

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**DEVB(W)215**

**(Question Serial No. 4004)**

Head: (39) Drainage Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): Not Specified

Programme: Not Specified

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

The Financial Secretary mentioned in paragraph 148 of the Budget Speech 2015-16 that “I asked all policy bureaux to achieve more efficient use of resources through re-engineering and re-prioritising. I have also launched the ‘0-1-1’ envelope savings programme to reduce operating expenditure by a total of two per cent over the next three financial years. Resources saved will be re-allocated for new services”. Please advise this Committee on how to implement the “0-1-1” envelope savings programme in 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18, the services affected and the expenditure involved in detail.

Asked by: Hon James TO Kun-sun (Member Question No. 57)

Reply:

The Drainage Services Department (DSD) will enhance the operational and maintenance efficiency of its sewerage systems and sewage treatment facilities through replacement of aged and less efficient equipment, optimisation of the sewage treatment process, use of renewable energy, adoption of energy efficient technologies and prioritisation of maintenance works. DSD will endeavour to achieve the target savings through re-prioritising the rehabilitation and maintenance works as well as optimising the inspection works of the stormwater drainage systems. The implementation of cost saving measures will not affect the delivery of sewage and drainage services. DSD will continue to effectively deploy resources for proper operation and maintenance of stormwater drainage systems, sewerage systems and sewage treatment works.

Indeed, the estimate for DSD for 2016-17 is higher than that for 2015-16 by 7.3%, reflecting that efficiency savings achieved through “0-1-1” programme and new resources have been allocated to DSD for delivering new/improved services.

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