon completion of all the work related to the public engagement process on MSW charging, SDC will proceed to study the future work direction and relevant arrangement.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB338

(Question Serial No.: 1646)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 23):

Regarding the information about the records management work undertaken by the Bureau and its departments over the past three years:

1. The numbers of dedicated staff for records management and their ranks. If there is no dedicated staff for records management, please provide the numbers of staff involved in records management, the numbers of hours spent on records management and the information on the additional duties that the staff need to handle.
2. Please provide information on closed programme records and administrative records and pending transfer to the Government Records Service (GRS) for appraisal in the following table:

Type of records	Years covered by the records	Number of the records and their linear metres	Retention period of the records approved by the GRS	Are these confidential records?

3. Please provide information on the programme records and administrative records transferred to the GRS in the following table:

Type of records	Years covered by the records	Number of the records and their linear metres	Year of transfer to the GRS	Retention period of the records approved by the GRS	Are these confidential records?

4. Please provide information on the records approved for destruction by the GRS in the following table:

Type of records	Years covered	Number of the records and	Year of transfer to	Retention period of the records	Are these confidential

	by the records	their linear metres	the GRS	approved by the GRS	records?

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

1. Records management duties in the Environment Bureau and Environmental Protection Department are overseen by a Departmental Records Manager and an Assistant Departmental Records Manager. They are officers at the rank of Chief Executive Officer and Senior Executive Officer respectively. They are assisted by about 280 secretarial and clerical staff whose duties may include records management. The proportion of their time engaged in records management varied according to different operational functions.
2. During the past three years, we had no closed programme records and administrative records pending transfer to Government Records Service (GRS) for appraisal.
3. Information on the records transferred to the GRS is provided in the table below.

Year	Type of records	Years covered by the records	Number of the records and their linear metres	Year of transfer to the GRS	Retention period of the records approved by the GRS	Are these confidential records?
2011	Programme	1982 - 2006	2 647 nos. 45.33 LM	2011	5 - 7 years	No
	Administrative	—	—	—	—	—
2012	Programme	—	—	—	—	—
	Administrative	—	—	—	—	—
2013	Programme	—	—	—	—	—
	Administrative	—	—	—	—	—

4. Information on the records approved for destruction by the GRS is provided in the table below.

Year	Type of records	Years covered by the records	Number of the records and their linear metres	Year of transfer to the GRS*	Retention period of the records approved by the GRS	Are these confidential records?
2011	Programme	1987 - 1995	402 nos. 8 LM	—	No	No
	Administrative	2002 - 2008	116 nos. 6.5 LM	—	No	Yes (81 nos. only)
2012	Programme	—	—	—	—	—
	Administrative	1995 - 2007	277 nos.	—	3 - 7 years	No

			36 LM			
2013	Programme	—	—	—	—	—
	Administrative	—	—	—	—	—

*No need for transfer to the GRS

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB339

(Question Serial No.: 4572)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 64):

- Regarding the expenses on entertainment and gifts of your bureau and the departments under its purview over the past 3 years, please provide details using the table below:

Bureau/ branch/ department and year	Estimated expenses on entertainment and gifts in the year	Actual expenses on entertainment and gifts in the year	Cap on entertainment expenses (including beverages) per head for the year	Cap on gift expenses per guest for the year	Number of receptions held and total number of guests entertained in the year

- Regarding the expenses on entertainment and gifts of your bureau and the departments under its purview in 2013-14, please provide details using the table below:

Bureau/ branch/ department	Date of reception (day/month/ year)	Departments/ organisations and titles of the guests entertained (grouped by department/ organisation and indicating the number of guests)	Food expenses incurred in the reception	Beverage expenses incurred in the reception	Gift expenses incurred in the reception	Venue of the reception (department office/ restaurant in government facilities/ private restaurant/ others (please specify))

- Please provide the estimated expenses on entertainment and gifts for 2014-15 using the table below:

Bureau/ branch/department	Estimated provision for expenses on entertainment and gifts	Cap on entertainment expenses per guest	Cap on gift expenses per guest

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

As a general rule, government officers are required to exercise prudent judgement and economy when entertaining guest(s) for official purposes in order to avoid any public perception of extravagance. All politically appointed officials and civil servants should observe the same principles and act in accordance with the relevant regulations and administrative guidelines when providing official entertainment in the form of meals. According to the existing general guidelines, the expenditure limits on official meals should not exceed \$450 per person for lunch or \$600 per person for dinner, inclusive of all expenses incurred on food and beverages consumed on the occasion, service charges and tips. In 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 (as at 17.3.2014), the actual expenses on official entertainment incurred by the Environment Bureau and the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) were \$950,000, \$560,000 and \$470,000 respectively. The estimated expenditure for 2014-15 is about the same as that for 2013-14.

In line with the Government's green policy, public officers should as far as possible refrain from bestowing gifts/souvenirs to others during the conduct of official activities. According to the existing guidelines, where bestowal of gifts/souvenirs is necessary or unavoidable due to operational, protocol or other reasons, the gift/souvenir items should not be lavish or extravagant and the number should be kept to a minimum. Also, the exchange of gifts/souvenirs should only be made from organisation to organisation. In 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 (as at 17.3.2014), the actual expenses on bestowal of souvenirs during the conduct of official activities as incurred by the Environment Bureau and the EPD were \$348, \$1,555 and \$2,420 respectively.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB340

(Question Serial No.: 4624)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 121):

Regarding the studies (if any) commissioned by the Bureau and its departments for the purpose of formulating and assessing policies, please provide information in the following format.

- (a) Using the table below, please provide information on studies on public policy and strategic public policy for which funds were allocated in the past two financial years (2012-13 and 2013-14):

Name of consultant	Mode of Award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy Fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/ completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?

- (b) Are there any projects for which funds have been reserved for conducting consultancy studies this year (2014-15)? If yes, please provide the following information:

Name of consultant	Mode of Award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy Fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/ completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For the projects that are expected to be completed this year, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?

- (c) What are the criteria for considering the award of consultancy projects to the research institutions concerned?

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

- (a) For studies on public policy and strategic public policy for which funds were allocated in the past two financial years (2012-13 and 2013-14), their related information is provided in the table below.

Name of consultant	Mode of Award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy Fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of Study (under planning/in progress/ completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
CityU Professional Services Limited and Hyder Consulting Limited	Tender	Review and Development of Marine Water Quality Objectives	9,621,000	Oct 2008	In progress	The First Stage Public Engagement was completed between September and December 2009.	Report of the First Stage Public Engagement has been uploaded to dedicated website for public viewing.
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	Completed	The related issues have been discussed in Jan and May 2013 in the Panel on Environmental Affairs, Legislative Council	The report has been uploaded to Environmental Protection Department (EPD)'s website.
Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Ltd.	Tender	Review of the Computer Aided Sustainability Evaluation Tool (CASET)	1,221,000	Jan 2012	Completed	We are preparing implementation of the CASET updating	Relevant arrangements would be worked out upon completion of the CASET updating.
EDMS (HK) Limited	Tender	Study to evaluate the environmental implications	388,000	Feb 2010	Completed	The Administration will make reference to the	The report has been uploaded to EPD's website.

		on traffic management measures – to evaluate their practicability in Hong Kong by adopting overseas benchmarks				findings of the study when considering traffic management scheme for mitigating the road traffic noise.	
Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Ltd.	Tender	To explore use of waste glass bottles in landfill operations	700,000	June 2012	Completed	The results of the study are being analyzed	Relevant arrangements would be worked out upon completion of the review.
Department of Mechanical Engineering, the University of Hong Kong	Tender	Marine Engine Tests on Laboratory Setting	1,421,400	July 2012	Executive Summary and Final Report completed	Not applicable	Already uploaded to EPD's website.
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Tender	Review on existing practice for removal of Corrugated Asbestos Cement Sheets (CACS) - to review current regulatory requirements and practices for the removal of low-risk CACS	1,298,000	Jan 2013	In progress	Not applicable	Relevant arrangements would be worked out upon completion of the study.
Mott MacDonald	Tender	Investigation on the Sources and Fates of Marine Refuse in Hong Kong	898,000	March 2013	In progress	Study findings will be considered by the Inter-departmental Working Group on Clean Shorelines.	Relevant arrangements would be worked out upon completion of the study.
Social Sciences	Tender	Independent analysis of	850,000	March 2013	In progress	The SDC would take into account	The reports of both HKU-

Research Centre, The University of Hong Kong (HKU-SSRC)		public views for the public engagement process of the Council for Sustainable Development (SDC) on “Waste Reduction by Waste Charging - How to Implement?”				the report of HKU-SSRC in drawing up its recommendations for submission to the Administration for consideration.	SSRC and the SDC will be uploaded onto the SDC’s website upon completion of the public engagement process.
Environmental Resources Management Consultants Hong Kong Limited	Tender	Business Impact Assessment on Producer Responsibility Scheme on Glass Beverage Bottles	1,350,000	Aug 2013	In progress	Not applicable	Not applicable
Hong Kong Productivity Council	Tender	To study the recycling industry in Hong Kong and look into the ecosystems of individual waste types	550,000	Dec 2013	In progress	Not applicable	Not applicable
London Economics International LLC	Tender	Review on the permitted return under the Scheme of Control Agreements	420,500	Aug 2012	Completed	The Administration will make reference to the findings of the study when reviewing the future regulatory framework for the electricity market.	Disclosure of the study findings is not advisable as it contains sensitive commercial information. Relevant arrangements would be worked out upon completion of the study.

(b) For projects for which funds have been reserved for conducting consultancy studies this year (2014-15), their related information is provided in the table below:

Name of consultant	Mode of Award (open auction/ tender/ others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy Fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of Study (under planning/in progress/ completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For the projects that are expected to be completed this year, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
CityU Professional Services Limited and Hyder Consulting Limited	Tender	Review and Development of Marine Water Quality Objectives	9,621,000	Oct 2008	In progress	The First Stage Public Engagement was completed between September and December 2009.	Relevant arrangements would be worked out upon completion of the study.
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Tender	Review on existing practice for removal of CACS- to review current regulatory requirements and practices for the removal of low-risk CACS	1,298,000	Jan 2013	In progress	Not applicable	Relevant arrangements would be worked out upon completion of the study.
Mott MacDonald Hong Kong Limited	Tender	Investigation on the Sources and Fates of Marine Refuse in Hong Kong	898,000	March 2013	In progress	Study findings will be considered by the Inter-departmental Working Group on Clean Shorelines.	Relevant arrangements would be worked out upon completion of the study.
Social Sciences Research Centre, The University of	Tender	Independent analysis of public views for the public engagement	850,000	March 2013	In progress	The SDC would take into account the report of HKU-SSRC in drawing up its	The reports of both HKU-SSRC and the SDC will be

Hong Kong (HKU-SSRC)		process of the SDC on “Waste Reduction by Waste Charging - How to Implement?”				recommendations for submission to the Administration for consideration.	uploaded onto the SDC’s website upon completion of the public engagement process.
Environmental Resources Management Consultants Hong Kong Limited	Tender	Business Impact Assessment on Producer Responsibility Scheme on Glass Beverage Bottles	1,350,000	Aug 2013	In progress	Not applicable	Relevant arrangements would be worked out upon completion of the study.
Hong Kong Productivity Council	Tender	To study the recycling industry in Hong Kong and look into the ecosystems of individual waste types	550,000	Dec 2013	In progress	Not applicable	Relevant arrangements would be worked out upon completion of the study.
Guangdong Electric Power Design Institute	Tender	Consultancy study on purchasing electricity from the China Southern Power Grid Company Ltd	1,300,000	Jan 2014	In progress	The consultant is carrying out the study and preparing the report.	Disclosure of the study findings is not advisable as it contains sensitive commercial information. Relevant arrangements would be worked out upon completion of the study.

(c) Tendering, selection and award of studies are carried out according to the relevant procedures of the Stores and Procurement Regulations with due consideration of the technical criteria including expertise and experience of consultants and resources to be committed for the study by the consultants.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB341

(Question Serial No.: 1149)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 10):

The Environment Bureau stated again this year that follow-up actions would be taken having regard to the recommendations of the Task Force on External Lighting in tackling excessive external lighting (light pollution). Would the Administration advise on the following:

1. What were the light pollution-related complaint statistics in the past 3 years?
2. What are the specific details of the recommendations put forth by the Task Force on External Lighting? What follow-up actions has the Administration taken since last year till now and what are their progress? What is the financial commitment involved?
3. There is still no legislation against light pollution so far. Would the Administration consider legislation? If not, why not?

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

Reply:

In the past 3 years, the Environmental Protection Department received 234, 225 and 259 complaints about external lighting respectively.

To address the concerns about the light nuisance and energy wastage problems that may be caused by external lighting installations, the Government set up the Task Force on External Lighting (Task Force) in August 2011, with members drawn from different professional bodies, relevant trades and green groups. The Task Force published on 19 August 2013 the Document for Engaging Stakeholders and the Public to invite comments from the public and stakeholders on the Task Force's findings as well as the proposed switch-off requirement and the preset time, the scope of the requirement and the implementation approach. In respect of the implementation approach, the Task Force invited the public to consider various options, including the introduction of a charter scheme to invite owners of external lighting to pledge to switch off the lighting at the preset time, and the implementation of the switch-off requirement by way of legislation. The engagement exercise was closed on 18 November 2013. The Task Force is carefully considering and analyzing the comments received and will submit its recommendations to the Government.

In 2013-14, \$1 million was allocated to support the Task Force for the stakeholder engagement activities following the publication of the Document for Engaging Stakeholders and the Public in August 2013.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB342

(Question Serial No.: 2130)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 17):

1. Please list out the actual expenditure on the salary, regular allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance of the Secretary in 2013-2014, as well as the estimated expenditure on the salary, regular allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance of the Secretary in 2014-2015.
2. Please list out the actual expenditure on the salary, regular allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance of the Under Secretary in 2013-2014, as well as the estimated expenditure on the salary, regular allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance of the Under Secretary in 2014-2015.
3. Please list out the actual expenditure on the salary, regular allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance of the Political Assistant in 2013-2014, as well as the estimated expenditure on the salary, regular allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance of the Political Assistant in 2014-2015.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

1. The actual expenditure on the salary of Secretary for the Environment in 2013-14 was \$3.38 million. For budgetary purposes, we will reserve the same amount of expenditure as in 2013-14 for the salary of Secretary for the Environment in 2014-15. In 2013-14 and 2014-15, there are no expenditure and estimated expenditure on the regular allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance of Secretary for the Environment.
2. The actual expenditure on the salary of Under Secretary for the Environment in 2013-14 was \$2.54 million. For budgetary purposes, we will reserve the same amount of expenditure as in 2013-14 for the salary of Under Secretary for the Environment in 2014-15. In 2013-14 and 2014-15, there are no expenditure and estimated expenditure on the regular allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance of Under Secretary for the Environment.

3. The actual expenditure on the salary of the Political Assistant to Secretary for the Environment in 2013-14 was \$1.18 million. For budgetary purposes, we will reserve the same amount of expenditure as in 2013-14 for the salary of the Political Assistant to Secretary for the Environment in 2014-15. In 2013-14 and 2014-15, there are no expenditure and estimated expenditure on the regular allowances, job-related allowances and non-accountable entertainment allowance of the Political Assistant to Secretary for the Environment.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB343

(Question Serial No.: 4893)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 206):

Please list the expenditure on air tickets and related carbon offsetting for the Secretary for Environment's overseas duty visits in 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14, as well as the provision for the same for 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

The expenditures of air-travelling for duty visits by Secretary for the Environment in 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 are as follows –

Financial Year	Expenditure on Air-travelling (\$)
2011-12	318,000
2012-13	139,000
2013-14 (up to mid-March)	107,000

As duty visits are arranged on a need basis, we have not separately budgeted for air-travelling for such visits in 2014-15. There are no official expenditures or provisions for "carbon offsetting".

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB344

(Question Serial No.: 4894)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:207):

Please inform this Committee of the number of complaints about light pollution handled by the Bureau and the expenditure involved in 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14. What is the expenditure earmarked for handling complaints about light pollution in 2014-15?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

In the past 4 years, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) received 226, 234, 225 and 259 complaints about external lighting respectively. EPD handles complaints about external lighting by existing manpower and no separate account is provided for this specific activity.

In 2014-15, EPD will continue to handle complaints about external lighting with existing manpower and resources and no separate account will be provided for this specific activity.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB345

(Question Serial No.: 4895)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 208):

Regarding the works progress of the District Cooling System in the Kai Tak Development, please advise on the expenditure involved in overseeing the construction and operation of the District Cooling System in the Kai Tak Development in 2013-14 and the estimate for the same purpose in 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

A project estimate of \$3.1459 billion (in money-of-the-day (MOD) prices) was approved by the Finance Committee of LegCo in June 2013 for implementing Phases I, II and III (Package A) works of the District Cooling System in Kai Tak Development. As at February 2014, the cumulative expenditure of the project stood at \$1.7423 billion (in MOD prices), representing 55.4% of the approved project estimate. Works for Phase I were completed in early 2013, while works for Phase II were 93% complete and are expected to be fully completed by end of 2014. Works for Phase III (Package A) were 14% complete and are expected to be fully completed by end of 2017.

The Environment Bureau and the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department are responsible for overseeing the construction and operation of the DCS in the KTD. As the staff concerned have other responsibilities, we do not have separate breakdown of the resources involved.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB346****(Question Serial No.: 4898)**

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (3) Sustainable Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 211):

Please advise on the detailed account of the Sustainable Development (SD) Fund in 2013-14 and the estimated expenditure involved in processing applications for the SD Fund and monitoring the implementation of the approved projects.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

The Sustainable Development (SD) Fund provides funding support to projects which help develop a strong public awareness of the concept of SD and encourage sustainable practices in Hong Kong. Six projects were approved in 2013-14, with a total grant of \$6,361,760. Details are as follows:

Project name	Amount of funding awarded (\$)
A Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment on Denim Garments - Guidance for Consumers	1,130,200
Conserve Our Resources When Young	399,050
Community Mushroom Growing Project	494,520
Southern District Sustainable Development Education Programme Project	1,340,950
Energising Kowloon East: Sustainable Development of Made in Hong Kong	1,515,600
Upcycling the Tai Po Community Project	1,481,440

The Secretariat of the Council for Sustainable Development (i.e. the Sustainable Development Division of the Environment Bureau) provides support for processing applications for the SD Fund and monitoring the implementation of the approved projects. The relevant work is taken up by five staff, and the estimated expenditure for 2013-14 is about \$2.338 million.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB347

(Question Serial No.: 4266)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 1):

In Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2014-15, it is mentioned that the Administration will “take follow-up actions having regard to the recommendations of the Task Force on External Lighting in tackling excessive external lighting”. In this regard, would the Government please provide the following information?

1. By District Council, what were the numbers of complaints about light pollution received by the Administration in the past 5 years?
2. What are the details of the implementation of a charter scheme? How many companies or institutions have joined the scheme voluntarily? How can the Administration ensure that the signatory companies or institutions will comply with the charter? Has the Administration reviewed the effectiveness of the scheme? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
3. Since light nuisance can be caused by reflected glare which is common in buildings with glass curtain walls, has the Administration considered taking appropriate mitigation measures? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
4. Does the Administration have any plans to regulate light pollution by legislation? If yes, what are the timetable for legislation and manpower involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

1. The numbers of complaints about external lighting received by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) in the past 5 years are at Annex.
- 2 and 4.
To address the concerns about the light nuisance and energy wastage problems that may be caused by external lighting installations, the Government set up the Task Force on External Lighting (Task

Force) in August 2011, with members drawn from different professional bodies, relevant trades and green groups. The Task Force published on 19 August 2013 the Document for Engaging Stakeholders and the Public to invite comments from the public and stakeholders on the Task Force's findings as well as the proposed switch-off requirement and the preset time, the scope of the requirement and the implementation approach. In respect of the implementation approach, the Task Force invited the public to consider various options, including the introduction of a charter scheme to invite owners of external lighting to pledge to switch off the lighting at the preset time, and the implementation of the switch-off requirement by way of legislation. The engagement exercise was closed on 18 November 2013. The Task Force is carefully considering and analyzing the comments received and will submit its recommendations to the Government.

3. The Development Bureau is studying the practices and experience of other countries and regions in addressing light reflection from buildings.

No. of complaints about external lighting received by EPD

district	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
year					
Central & Western	20	25	20	23	27
Wanchai	44	22	42	30	18
Eastern	22	15	20	22	17
Southern	4	2	9	8	2
Yau Tsim Mong	19	42	41	34	69
Sham Shui Po	13	17	4	9	14
Kowloon City	15	16	15	16	30
Wong Tai Sin	3	6	7	4	5
Kwun Tong	9	7	7	7	9
Tsuen Wan	5	5	13	2	12
Tuen Mun	2	4	8	13	3
Yuen Long	3	4	11	18	11
North	7	9	2	6	3
Tai Po	1	5	2	4	4
Sai Kung	29	14	6	4	9
Sha Tin	9	22	18	16	17
Kwai Ching	5	9	4	7	8
Islands	3	2	5	2	1
Total	213	226	234	225	259

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB348

(Question Serial No.: 5441)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 68):

Provision for the energy programme of the Environment Bureau in 2014–15 is \$9.0 million (39.3%) higher than the revised estimate for 2013–14. This is mainly due to the increased provision for reviewing the regulatory framework for the electricity market. According to the Administration, there will be an increase of 3 posts in 2014–15. What are the estimated expenditure and duties of these posts? Is there any provision earmarked for consultancy studies? When is the relevant review expected to be concluded?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Tai-fai

Reply:

As stipulated in the Scheme of Control Agreements signed between the Government and the two power companies, before implementing any change to the regulatory regime, the Government will take into account all relevant factors and will discuss with the power companies market readiness, potential future changes to the electricity supply regulatory framework and transition issues before 2016. With a view to exploring the feasibility of introducing more competition to the electricity market and whether such action will bring benefits to electricity users, the Environment Bureau has set up a dedicated team and commenced the review of the regulatory framework for the post-2018 electricity market (“the Review”).

The Review will cover a wide range of policy, economic, legal, technical and financial issues that require thorough examination, and entail substantial work, including formulation of possible regulatory options that may be suitable for Hong Kong, handling various consultancy studies with other relevant teams, undertaking a public consultation exercise and engagement activities to gauge the views of the public and various stakeholders, extensive discussion and negotiation with power companies, formulation of implementation plan for possible changes to the regulatory framework, etc.. The estimated expenditure covers the salaries for the three newly created posts in 2014-15, and the provision earmarked for conducting consultancy studies, amounting to \$12.36 million in total.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB349****(Question Serial No.: 5443)**Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment BureauSubhead(No. & title): (-) Not SpecifiedProgramme:Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion(Member Question No.: 70):

What are the expenditure in the past year and the estimated expenditure in 2014-15 of the Environment Bureau on overseas visits? If there are such expenditures, please list in a table the destinations, attendance lists, effectiveness and follow-up work.

Asked by:Hon. LAM Tai-faiReply:

Up to end January 2014, the total expenditure on overseas visits for the Environment Bureau (ENB) in 2013-14 is about HK\$850,000. The estimated expenditure for 2014-15 will be roughly the same as that for 2013-14.

In the past year, ENB has enhanced communication and working relationship with the Mainland and overseas countries through duty visits and exchange of information on environment and energy related topics. ENB will keep abreast of the latest development on environment and energy issues and establish closer link with the Mainland and overseas countries on a need basis. Information on ENB's overseas visits in 2013-14 is provided in the table below:

Financial Year	No. of Total Days	Country	ENB's Officials Involved
2013-14	65	China, South Korea, Singapore, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, South Africa	Secretary for the Environment, Under Secretary, Permanent Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Political Assistant, Administrative Assistant, Press Secretary, Principal Assistant Secretary (Energy)1, Principal Assistant Secretary (Energy)2, Principal Assistant Secretary (Electricity Review), Principal Assistant Secretary (Financial Monitoring), Assistant Secretary (Energy)2, Assistant Secretary (Energy)3, Assistant Secretary (Sustainable Development)2, Assistant Secretary (Electricity Review)1, Assistant Secretary (Electricity Review)2, Chief Electrical and Mechanical Engineer (Electricity Team), Senior Electrical and Mechanical Engineer (Electricity Market Development)1, Electrical and Mechanical Engineer (Electricity Market Development)1, Senior Treasury Accountant (Financial Monitoring)1, Treasury Accountant (Financial Monitoring)1

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB350

(Question Serial No.: 2053)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 1.08):

Regarding the work on the promotion of Green Building and Carbon Audit, please advise:

- a) the work progress of the Steering Committee for the Promotion of Green Building, the expenditure involved, the specific measures to be implemented, as well as the medium and long term targets;
- b) the number of government buildings and public facilities which have conducted carbon audit, the relevant work targets this year, as well as the expenditure and manpower involved;
- c) the number of private organisations participating in the carbon reduction programmes, as well as the specific measures to encourage more private organisations to join the programmes.

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

(a) The inter-departmental Steering Committee for the Promotion of Green Building was set up in January 2013 under the chairmanship of the Secretary for the Environment. The Steering Committee acts as the central coordinating body to coordinate efforts by various bureaux and departments in promoting green building in Hong Kong in a holistic manner. The Steering Committee is reviewing the existing policy initiatives and international experience. Apart from conducting discussion at meetings, the Steering Committee has also organized an engagement forum for stakeholders to seek views and suggestions from relevant professional groups, trades, academic organisations and environmental groups on the promotion of green building. The Steering Committee will continue to liaise with stakeholders and to enhance coordination among departments, with a view to formulating appropriate implementation strategy and detailed proposals for promoting green building developments in both the public and private sectors. These tasks are undertaken by the existing staff. As the staff concerned have other responsibilities, we do not have separate breakdown of the resources involved.

(b) Since the implementation of the guidelines on carbon audit in July 2008, about 530 annual carbon audits have been conducted for about 240 government buildings and public facilities. To take promote carbon

audits, the Government has taken the lead by rolling out a 3-year programme in September 2012 to conduct energy-cum-carbon audits for about 120 government buildings and public facilities. The audits of about 60 buildings and facilities have been completed. In 2014-15, we will continue to implement the 3-year programme and have earmarked around \$5.6 million for this purpose.

(c) The Government has been encouraging the private sector to participate in carbon reduction actions and has published a set of technical guidelines for conducting carbon audits. The Government has also provided funding support for the Carbon Smart 200 Campaign through the Environment and Conservation Fund to incentivize some 200 private enterprises to conduct similar audits. A carbon footprint repository will be launched in 2014-15 for listed companies to disclose information about their carbon audits and their experience in carbon management and relevant measures.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB351

(Question Serial No.: 2054)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 1.10):

Regarding power supply, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) The percentages of various means of power supply in Hong Kong in the past five years;
- (b) The policies to be implemented by the Administration in future to promote renewable and clean energy, as well as the estimate involved;
- (c) The details of the initiatives further implemented in accordance with the “Memorandum of Understanding between the National Energy Administration and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government on Supply of Natural Gas and Electricity to Hong Kong”, the expenditure and estimate involved; and
- (d) The details of the specific initiatives formulated to meet the target of reducing coal-fired power generation significantly by 2020 and the estimate involved.

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

(a)

Most of Hong Kong's energy is either imported directly (as in the case of oil products and coal products), or produced through some intermediate transformation processes using imported fuel inputs (as in the case of electricity and gas). According to figures published at the Hong Kong Energy Statistics Annual Report by the Census and Statistics Department, the sources of different energy supply in Hong Kong in accordance with the final energy requirements in 2009-2012 are in the table below. The figures for 2013 are not yet available.

Various supply according to final energy requirements	Coal Products	Oil Products	Electricity	Gas	Total
Year					
2009	182	129 951	149 366	27 274	306 774
2010	118	119 088	150 705	27 578	297 488
2011	183	117 622	151 590	28 147	297 543
2012	145	114 845	155 064	28 360	298 414

[Unit: terajoule]

(b) On the promotion of renewable energy (RE), the Government is committed to promoting the adoption and development of RE by taking the lead where technically feasible and cost effective. In 2005, the Government issued a technical circular on “Adoption of Energy Efficient Features and Renewable Energy Technologies in Government Projects and Installations”, requiring Government departments to consider the adoption of RE technologies in all new Government buildings and major retrofitting projects in existing Government buildings. Moreover, the Government promulgated a comprehensive target-based green performance framework for new and existing Government buildings in April 2009, which includes setting a target for the application of RE in new Government buildings. Having regard to actual site conditions, the Government has been installing RE systems in various public facilities and venues including Government offices, departmental headquarters, fire stations, prisons, museums, parks, playgrounds, town halls, recreational centres, holiday villages, theatres, Government quarters, hospitals, schools, sewage treatment plants and landfills, etc. In 2013-14, 11 building projects were completed by Architectural Services Department with renewable energy features.

The Environment and Conservation Fund provides funding support for schools and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to set up RE facilities such as solar panels, wind turbines and solar water heaters since 2008. As at end February 2014, a total of 259 projects have been approved for the installation of these facilities, including 235 projects at schools, 6 at camp sites and 4 at organic farms for public use, and 14 at service units of NGOs (such as elderly homes). The Government aims to further promote the use of RE through demonstration of these cases and encourage more residential estates and commercial and industrial buildings to follow suit.

To encourage wider adoption of RE in private buildings and organisations, the Government has been providing tax incentives since 2008 on the capital expenditure incurred in relation to installation of RE power systems in private premises. The capital expenditure of the private organisation's RE power system in building can be deducted over a 5-year period starting from the year of purchase. To facilitate the public in better understanding the application of RE technologies, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has published on its website relevant information, guidance notes and guidelines on RE. It has also launched a thematic website "HK RE Net" (re.emsd.gov.hk) to provide technical details and information on RE.

Regarding our efforts to promote RE as mentioned above, including the installation of RE systems in various public facilities and venues, involves various bureaux and departments. For the Environment Bureau and EMSD, existing manpower is deployed for the activities. As the staff concerned have other responsibilities, we do not have separate breakdown of the resources involved.

(c)

Since the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Energy Cooperation (MOU) between the National Energy Administration of the Central People's Government and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government (HKSARG) in August 2008, the HKSARG and the local power companies have formed a working group to take forward the implementation work. The MOU can ensure the long term and stable supply of natural gas and nuclear electricity from the Mainland. It also assists in reducing electricity generation from coal-fired plants and improving air quality significantly. With the concerted efforts of all parties, the MOU has been implemented gradually, including the extension of nuclear electricity supply from Daya Bay Nuclear Power Station for another 20 years up to 2034 and the completion of the Hong Kong Branch Line of the Second West-East Natural Gas Pipeline in 2012. At present, natural gas from that branch line is being supplied to Hong Kong for power generation.

Since the implementation work of MOU is only part of the duties of existing officers, the relevant resource involved cannot be identified separately.

(d)

As the existing coal-fired generating units will start to retire in the coming years and the electricity supply infrastructure requires long-term planning, we have carried out the review on the future fuel mix for electricity generation in a timely manner, in order to meet the future electricity demand of Hong Kong and to improve the environment. We also launched on 19 March 2014 a three-month public consultation. As existing manpower and resources were deployed for the review, we do not keep a separate account for this specific activity.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB352

(Question Serial No.: 2509)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:1.15):

Regarding the problems of light pollution and energy wastage, please advise on:

- (a) The number of complaints about light pollution received by the Department in the past five years; and
- (b) The Task Force on External Lighting's progress of work, projects for implementation, expenditure and manpower involved and estimate for 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

In the past 5 years, the Environmental Protection Department received 213, 226, 234, 225 and 259 complaints about external lighting respectively.

To address the concerns about the light nuisance and energy wastage problems that may be caused by external lighting installations, the Government set up the Task Force on External Lighting (Task Force) in August 2011, with members drawn from different professional bodies, relevant trades and green groups. The Task Force published on 19 August 2013 the Document for Engaging Stakeholders and the Public to invite comments from the public and stakeholders on the Task Force's findings as well as the proposed switch-off requirement and the preset time, the scope of the requirement and the implementation approach. In respect of the implementation approach, the Task Force invited the public to consider various options, including the introduction of a charter scheme to invite owners of external lighting to pledge to switch off the lighting at the preset time, and the implementation of the switch-off requirement by way of legislation. The engagement exercise was closed on 18 November 2013. The Task Force is carefully considering and analyzing the comments received and will submit its recommendations to the Government.

In 2013-14, \$1 million was allocated to support the Task Force for the stakeholder engagement activities following the publication of the Document for Engaging Stakeholders and the Public in August 2013. As for 2014-15, the Government will consider the recommendations made by the Task Force before deciding on the follow-up actions to be taken and the need for deployment of resources.

The Environment Bureau handles issues related to the Task Force by existing manpower. As the staff concerned have other duties, we do not have a breakdown of the resources involved in the activities mentioned above.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB353

(Question Serial No.: 2466)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (3) Sustainable Development
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 504):

The Bureau has mentioned under Programme (3) of the Budget for 2014-15 financial year, “promote the understanding and application of the SD (sustainable development) principles as well as the SA (sustainability assessment) system among government bureaux and departments.”

To which bureaux and departments did the Bureau promote the above-mentioned initiative in 2012-13 actually? How many times were such activities taken? What were the resources and staffing establishment involved?

Has the Bureau followed up on the situation of the “application (of the SD principles as well as the SA system)” and set indicators for assessing the effectiveness?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply:

The Sustainable Development Division (SDD) of the Environment Bureau provides training sessions and workshops to bureaux and departments regularly to promote the sustainable development (SD) principle and the sustainability assessment (SA) system, as well as familiarising them with the proper application of the relevant computer programme. As to the expenditure on training, in 2012-13, a total of 13 training courses and workshops were conducted with the participation from 42 bureaux and departments in total. Four staff from SDD together with outsourced professional trainers were deployed to undertake the work, involving a total expenditure of about \$510,000.

The SA provides a structured framework to facilitate the integration of sustainability considerations into the policy formulation process. Bureaux and departments are required to conduct an SA for major proposals and new policy initiatives which also enables the bureaux and departments to assess the sustainability implications of their proposals. For the application of the SA system, bureaux and departments conduct an average of about 130 assessments per year. SDD also works closely with bureaux and departments to provide them with assistance and the required technical support in the application of SA system.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB354

(Question Serial No.: 3253)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 591):

- 1) In the financial year 2012-13, what was the actual staffing provision of the Director of Bureau's Office? What were the actual salaries, allowances, job-related allowances, Mandatory Provident Fund contributions or Civil Service Provident Fund contributions respectively for each post/rank?
- 2) In the financial year 2013-14, what was the revised staffing provision of the Director of Bureau's Office? What were the revised salaries, allowances, job-related allowances, Mandatory Provident Fund contributions or Civil Service Provident Fund contributions respectively for each post/rank?
- 3) In the financial year 2014-15, what is the estimated staffing provision of the Director of Bureau's Office? What are the estimated salaries, allowances, job-related allowances, Mandatory Provident Fund contributions or Civil Service Provident Fund contributions respectively for each post/rank?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply:

- 1) In the financial year 2012-13, apart from the Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau, the establishment of the Director of Bureau's Office under Programme (1) also includes 8 civil servants (1 AOSGC and 1 CIO (the latter seconded from ISD), 1 PA, 1 SPS, 1 PSI, 1 PSII, 1 chauffeur and 1 SEO) to provide support for the Office. The total expenditure for the salaries, allowances, job-related allowances, Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) contributions or Civil Service Provident Fund (CSPF) contributions of the civil servants who are providing support is about \$4.37million.
- 2) In the revised estimate for 2013-14, apart from the Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau, the establishment of the Director of Bureau's Office under Programme (1) also includes 9 civil servants (1 AOSGC and 1 CIO (the latter seconded from ISD), 1 PA, 1 SPS, 1 PSI, 1 PSII, 1 personal chauffeur, 1 SEO and 1 ACO) to provide support for the Office. The total

expenditure for the salaries, allowances, job-related allowances, MPF contributions or CSPF contributions of the civil servants who are providing support is about \$5.18 million.

- 3) In the financial year 2014-15, the estimated expenditure on staffing provision and salaries for the Director of Bureau's Office is about the same as the revised estimate for 2013-14.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB355

(Question Serial No.0599)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.26):

The Bureau will create 4 new posts in the coming year. What are the reasons? What are the ranks and salaries of these posts? What will they be responsible for respectively? How much provision is involved in total?

Asked by: Hon. LIAO Cheung-kong, Martin

Reply:

In 2014-15, the Environment Bureau will create four posts with details as follows -

	Number of posts/ ranks	Functions	Salaries for 2014-15 (\$)
(a)	1 Executive Officer II	To strengthen manpower support for the operation of the Sustainable Development Fund	411,780
(b)	1 Senior Administrative Officer	To assist in carrying out the review of the regulatory framework for the post-2018 electricity market	1,153,800
(c)	1 Senior Executive Officer	To assist in carrying out the review of the regulatory framework for the post-2018 electricity market	845,880
(d)	1 Personal Secretary I	To assist in carrying out the review of the regulatory framework for the post-2018 electricity market	356,640

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB356

(Question Serial No.: 2481)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:53):

Please list the expenditure on air tickets and related carbon offsetting for the Secretary for Environment's overseas duty visits in the past three years, as well as the provision for the same for 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon. MO, Claudia

Reply:

The expenditures of air-travelling for duty visits by Secretary for the Environment in the past three years are as follows –

Financial Year	Expenditure on Air-travelling (\$)
2011-12	318,000
2012-13	139,000
2013-14 (up to mid-March)	107,000

As duty visits are arranged on a need basis, we have not separately budgeted for air-travelling for such visits in 2014-15. There are no official expenditures or provisions for "carbon offsetting".

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB357

(Question Serial No.:2482)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 54)

Please inform the Committee of the number of complaints about light pollution handled by the Bureau in the past three years and the relevant details. What is the expenditure earmarked for handling the complaints about light pollution in 2014-15?

Asked by: Hon. MO, Claudia

Reply:

In the past 3 years, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) received 234, 225 and 259 complaints about external lighting respectively. Most of the complaints were related to lighting installations of decorative, promotional or advertising purposes, including shop signs, advertisement boards, video walls, and decorative lighting for building facades and features. Other complaints involved lighting necessary for security, safety or operational reasons, such as construction sites, road/street lighting, car parks, etc.

EPD handles complaints about external lighting by existing manpower and no separate account is provided for this specific activity.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB358

(Question Serial No.: 6188)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 129):

Regarding the expenditure on official entertainment of the Bureau and its departments, would the Administration inform this Committee of:

(1) the number of exceptional occasions where the expenditure per capita for official entertainment lunch and dinner of public officers exceeded the limit, the number of exceptional occasions where approval was given by directorate officers, as well as the amount over the ceiling in the past three years. Please list by bureau/department/public organisation.

(2) the number of violations of guidelines on gifts or souvenirs by public officers during official activities, the number of exceptional occasions where approval was given by directorate officers and the reasons in the past three years. Please list by bureau/department/public organisation.

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

The Civil Service Regulations (CSRs) set out the principles, rules and approval procedures relating to official entertainment. Heads of departments have the delegated authority to authorise all expenditures from the departmental entertainment vote. In addition, according to the Government's internal guidelines, the expenditure limits on entertaining guests should not exceed \$450 per person for lunch and \$600 per person for dinner. Government officers are required to exercise prudent judgement and economy when entertaining guest(s) for official purposes in order to avoid any public perception of extravagance. Where there are sufficient justifications for exceeding the expenditure limits, the departments are required to consider those applications according to the established mechanism and to document properly the justifications for granting such approval.

In line with the Government's green policy, public officers should as far as possible refrain from bestowing gifts/souvenirs to others during the conduct of official activities. According to the existing guidelines, where bestowal of gifts/souvenirs is necessary or unavoidable due to operational, protocol or other reasons, the gift/souvenir items should not be lavish or extravagant and the number should be kept to a minimum. Also, the exchange of gifts/souvenirs should only be made from organisation to organisation.

In the past three years, no officer of this Bureau was subject to disciplinary action for alleged contravention of the CSRs or other government requirements in relation to claiming reimbursement of entertainment expenses or offering gifts/souvenirs.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB359

(Question Serial No.: 6206)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 169):

The Government has announced that it would make all government information released for public consumption machine-readable in digital formats. In respect of this,

- (1) Please provide in the table below details of the government information to be released for public consumption by your Bureau/Department.

Bureau/ Department	Information items that can be released for public consumption	Description of the information	Period of the information	Is the information released in digital formats currently and date of release	If not, will it be converted into digital formats	Digital format already/planned to be used (please choose)			
						Machine- readable, non- proprietary formats (e.g. CSV)	Machine- readable, proprietary formats (e.g. MS Excel, Word)	Non- Machine- readable formats (e.g. JPG, PDF, PNG)	Open- standard formats (e.g. XML)

- (2) Would the Administration indicate the manpower and expenditure involved for releasing government information for public consumption in 2014-15? Will more resources and manpower be provided to your Bureau/Department for handling this task so that the plan can be more effectively implemented?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

- (1) In 2011, the Government launched the public sector information (PSI) portal Data.One (data.one.gov.hk), making available PSI for free use in the development of web services and mobile applications. Currently the portal provides over 2 000 datasets in 15 categories, including Air Quality Health Index, buildings, approved charitable fund-raising activities, food and environmental hygiene, geo-referenced public facility data, image resources, law and order,

marine, news and information, population census statistics, property market statistics, public transport, real-time traffic data, water quality and weather data. These datasets are available in digital formats, including CSV, JPG, JSON, HTML, MDB, PNG, RSS, XLS and XML. Given the large variety and quantity of PSI released for public consumption, we cannot individually list out the data released.

- (2) As announced in the 2014-15 Budget, the Government will make all government data released for public consumption available in machine-readable digital formats from 2015 onwards and bureaux and departments are already compiling or collecting different types of public data. As information in digital format is raw data which requires minimal processing, this initiative can be implemented with departments' existing manpower and no additional resources will be required.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB360

(Question Serial No.:6218)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 196):

Regarding the expenditure for procurement of computer hardware and software by the Bureau/Department, would the Administration advise this Committee:

(1) Does the Government have standardised internal procurement guidelines to provide criteria for the Department to procure or replace computer hardware and software? If yes, what are the details? Do the guidelines require the Department to replace computer hardware and software on a timely basis?

(2) Given that computer hardware and software provider Microsoft will cease to provide support services for its operating platform Windows XP, please advise how many host computers in the Department are using (i) Microsoft Window XP as operating platform, (ii) other operating platforms launched by Microsoft before 2001, (iii) other operating platforms (please specify which version)? What are the percentages of these three in the total number of host computers in the Department? Does the Department plan to replace such outdated operating platforms?

(3) What are the expenditure and criteria for procurement of various kinds of tablet PCs by the Department? What are the models and uses of these tablet PCs? Do these tablet PCs contain confidential information? If yes, what are the details? If no, have tablet PCs used by the Department been installed with data security software? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

President,

(1) The principle adopted by the Government in procuring computer hardware and software is to meet the department's operational needs. Replacement of computer hardware and software will only be considered when they fail to perform their original functions or cannot meet the department's operational needs. Under this principle, ENB/EPD will purchase or renew computer hardware and software to meet operational needs and such purchase will follow the Government's Stores and Procurement Regulations.

(2) There are about 1,800 computers in ENB/EPD. Approximately 50% of these computers are still using Window XP operating system. Owing to operational needs, less than 1% of these computers are still running on operating platforms launched by Microsoft before 2001. ENB/EPD has formulated a migration plan to renew the operating platforms of these computers. The renewal of computers is in progress.

(3) ENB/EPD will purchase tablet PCs to meet its operational needs, primarily to support staff performing outdoor operations. In the financial year of 2013/14, the expenditure of ENB/EPD on the procurement of tablet PCs was HK\$57,500. These tablet PCs include devices of iPad, Android and Windows platforms and they are not used for storing confidential data. The purchased tablet PCs are generally installed with the bundled security software, hence, no extra cost is incurred.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB361

(Question Serial No.: 6536)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 120):

In connection with the provision of public information and gathering of public opinions by means of the Internet, please advise on the following:

- (a) the information regarding the social media platforms set up and operated by your bureau/departments/public bodies or their agents (such as out-sourced contractors or consultants) for the past year in tabulated form (see Annex 1).

Commencement of operation (Month/Year)	Status (keep updating /ceased updating) (as at 31 January 2014)	Government agencies (including policy bureaux/ departments /public bodies/ government consultations)	Name	Social media (Facebook / Flickr/ Google+ /Linked In /Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	Purpose of establishment and no. of updates (as at 31 January 2014)	No. of "Likes"/ No. of subscribers / Average monthly visits (as at 31 January 2014)	Compiling summary of comments and following up on a regular basis (Yes/No)	Rank and No. of officers responsible for the operation (as at 31 January 2014)	Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation (as at 31 January 2014)
			(1)...	(1)...					
			(2)...	(2)...					
			(3)...	(3)...					

- (b) whether the "Guidelines on the Use of Social Media" available on Government intranets give instructions to your department on the ceilings on expenditures for using social media or web-based platforms, such as registration fees, advertising expenditures and value-added services. If yes, what are the details? If not, will the guidelines be revised to set out the reasonable levels of expenditures derived from the use of social media.

- (c) In recent years, governments around the world have introduced systems through which citizens may hand in their online proposals. They have also undertaken that they will give a formal online response if a certain number of citizens have indicated their support of the proposals. Has the Administration examined ways to improve the existing channels for collecting public opinions on the Internet and

evaluate the feasibility of the system of collecting online proposals mentioned above? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

(a)

Commencement of operation (Month/Year)	Status (keep updating /ceased updating) (as at 31 January 2014)	Government agencies (including policy bureaux/ departments /public bodies/ government consultations)	Name	Social media (Facebook /Flickr/ Google+ /Linked In /Sina Weibo/ Twitter/ YouTube)	Purpose of establishment and no. of updates (as at 31 January 2014)	No. of "Likes"/ No. of subscribers/ Average monthly visits (as at 31 January 2014)	Compiling summary of comments and following up on a regular basis (Yes/ No)	Rank and No. of officers responsible for the operation (as at 31 January 2014)	Financial resources involved in the establishment and daily operation (as at 31 January 2014)
Since June 2013	On-going	Environment Bureau	Public Engagement (PE) Process on Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Charging	Facebook	Developed a social media platform to promote and publicise the PE on MSW charging as well as related issues on waste reduction at source Updated as and when needed	Number of "Like" (as at 14 March 2014): about 4 100 Total number of persons visiting the Facebook (as at 14 March 2014): about 18 700 [Note: the contractor is unable to retrieve the figure as at 31 Jan since the returns are on cumulative basis]	Not Applicable	Senior Town Planner (Sustainable Development) (One Person) Town Planner (Sustainable Development) (One Person) Project Officer (Sustainable Development) (One Person)	This service is provided by an existing contractor, and the resources incurred are absorbed by the contractor accordingly and cannot be itemised

- (b) On using social media, the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) provides technical advice and support to bureaux and departments (B/Ds) through the provision of information security and other general guidelines for their reference, including setting up a thematic webpage to share information on as well as tips of using social media. As regards the expenditure for using social media, it would be up to individual B/Ds to decide according to their operational needs.
- (c) Members of the public may submit their views to the Environment Bureau through various channels (e.g. email, telephone and letter, etc.) at present. For specific issues, we will collect public opinion through various forms and channels. We will follow up the public opinion accordingly.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB362****(Question Serial No.: 6552)**Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment BureauSubhead(No. & title): (000) Operational expensesProgramme:Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion (Member Question No.: 158):

In respect of the public relations expenses of various government departments in the past year, please inform this Committee of:

- (1) The expenses this bureau and the subordinate departments spent on advertisement on mainstream or online media as well as the relevant details in table form (please see Annex 1):

Published/ Broadcasted Time (Month/Year)	Status (one- off/ongoing/ done) (as at 31 January 2014)	Government or Public Organisation (including policy bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	Name of Advertisement	Name of Publisher or Broadcasting Media (newspaper/ radio station/ TV station/ advertising panel/car wrap advertising/ website, etc)	Purpose and Frequency of the Advertisement (as at 31 January 2014)	Rank and No. of Responsible Person(s) (as at 31 January 2014)	Financial resources for the expenses involved (as at 31 January 2014)
			(1).. (2).. (3)...	(1).. (2).. (3)...			

- (2) The expenses this bureau and the subordinate departments spent on sponsoring media to provide programmes or materials as well as the relevant details (please see Annex 2):

Programme/ Materials Published/ Broadcasted Time (Month/Year)	Status (one- off/ongoing/ done) (as at 31 January 2014)	Sponsoring Government or Public Organisation (including policy bureau/	Name of Programme/ Materials	Name of Publisher or Broadcasting Media (newspaper/ radio station/	Purpose and Frequency of the Sponsorship (as at 31 January	Rank and No. of Responsible Person(s) (as at 31 January	Expenses (as at 31 January 2014)

		department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)		TV station/ website, etc)	2014)	2014)	
			(1)... (2)... (3)...	(1)... (2)... (3)...			

(3) The expenses on and details of the Advertorial of this bureau and the subordinate departments (please see Annex 3):

Programme/ Materials Published/ Broadcasted Time (Month/Year)	Status (one-off/ ongoing/ done) (as at 31 January 2014)	Government Organisation (including policy bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	Name of Programme / Materials	Name of Publisher or Broadcasting Media (newspaper/ radio station/ TV station/ website, etc)	Purpose and Frequency of the Programme/ Materials (as at 31 January 2014)	Rank and No. of Responsible Person(s) (as at 31 January 2014)	Non- government organisation/ Personnel Responsible for Writing Advertisement Script (if any)	Expenses (as at 31 January 2014)
			(1)... (2)... (3)...	(1)... (2)... (3)...				

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

- (1) Please refer to Annex 1 of the Reply for details of the expenditures of placing advertisements on mainstream or online media by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) in 2013-14.
- (2) In 2013-14, the EPD had not sponsored any media for the provision of programmes or related materials.
- (3) Please refer to Annex 2 of the Reply for details of the expenditures spent on advertorials by the EPD in 2013-14.

The details of the expenditures of placing advertisements on mainstream or online media are detailed as follows:

Published/ Broadcasted Time (Month/Year)	Status (one- off/ongoing/ done) (as at 31 January 2014)	Government or Public Organisation (including policy bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	Name of Advertisement	Name of Publisher or Broadcasting Media (newspaper/ radio station/ TV station/ advertising panel/car wrap advertising/ website, etc)	Purpose and Frequency of the Advertisement (as at 31 January 2014)	Rank and No. of Responsible Person(s) (as at 31 January 2014) Note (1)	Financial resources for the expenses involved (as at 31 January 2014) (Advertising expenditure)
February 2013	Done	EPD	Advertising script for environmental protection during Lunar New Year	Newspapers	To remind the public to continue the habit of waste reduction and recovery during Lunar New Year, and to provide outlets for festive items. Frequency: advertised once	One Environmental Protection Officer (EPO)	\$57,940
From April 2013 to March 2014	On-going	EPD	Ban against Idling of Motor Vehicle Engines	Radio stations	To publicise the prohibition of idling engines	One Environmental Protection Inspector	\$120,000
May 2013	On-going	EPD	Clean Shorelines	TV and radio stations	To spread the message of maintaining clean shorelines	One Administrative Officer (AO)	Note (2)
From June to August 2013	Done	EPD	Bring your own bag (BYOB)	Lightbox advertising	To publicise BYOB	One Assistant Environmental Protection Officer (AEPO)	\$83,000
From July to August 2013	Done	EPD	The Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign	Newspapers, magazines, outdoor, car wrap, vehicle stations and website advertisements	To publicise the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign	One Executive Officer II	\$1.5 million
September 2013	Done	EPD	The Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign	Newspapers, magazines, outdoor, car wrap, vehicle stations and website advertisements	Mid-Autumn Festival promotional activities to publicise the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign	One Executive Officer II	\$500,000

Published/ Broadcasted Time (Month/Year)	Status (one- off/ongoing/ done) (as at 31 January 2014)	Government or Public Organisation (including policy bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	Name of Advertisement	Name of Publisher or Broadcasting Media (newspaper/ radio station/ TV station/ advertising panel/car wrap advertising/ website, etc)	Purpose and Frequency of the Advertisement (as at 31 January 2014)	Rank and No. of Responsible Person(s) (as at 31 January 2014) Note (1)	Financial resources for the expenses involved (as at 31 January 2014) (Advertising expenditure)
From November 2013 to December 2014	Done	EPD	The Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign	Outdoor, car wrap, vehicle stations	To publicise the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign	One Executive Officer II	\$500,000
December 2013 to January 2014	Done	EPD	The Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign	Newspapers, magazines, outdoor, car wrap, vehicle stations and website advertisements	Christmas and New Year promotional activities to publicise the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign	One Executive Officer II	\$2.5 million
January to February 2014	On going	EPD	The Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign	Newspapers, magazines, outdoor, car wrap, vehicle stations and website advertisements	Chinese New Year promotional activities to publicise the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign	One Executive Officer II	\$3 million (As at February 2014)
February to March 2014	On going	EPD	The Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign	Outdoor, car wrap, vehicle stations and website advertisements	To publicise the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign	One Executive Officer II	\$2 million (As at March 2014)
From July to August 2013	Done	EPD	BYOB	Radio stations	To publicise BYOB	One AEPO	\$113,202
August 2013	Done	The Task Force on External Lighting	The stakeholders and the public engagement exercise of the Task Force on External Lighting	Newspapers	To invite the public to attend the public forums organized by the Task Force on External Lighting. Frequency: advertised once	One Senior AO	\$46,721
August 2013	Done	EPD	The subsidy programme for the replacement of catalytic converters	Newspapers	To publicise the subsidy programme and commencement of	One EPO	\$16,000

Published/ Broadcasted Time (Month/Year)	Status (one- off/ongoing/ done) (as at 31 January 2014)	Government or Public Organisation (including policy bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	Name of Advertisement	Name of Publisher or Broadcasting Media (newspaper/ radio station/ TV station/ advertising panel/car wrap advertising/ website, etc)	Purpose and Frequency of the Advertisement (as at 31 January 2014)	Rank and No. of Responsible Person(s) (as at 31 January 2014) Note (1)	Financial resources for the expenses involved (as at 31 January 2014) (Advertising expenditure)
			and oxygen sensors of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) / petrol taxis and LPG light buses		application. Frequency: advertised once		
From August 2013 to March 2014	On going	EPD	The subsidy programme for the replacement of catalytic converters and oxygen sensors of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) / petrol taxis and LPG light buses	Radio stations	To publicise the subsidy programme	One EPO	\$70,000
From November 2013 to February 2014	Done	EPD	Posters and banners – to publicise the message that the landfills would be fully filled up	Piers in Central and the outlying islands	To publicise the message that the landfills would be fully filled up. Frequency: advertised for 3 months only	One EPO	\$188,775 (As at March 2014)
From November 2013 to February 2014	Done	Environment Bureau/ EPD	Waste Reduction (Japan Ecotour) - to introduce the development and technologies of incineration facilities in Japan	First Ferry (ferries plying between Central and Cheung Chau and between Central and Mui Wo)	To promote waste reduction and introduce the development and technologies of incineration facilities in Japan. Frequency: advertised for 3 months in total	One EPO	\$115,500 (As at March 2014)
December 2013	Done	EPD	To publicise the new Air Quality Health Index (AQHI)	Buses and lightbox advertising (posters) at MTR stations	To publicise the new AQHI. Frequency: displayed for 3 weeks	One EPO	\$528,000

Published/ Broadcasted Time (Month/Year)	Status (one- off/ongoing/ done) (as at 31 January 2014)	Government or Public Organisation (including policy bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	Name of Advertisement	Name of Publisher or Broadcasting Media (newspaper/ radio station/ TV station/ advertising panel/car wrap advertising/ website, etc)	Purpose and Frequency of the Advertisement (as at 31 January 2014)	Rank and No. of Responsible Person(s) (as at 31 January 2014) Note (1)	Financial resources for the expenses involved (as at 31 January 2014) (Advertising expenditure)
December 2013	On going	EPD	To publicise the new AQHI	TV and radio stations	To publicise the new AQHI		Note (2)
From December 2013 to January 2014	Done	EPD	To publicise indoor air quality	Advertisements in MTR stations and train compartments	To promote the Indoor Air Quality Certification Scheme and good indoor air quality	One EPO	\$550,000
From December 2013 to January 2014	Done	EPD	Hong Kong: Blueprint for Sustainable Use of Resources 2013- 2022 (Blueprint)	Outdoor, car wrap and website advertisements	To publicise the Blueprint	One Executive Officer I	\$2.222 million
January 2014	Done	EPD	Advertising script for environmental protection during Lunar New Year	Newspapers	To remind the public to continue the habit of waste reduction and recovery during Lunar New Year, and to promote the Peach Blossom Tree Recycling Campaign. Frequency: advertised twice	One EPO	\$75,360
January 2014	Done	EPD	Safe handling of clinical waste	Digital media inside lift lobbies of offices and commercial buildings	To enhance the safety awareness of medical personnel working in commercial buildings in handling clinical waste Frequency: broadcast for 14 days in 158 commercial buildings	One EPO	\$260,000

Published/ Broadcasted Time (Month/Year)	Status (one- off/ongoing/ done) (as at 31 January 2014)	Government or Public Organisation (including policy bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	Name of Advertisement	Name of Publisher or Broadcasting Media (newspaper/ radio station/ TV station/ advertising panel/car wrap advertising/ website, etc)	Purpose and Frequency of the Advertisement (as at 31 January 2014)	Rank and No. of Responsible Person(s) (as at 31 January 2014) Note (1)	Financial resources for the expenses involved (as at 31 January 2014) (Advertising expenditure)
From January to March 2014	Done	EPD	Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Recycling Programme	Short videos on buses and at MTR stations	To publicise and promote the WEEE Recycling Programme	One EPO	\$283,600
From January to August 2014	On going	EPD	BYOB	Bus wrap advertising	To publicise BYOB - 50 buses	One AEPO	\$1 million Note (3)
From January 2014 to January 2015	On going	EPD	BYOB	Tram wrap advertising	To publicise BYOB - 1 tram	One AEPO	\$676,800 Note (3)
From September 2013 to January 2014	Done	Environment Bureau	Public Engagement Process on Municipal Solid Waste Charging	Announcements of Public Interest (Radio/ TV broadcasting, advertising panels above escalators in MTR stations/district newspapers)	To publicise the public engagement process	One Senior Town Planner (Sustainable Development) One Town Planner (Sustainable Development) One Project Officer	\$439,000 Note (3)

Note (1): Related officers have to handle other duties concurrently.

Note (2): The advertisement was broadcasted during government free air time slot, as such, no additional expenditure was involved.

Note (3): No breakdowns of advertising and production fees.

The details of the expenditures spent on advertorials are detailed as follows:

Programme/ Materials Published/ Broadcasted Time (Month/Year)	Status (one- off/ongoing/ done) (as at 31 January 2014)	Government Organisation (including policy bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	Programme / Materials	Publisher or Broadcasting Media (newspaper/ radio station/ TV station/ website, etc)	Purpose and Frequency of the Programme/ Materials (as at 31 January 2014)	Rank and No. of Responsible Person(s) (as at 31 January 2014)	Non- government organisation/ Personnel Responsible for Writing Advertisement Script (if any)	Expenses (as at 31 January 2014) (Advertising expenditure)
February 2013	Done	EPD	The "Love Food Waste Not" summit and the Source Separation of Waste Award Presentation Ceremony	Newspapers	To encourage the public to participate in the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign and separate waste at source and to enhance the public's knowledge of waste management. Frequency: advertised twice	One EPO		\$303,000
March 2013	Done	EPD	The 10th anniversary of the Indoor Air Quality Certification Scheme	Newspapers	To promote the Indoor Air Quality Certification Scheme Frequency: advertised once	One EPO		\$638,000
June 2013	Done	Environment Bureau	The Blueprint and the improvement measures for the landfill in Tseung Kwan O	Newspapers	To promote the Blueprint and respond the views of community on the extension of the landfill in Tseung Kwan O Frequency: advertised	One Senior Information Officer		\$478,412

Programme/ Materials Published/ Broadcasted Time (Month/Year)	Status (one- off/ongoing/ done) (as at 31 January 2014)	Government Organisation (including policy bureau/ department/ public organisation/ government advisory body)	Programme / Materials	Publisher or Broadcasting Media (newspaper/ radio station/ TV station/ website, etc)	Purpose and Frequency of the Programme/ Materials (as at 31 January 2014)	Rank and No. of Responsible Person(s) (as at 31 January 2014)	Non- government organisation/ Personnel Responsible for Writing Advertisement Script (if any)	Expenses (as at 31 January 2014) (Advertising expenditure)
					once			

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB363****(Question Serial No.: 0717)**

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title): Not Specified

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 20):

Regarding the Scheme of Control Agreements of the two power companies, would the Government provide the following information:

1. Please list in table form the number of incidents affecting electricity supply of the two power companies in each of the past five years, the duration of the incidents; whether casualties were involved (including outsourcing workers) and whether fines were imposed in accordance with the mechanism.
2. Are there any provisions in the current Scheme of Control Agreements which protect the safety of electrical workers (including outsourcing workers)? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons, and will relevant provisions be included in future?
3. Does the Administration have any measures to ensure the safety of electrical workers? What are the details and expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

1. The number of incidents which affected the electricity supply of the two power companies and the number of casualties involved in the past 5 years are tabulated as follows:

CLP Power Hong Kong Ltd ("CLP")	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
No. of incidents affecting electricity supply ^{#1}	2393	2427	2235	2421	2372
Average duration of electricity supply interruption (hour/incident)	1.33	1.33	1.19	1.67	1.28
No. of casualties involved (including outsourcing workers)	0	0	2 ^{#2}	0	0

The Hongkong Electric Company, Limited ("HEC")	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
No. of incidents affecting electricity supply ^{#1}	270	359	312	343	307

Average duration of electricity supply interruption (hour/incident)	1.31	1.24	1.28	1.17	1.29
No. of casualties involved (including outsourcing workers)	0	1 ^{#3}	0	0	0

#1 : This includes incidents beyond the control of the power companies (e.g. inclement weather, failure of customers' equipment, incidents caused by the third party, etc.)

#2 : Only CLP employees was involved in the injury

#3 : Only an HEC employee was involved in the injury

In the past 5 years, we did not receive reports of fatalities from the two power companies.

The Scheme of Control Agreement provides for incentive and penalty schemes which cover electricity supply reliability of the two power companies. In this regard, if the electricity supply reliability is lower than the prescribed level, the permitted rate of return of the power companies will be deducted by 0.01%. By the same token, to encourage the power companies to provide better service, if the electricity supply reliability is higher than the prescribed level, the power companies may enjoy an extra 0.01% of permitted rate of return. In the past five years, the electricity supply reliability of the two power companies was above the prescribed level, and hence there was no deduction of the permitted rate of return.

2. The Scheme of Control Agreement provides the Government with a framework for regulating power companies and electricity-related activities. The Electricity Ordinance already covers measures for protecting the safety of electrical workers.
3. The Electricity Ordinance (Cap 406) stipulates that electrical work can only be carried out by a registered electrical worker or an authorized person or under the supervision of a registered electrical worker of an appropriate grade. The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has, on the basis of the Ordinance, developed a code of practices on technical and work safety, and conducts routine enforcement actions to protect the safety of electrical workers, including inspecting operation of electrical work, handling notifications of unsafe electrical installations, investigating electricity incidents, prosecuting and imposing disciplinary actions against electrical workers and contractors who are in breach of the Ordinance. EMSD also carries out publicity activities to educate the industry, e.g. organizing talks and seminars, producing educational videos on electrical safety, issuing regular publications on electrical safety, etc., to enhance the safety awareness of electrical workers.

As the relevant officers undertake various tasks related to the Electricity Ordinance, we do not have a breakdown of the expenditure for implementing measures to protect the safety of electrical workers.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB364

(Question Serial No.: 0718)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 21):

Regarding the public consultation on the future fuel mix for power generation and the review of the regulatory framework for the electricity market beyond 2018, would the Administration provide the following information:

1. When will the above two work items commence? How long will they last? What are the relevant manpower arrangements and estimated expenditure?
2. Please advise on the details of these two work items. Will the Administration consider their impacts on employment, particularly the personnel engaged in electrical works, as well as the relevant training work? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

(1) &(2)

Regarding the public consultation on the fuel mix for electricity generation, as the existing coal-fired generating units will start to retire in the coming years, and the electricity supply infrastructure requires long-term planning, we have carried out the review on the future fuel mix for electricity generation in a timely manner, in order to meet the future electricity demand of Hong Kong and to improve the environment. We also launched on 19 March 2014 a three-month public consultation, which will end on 18 June 2014. We will map out the way forward upon completion of the public consultation. As existing manpower and resources were deployed for the review, we do not keep a separate account for this specific activity.

Regarding the review of the regulatory framework for the post-2018 electricity market ("the Review"), as stipulated in the Scheme of Control Agreements signed between the Government and the two power companies, before implementing any change to the regulatory regime, the Government will take into account all relevant factors and will discuss with the power companies market readiness, potential future changes to the electricity supply regulatory framework and transition issues before 2016. With a view to exploring the feasibility of introducing more competition to the electricity market and whether such action will bring

benefits to electricity users, the Environment Bureau has set up a dedicated team and commenced the Review. The Review will cover a wide range of policy, economic, legal, technical and financial issues that require thorough examination, and entail substantial work, including formulation of possible regulatory options that may be suitable for Hong Kong, handling various consultancy studies with other relevant teams, undertaking a public consultation exercise and engagement activities to gauge the views of the public and various stakeholders, extensive discussion and negotiation with power companies, formulation of implementation plan for possible changes to the regulatory framework, etc.. The estimated expenditure covers the salaries for the three newly created posts in 2014-15, and the provision earmarked for conducting consultancy studies, amounting to \$12.36 million in total.

In carrying out the above reviews, the Government will duly consider and carefully manage the possible impacts brought by the outcome of the review on local employment by the two power companies. Depending on the outcome of the reviews and the employment situation of the electricity market prevailing at the time, it is difficult to ascertain the actual impact on employment at this stage.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB365

(Question Serial No. 1183)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.18):

Regarding the recommendations made by the Task Force on External Lighting to solve the problem of excessive external lighting, what are the specific follow-up actions taken by the Environment Bureau, the expenditure and manpower involved, as well as the implementation timetable?

Asked by: Hon. TSE Wai-chuen, Tony

Reply:

To address the concerns about the light nuisance and energy wastage problems that may be caused by external lighting installations, the Government set up the Task Force on External Lighting (Task Force) in August 2011, with members drawn from different professional bodies, relevant trades and green groups. The Task Force published on 19 August 2013 the Document for Engaging Stakeholders and the Public to invite comments from the public and stakeholders on the Task Force's findings as well as the proposed switch-off requirement and the preset time, the scope of the requirement and the implementation approach. In respect of the implementation approach, the Task Force invited the public to consider various options, including the introduction of a charter scheme to invite owners of external lighting to pledge to switch off the lighting at the preset time, and the implementation of the switch-off requirement by way of legislation. The engagement exercise was closed on 18 November 2013. The Task Force is carefully considering and analyzing the comments received and will submit its recommendations to the Government.

In 2013-14, \$1 million was allocated to support the Task Force for the stakeholder engagement activities following the publication of the Document for Engaging Stakeholders and the Public in August 2013. As for 2014-15, the Government will consider the recommendations made by the Task Force before deciding on the follow-up actions to be taken and the need for deployment of resources.

The Environment Bureau handles issues related to the Task Force by existing manpower. As the staff concerned have other duties, we do not have a breakdown of the resources involved in the activities mentioned above.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB366

(Question Serial No.:0152)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:83)

What are the estimated salaries and allowances of the Under Secretary for the Environment and Political Assistant to Secretary for the Environment in 2014-15?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yuk-man

Reply:

For budgetary purposes, the provisions for the salary in respect of the positions of Under Secretary for the Environment and Political Assistant to Secretary for the Environment for 2014-15 are \$2.54 million and \$1.18 million respectively.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB367

(Question Serial No.: 5255)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 31):

What is the 2014-15 estimate for the Environment Bureau's duty visits or exchanges to the Mainland? Please advise on the themes of the duty visits or exchanges to the Mainland planned for 2014-15. How will the Administration prevent activities irrelevant to official duties from taking place during duty visits outside Hong Kong? And how will the Administration prevent applications for revising visit destinations from becoming a mere formality?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yuk-man

Reply:

Officers of the Environment Bureau will conduct duty visits outside Hong Kong in 2014-15 with regard to operational needs, including promoting regional cooperation with the Mainland, further strengthening cooperation and exchange with Macau and Taiwan, attending relevant conferences, etc. There are no specific plans for the time being.

Duty visits, if publicly funded, are subject to control under relevant regulations and guidelines to ensure effective monitoring and proper use of public funds. There is control on aspects, such as duty visits should only be conducted when there are strong operational reasons; all duty visits should obtain prior approval formally and should avoid non-official activities; the officers concerned should provide all necessary information in respect of the proposed visit as far as possible when submitting the application; if there are any subsequent changes to the arrangements, the officers concerned should inform the approving officers as soon as possible who should then assess whether re-consideration of the applications is needed.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB368

(Question Serial No.: 5070)

Head: (137) Government Secretariat : Environment Bureau
Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Power
Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment (Ms. Anissa WONG)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 125):

Regarding the work on reviewing the future fuel mix for power generation under the Programme, please inform this Committee of:

- 1) The anticipated time when the public consultation will be carried out and the expenditure and manpower involved;
- 2) The anticipated date when the public consultation will be completed and the time when the formulation of strategies will be completed.

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

As the existing coal-fired generating units will start to retire in the coming years and the electricity supply infrastructure requires long-term planning, we have carried out the review on the future fuel mix for electricity generation in a timely manner, in order to meet the future electricity demand of Hong Kong and to improve the environment. We also launched on 19 March 2014 a three-month public consultation, which will end on 18 June 2014. We will map out the way forward upon completion of the public consultation.

As existing manpower and resources were deployed for the review, we do not keep a separate account for this specific activity.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB369

(Question Serial No. 2263)

Head: (704) Capital Works Reserve Fund: Drainage

Subhead (No. & title): (4406DS) Shek Wu Hui sewage treatment works—further expansion phase 1A—advance works, consultants' fees and investigation

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (CHUNG Kum-wah, Daniel)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 51):

Regarding Subhead 4406DS “Shek Wu Hui sewage treatment works—further expansion phase 1A—advance works, consultants' fees and investigation”, please advise on the works involved for the expenditure incurred in 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

Regarding 4406DS “Shek Wu Hui sewage treatment works—further expansion phase 1A—advance works, consultants' fees and investigation”, the works involved in 2014-15 are as follows:

- (i) advance works: the upgrading, from secondary to tertiary treatment level, of one existing bioreactor and two existing final sedimentation tanks into one membrane bioreactor and associated works.
- (ii) design and investigation work: to engage engineering consultants to conduct detailed design and site investigation for the main construction works, which includes the upgrading, reconstruction and expansion of sewage and sludge treatment facilities of the sewage treatment works, in order to increase the sewage treatment capacity to 133,000 cubic metres per day to meet the development needs of Sheung Shui, Fanling and nearby areas.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB370

(Question Serial No. 5879)

Head: (704) Capital Works Reserve Fund: Drainage
Subhead (No. & title): (4276DS) Sha Tin sewage treatment works, stage 3 extension
Programme: Not Specified
Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (CHUNG Kum-wah, Daniel)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 62):

Regarding Subhead 4276DS "Sha Tin sewage treatment works, stage 3 extension", please advise on:

1. the projects involved for the expenditure incurred in 2013-14; and
2. the projects involved for the expenditure incurred in 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

1. & 2. Subhead 4276DS "Sha Tin sewage treatment works, stage 3 extension" was completed in 2012 and the sewage treatment facilities involved have already commenced operation. The expenditures incurred last year and this year are mainly for the account finalisation of payments for the works of the ultra-violet disinfection facilities, sewage treatment facilities and odour control facilities.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB371

(Question Serial No. 1131)

Head: (704) Capital Works Reserve Fund: Drainage
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: Not Specified
Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (CHUNG Kum-wah, Daniel)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 84):

Regarding the programme *Environmental Protection—Sewerage and sewage treatment* under this head, the Category B Project “Improve the Drainage System of the Villages in Southern District” with the Subhead 4400DS cannot be found. However, according to the Drainage Services Department, this project is now in the preliminary design stage. In this connection, please advise on:

1. whether the project will not progress in the coming financial year as no budget allocations will be provided for this project in the coming financial year;
2. the current progress and timetable of the project; and
3. whether the Administration will expedite the project so as to improve the environmental hygiene of the villages involved.

Asked by: Hon.KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

The Drainage Services Department is now carrying out the investigation and preliminary design for the sewerage works in Pok Fu Lam area. The works are currently in the preliminary design stage. Upon completion of the preliminary design, we will consult the public and the Southern District Council on the proposed sewer alignments, and the location and outlook of the sewage pumping station. If the proposal is supported, we will gazette the works under the Roads (Works, Use and Compensation) Ordinance (Cap. 370) as applied by Section 26 of the Water Pollution Control (Sewerage) Regulation (Cap. 358 sub. leg.). After the works are authorised, we will complete the design work and prepare tender documents as soon as possible, and arrangement for the necessary land resumption will be carried out in parallel. Then, we will seek funding approval from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council in accordance with the procedures for Public Works Programme. Under normal circumstances, the preparation work mentioned above before funding application takes about 3 years to complete. Upon funding approval, the works are expected to complete within the 4-year construction period and we will expedite the works progress as far as practicable.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB372

(Question Serial No. 2957)

Head: (704) Capital Works Reserve Fund: Drainage

Subhead(No. & title): (4382DS) Sewerage at Clear Water Bay Road, Pik Shui Sun Tsuen and west of Sai Kung town

Programme: Not Specified

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services(CHUNG Kum-wah, Daniel)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question(Member Question No. 45):

Regarding Subhead 4382DS “Sewerage at Clear Water Bay Road, Pik Shui Sun Tsuen and west of Sai Kung town” under “Environment—Environmental Protection—Sewerage and sewage treatment”, the approved project estimate (APE) for “Sewerage at Clear Water Bay Road, Pik Shui Sun Tsuen and west of Sai Kung town” is about \$359 million, whereas the actual expenditure up to 31 March 2013 is only about \$0.89 million. Of the remaining APE of about \$358 million, the revised estimate for 2013-14 is only about \$80 million and the estimate for 2014-15 is about \$84 million.

What is the timetable for drawing down the remaining APE? How to speed up the progress of works? Will the Administration set out in detail the allocation of resources for various facilities involved in this project? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. QUAT, Elizabeth

Reply:

The project 4382DS commenced in January 2013 for completion in early 2017. The actual expenditures as at 31 March 2013 were rather low because the works at the initial stage mainly involved site formation and construction of site offices. Moreover, since the works involve laying of sewers in villages, our engineering staff need to take time to discuss in detail the working arrangement with village representatives and villagers, in order to minimize the inconvenience caused to them. Also, for the works on laying of trunk sewers along Clear Water Bay Road, our engineering staff need to liaise with relevant departments to formulate temporary traffic arrangements and carry out investigation of underground utilities according to the actual site conditions. Therefore, the actual expenditures of the works at the initial stage were relatively lower but will gradually increase later on. DSD will continue to closely monitor the works progress, to ensure that the

works are completed smoothly according to the scheduled programme as set out in the construction contract, and speed up the works progress as far as practicable.

Details of the resources allocation involved in the project are as follows:

	APE (HK\$ million)
Construction of sewers in villages	110
Construction of gravity trunk sewers	93
Construction of a sewage pumping station and rising mains	36
Ancillary works and environmental mitigation measures	5
Consultant's fees and remuneration of resident site staff	33
Contingencies	10
Provision for price adjustment	72
Total	359

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB373

(Question Serial No.:2859)

Head: (705) Capital Works Reserve Fund : Civil Engineering

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:50):

Subhead: 5172DR Organic Waste Treatment Facilities (OWTF) - Phase 1

Tender has been invited for the OWTF-Phase 1 in Siu Ho Wan, North Lantau, which is expected to commence operation in 2016. Would the Administration advise:

- 1) What are the manpower and expenditure involved in the preliminary work of the OWTF? What are the expenditures for the feasibility study and the environmental impact assessment?
- 2) What are the estimated manpower and expenditure for the development of the OWTF in the coming year (2014-2015)? What are the posts and staff establishment involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Chi-chuen

Reply:

- 1) The preliminary work of the first phase of the Organic Waste Treatment Facilities (OWTF) covers mainly feasibility study, environmental impact assessment, and tendering for the Design-Build-Operate (DBO) contract. The total estimated expenditure involved is about \$13.62 million. As planning and management of the treatment facilities are an integral part of our waste management work, we do not have a breakdown on the manpower involved.
- 2) In the coming year (2014-15), the estimated expenditure for the implementation of the DBO project in the first phase of OWTF is \$212 million.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB374

(Question Serial No.: 2261)

Head: (705) Capital Works Reserve Fund: Civil Engineering

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.: 49)

Regarding 5180DR Development of the waste electrical and electronic equipment treatment and recycling facility, please advise on the projects for which the expenditure is incurred in 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

We plan to develop a modern waste electrical and electronic equipment treatment and recycling facility at the EcoPark in Tuen Mun, with an estimated expenditure of \$536.1 million. The estimated project expenditure of \$56.3 million for 2014-15 is mainly for the upfront costs of the project, including the design and engineering expenses, etc.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB375

(Question Serial No.: 5834)

Head: (44) Environmental Protection Department

Subhead(No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection (Ms. Anissa WONG)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No.:375):

Will resources be allocated to examine whether mandatory Micro-climate Studies should be required of all new buildings? If yes, what are the details, such as the work schedule and estimated expenditure? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Building control is not under the purview of the Environmental Protection Department.