Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2013-14

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)110

Question Serial No.

1164

Head: 39-Drainage Services Department Subhead (No. & title): 000 Operational Expenses

Programme: (4) Stormwater Drainage

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Director of Drainage Services

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Development

Question:

It is mentioned in Programme (1) that the Administration would continue with the design of the improvement work for the Yuen Long Town centre nullah. In this connection, please provide the following information:

- 1) the current progress of the design work for the nullah and the estimated expenditure for the construction, after collating the views of the Yuen Long District Council on the Stage 1 Improvement Works last year;
- 2) the timetable for public consultation on the final design option for the nullah; and
- 3) the feasibility to advance the commencement and completion of the works.

Asked by: Hon. MAK Mei-kuen, Alice

Reply:

- The detailed design of the stage 1 improvement works including construction of a dry weather flow interception system and reconstruction of existing nullah wall and associated piping network for the Yuen Long Town centre nullah commenced in December 2012 for completion in end 2013. The nullah beautification works will be implemented under the stage 2. At present, the preliminary design of the nullah beautification scheme has been completed. As we need to develop an integrated landscape design scheme with the proposed elevated footbridge along the nullah under the Pedestrian Environment Improvement Scheme (PEIS) being undertaken by the Highways Department (HyD), the implementation programme of the stage 2 works will be tied in with the progress of HyD's PEIS project. The cost for construction works will only be ascertained upon completion of detailed design.
- 2) The progress of the stage 1 improvement works was reported to the Environmental Improvement Committee of the Yuen Long District Council (YLDC) on 14 January 2013 with its support obtained. As regards the stage 2 beautification works, we will

join with HyD to carry out public engagement and consultation activities under the PEIS project. We have consulted the Traffic and Transport Committee of YLDC in March 2013 and plan to hold a public forum in April 2013.

3) Taking into consideration the restriction on construction activities within the nullah during wet seasons (from April to October), there is limited scope to advance the completion of the stage 1 improvement works. For the stage 2 works, the implementation programme is subject to HyD's PEIS project and the outcome of the public consultation exercise. The feasibility to advance the commencement and completion of the works cannot be ascertained at this moment.

Name in block letters:	CHAN Chi-chiu
Post Title:	Director of Drainage Services
Date:	3 April 2013