

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**DEVB(W)085**

**(Question Serial No. 2112)**

Head: (39) Drainage Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): Not specified

Programme: (1) Stormwater Drainage

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (TONG Ka Hung, Edwin)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

What is the expenditure on the replacement and rehabilitation works of stormwater drainage systems conducted by the Drainage Services Department (DSD)? Besides, which districts (by District Council district) are hard hit by ageing stormwater drains? What is the total length of these ageing stormwater drains? Do they overlap with the existing footpaths or carriageways?

Asked by: Hon WONG Pik-wan, Helena (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 67)

Reply:

*According to Rule 49 of the Finance Committee Procedures, special meetings of the Finance Committee are convened to examine the annual Estimates of Expenditure prepared by the Government in support of the Appropriation Bill.*

*Expenditure charged to the Capital Works Reserve Fund does **not** form part of the Appropriation Bill. As such, questions relating to expenditure under the Fund are **not** relevant to the examination of the Estimates of Expenditure or the Appropriation Bill.*

The estimated expenditure on replacing and rehabilitating stormwater drainage facilities under DSD's maintenance programme in 2018-19 is \$30 million.

There are about 2 400 kilometres (km) of underground stormwater drains in Hong Kong. Many of them have been in service for decades (e.g. about 1 100 km of them have been in use for 30 years or more) and are suffering from ageing and deterioration. Noting the scale of the ageing problem, additional resources are required to cope with the increasing replacement and rehabilitation (R&R) needs in the form of public works projects. Based on the findings of a consultancy study, a territory-wide R&R programme (172CD) has been formulated for the pipelines with a high R&R priority. The programme, involving surveying the condition of about 168 km of drains and rehabilitating about 41 km of drains, is to be carried out in phases.

DSD plans to seek funding for upgrading part of 172CD (i.e. stage 1 works) to Category A status in mid-2018 so as to survey the condition of about 35 km of drains and rehabilitate about 11 km of drains distributed throughout the territory. The distribution of the

underground stormwater drains to be rehabilitated under stage 1 of 172CD is tabulated below:

District	Length (km)
Central & Western	0.6
Eastern District	0.3
Islands	0.3
Southern District	0.4
Wan Chai	0.5
Kowloon City	0.8
Kwai Tsing	1.0
Kwun Tong	0.6
Sai Kung	0.2
Sham Shui Po	0.7
Sha Tin	0.8
Tsuen Wan	0.6
Wong Tai Sin	0.2
Yau Tsim Mong	0.4
North District	0.8
Tai Po	0.9
Tuen Mun	1.2
Yuen Long	0.4
Total:	10.7 (about 11)

Most of stormwater drains are located underneath public roads and footpaths. In carrying out condition surveys and/or rehabilitation works, DSD will consider measures to reduce the impacts on traffic flow whenever possible. These measures can include trenchless construction and traffic impact assessments to ascertain that the surveys and/or works will not significantly affect the traffic on surrounding/nearby roads.

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