

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

DEVB(W)203

Question Serial No.

4928

Head: 704 - Drainage Subhead (No. & title): 4379DS – Feasibility study on relocation of Sha Tin sewage treatment works to caverns

Programme: (1) Stormwater Drainage

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Please advise on the progress of the feasibility study on relocation of Sha Tin sewage treatment works (STSTW) to caverns.

How many sites are identified for relocation in total? What is the expenditure involved for site selection from all identified?

Regarding the consultancy study, how much is earmarked for public consultation? What is the target number of Expressions of Interest received? How many consultation activities will be held?

Advertisements concerning the relocation of STSTW are seen on television and in MTR stations recently. Is the expenditure involved drawn from Item 4379DS?

The development of the existing STSTW site will commence when the relocation to caverns completes. Please advise on the expenditure involved for the preliminary planning of the vacated work site.

The stage 3 extension of the STSTW was completed last year. Please advise on the estimated expenditures involved in relocating the STSTW and demolishing the additions provided in stage 3 extension.

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

(a) The Drainage Services Department (DSD) commenced the feasibility study on relocation of Sha Tin sewage treatment works (STSTW) to caverns in May 2012 for completion in mid 2014. The latest key progress of the study is as follows:

- the preliminary technical and impact assessments and ground investigation works for the study are in progress; and

- the Stage 1 Public Engagement (PE) exercise commenced in November 2012 and completed in end March 2013. Findings of the review of the relocation site and the study progress were reported to the Health and Environment Committee of Sha Tin District Council at its meeting on 7 March 2013.
- (b) One of the key tasks under the study is to conduct a review on the proposed site for relocation of the STSTW. A total of five potential relocation sites adjacent to STSTW, including Nui Po Shan of A Kung Kok, Shek Mun, Ma On Shan, Kau To Shan South and Kau To Shan North, have been reviewed. The results of the review indicate that Nui Po Shan of A Kung Kok is the most suitable site for relocation of STSTW. The whole study will be funded under PWP Item 4379DS, with an approved project estimate of \$57.9 million. We do not have separate cost breakdown for the review on the proposed relocation site.
 - (c) We have reserved \$3.1 million for the PE exercises (comprising two stages) with relevant stakeholders. During the Stage 1 PE (from November 2012 to March 2013), we have held roving exhibitions and collected 1318 questionnaires as at end March 2013. We have also held one focus group meeting with the professional bodies and green groups and three meetings for different community groups in Sha Tin areas, including the residents living in the vicinity of the existing STSTW and the proposed relocation site of A Kung Kok. The Stage 2 PE will tentatively commence in mid 2013 with details to be formulated in due course.
 - (d) As part of the Stage 1 PE, publicity video of the study is broadcast in various public media. The cost is covered in the project vote of 4379DS.
 - (e) Another key task of the study is to carry out a preliminary planning review with broad technical assessments of the future land use of the existing STSTW site for the purpose of establishing a business case for the relocation proposal. The cost for this preliminary planning review is also covered under the study. We do not have separate cost breakdown for it.
 - (f) The STSTW was commissioned in 1982 (stage 1) and then further expanded in 1986 (stage 2). The treatment facilities constructed under the stage 3 extension have been progressively put into operation since 2004. According to the preliminary programme of the relocation proposal, the whole relocation project would only be completed not earlier than 2027. By that time, the facilities of stages 1, 2 and 3 of STSTW would have been operated for over 45, 40 and 20 years respectively. The total cost for the relocation project including the cost for decommissioning the existing STSTW will be worked out at the later stage of the study.

Name in block letters: CHAN Chi-chiu

Post Title: Director of Drainage Services

Date: 11 April 2013