

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(W)080

(Question Serial No. 0353)

Head: (39) Drainage Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): Not Specified

Programme: (2) Sewage Services

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Regarding the relocation of Sai Kung sewage treatment works and Sham Tseng sewage treatment works to caverns, please advise this Committee on:

1. the commencement date and details of the second stage public consultation on the relocation project as the first stage public consultation was completed;
2. the current progress of the preliminary and detailed design of the relocation works;
3. the expected commencement and completion dates, estimated expenditure and number of posts to be created for the above works; and
4. whether the Government has drawn on its experience in relocating Sha Tin sewage treatment works to explore measures and ways to accelerate the progress for early implementation of the project and speedy release of the existing sites for other uses?

Asked by: Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok (Member Question No. 10)

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 do **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.

1. The Drainage Services Department (DSD) completed the stage one Public

Engagement (PE) exercises for the proposed relocation of Sai Kung sewage treatment works and Sham Tseng sewage treatment works to caverns in August 2015 and end of February 2016 respectively. DSD is analysing the views collected in the stage one PE exercises, and reviewing the commencement dates and details of the stage two PE exercises for the projects.

2. As the projects are still in the feasibility study stage, we have not carried out any preliminary or detailed design of the proposed works.
3. The expected commencement and completion dates, estimated expenditure and number of posts to be created for the projects will be ascertained after the completion of the feasibility studies.
4. The Government will draw on its experience in relocating Sha Tin sewage treatment works, where appropriate, and will strive to explore measures and ways to speed up the implementation of the projects including decommissioning of the existing plants for early release of the existing sites for other uses, when the projects are confirmed to be feasible from technical and financial perspectives.

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