

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****DEVB(W)099****(Question Serial No. 0140)**

Head: (39) Drainage Services Department

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

Programme: (1) Stormwater Drainage

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question (Member Question No. 14):

(1) In 2013-14, how many burst incidents of storm water drains occurred due to ageing of the network? For how many years have each of these drains 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 lifespans, overall average lifespan and the maintenance cost of stormwater drains in the territory.

Length of stormwater drains in total: \_\_\_\_\_

Lifespan of stormwater drains	Percentage against total length	Maintenance cost (\$)
Less than 5 years		
5 to < 10 years		
10 to < 15 years		
15 to < 20 years		
20 to < 25 years		
25 to < 30 years		
30 to < 35 years		
35 to < 40 years		
40 to < 45 years		
45 to < 50 years		
50 years or above		

Overall average lifespan: \_\_\_\_\_

Asked by: Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply:

(1) Bursting or leakage of public storm water drains is commonly due to a confluence of various factors, including ageing of the drains, ground settlement, and external loading. In 2013-14, there were 672 cases of bursting or leakage of public storm water drains. These drains had been in operation from 10 years to more than 40 years before the burst incidents.

(2) All public storm water drains are regularly inspected by the Drainage Services Department under a systematic maintenance programme. Rehabilitation works to the drains will be carried out when damages/defects are identified in the inspections. In 2013-14, the associated expenditure was estimated to be \$95 million and 114 staff were involved.

(3) The Drainage Services Department is managing about 2 300 kilometres of storm water drains. The average age of the drains is about 28 years with age distribution as follows –

Age of storm water drains	Proportion against total length
Less than 5 years	4%
5 to < 10 years	6%
10 to < 15 years	13%
15 to < 20 years	11%
20 to < 25 years	11%
25 to < 30 years	13%
30 to < 35 years	12%
35 to < 40 years	7%
40 to < 45 years	5%
45 to < 50 years	6%
50 years or above	12%

In 2013-14, the total estimated expenditure on repair and maintenance of storm water drains is approximately \$262 million. The Drainage Services Department does not have the statistics of maintenance expenses broken down by the age of the drains.