

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**DEVB(W)078****(Question Serial No. 2516)**Head: (39) Drainage Services DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): Not SpecifiedProgramme: (1) Stormwater DrainageControlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (CHUNG Kum Wah, Daniel)Director of Bureau: Secretary for DevelopmentQuestion:

- (1) In 2014-15, how many burst incidents of stormwater drains occurred due to ageing of the network? For how many years had each of these drains been used before the incident occurred?
- (2) What measures will be taken in 2015-16 to tackle the problem of bursts and leaks? What are the expenditure and manpower involved?
- (3) Please list the total lengths, current lifespans, overall average lifespan, median lifespan and maintenance cost of stormwater drains in the territory.

Total length of stormwater drains: _____

Lifespan of stormwater drains	Percentage against total length	Maintenance cost (HK\$)
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: _____

Median lifespan: _____

Asked by: Hon LEONG Kah-kit, Alan (Member Question No. 4)

Reply:

- (1) Bursting or leakage of public stormwater drains is commonly due to a confluence of factors, including ageing, ground settlement, and external loading. In 2014-15, there were about 470 cases of bursting or leakage of public stormwater drains. Most of these drains had been in use for more than 25 years before the incidents.
- (2) To address the problem, the Drainage Services Department (DSD) conducts inspection of public stormwater drains under a systematic maintenance programme. Rehabilitation works will be carried out if damage/defects are identified. In 2014-15, the expenditure, including staff cost, for rehabilitation works is \$75 million and 96 staff are involved. For 2015-16, we anticipate that the expenditure and manpower involved will be comparable to those of 2014-15.
- (3) DSD is managing about 2 300 kilometres of public stormwater drains. The average and median ages of the drains are about 29 years and 25 years respectively, with their age distribution as follows –

Age of stormwater drains	Proportion against total length
Less than 5 years	3%
5 to < 10 years	6%
10 to < 15 years	10%
15 to < 20 years	11%
20 to < 25 years	12%
25 to < 30 years	15%
30 to < 35 years	12%
35 to < 40 years	8%
40 to < 45 years	6%
45 to < 50 years	5%
50 years or above	12%

In 2014-15, the total expenditure for maintenance of public stormwater drains including the relevant staff cost is about \$247 million. DSD does not have the breakdown of the maintenance expenditure by the age of the drains.

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