

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(W)218

(Question Serial No. 7244)

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:

Regarding Subhead 4401DS - Feasibility study on relocation of Sham Tseng sewage treatment works to caverns, please advise on:

- (a) the opinion survey results from the consultation with relevant residents;
- (b) the findings in tabular form of all environmental impact assessments carried out by the Drainage Services Department, including air quality (with odour impacts), noise, water quality, ecology, waste management, visual aspect, landscape and the like, together with the mitigation measures; and
- (c) the impacts assessed by the Department on the traffic in the concerned area (due to relocation and reprovisioning works) and relevant mitigation measures in view of the additional traffic pressure in the area, particularly Castle Peak Road and its slip road to Tuen Mun Road, if the extra land is for housing development.

Asked by: Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai (Member Question No. 32)

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.

- (a) The public engagement (PE) stage 1 exercise for the project “Relocation of Sham Tseng Sewage Treatment Works to Caverns – Feasibility Study” (the feasibility study) was completed at the end of February 2016. The exercise included roving exhibitions, focus group meetings, community workshops and opinion survey. We

are in the process of consolidating and analysing the views collected. The consolidated results will then be published on the project website (www.smtstwincaverns.hk).

- (b) The interim results from a preliminary environmental impact assessment (EIA) indicate that, with the adoption of appropriate mitigation measures, the relocation works should not cause unacceptable environmental consequences with respect to air quality, odour, noise, water quality, ecology, waste management, visual impact and landscape. We will carry out a more detailed EIA at a later stage of the project to ascertain the environmental acceptability of the proposed relocation works and details of the mitigation measures required.
- (c) The land use planning of the released site after the relocation of Sham Tseng Sewage Treatment Works is being formulated taking into account the public's views collected in the PE exercise. A broad traffic and transport assessment will be conducted to ensure that future development of the released site will not cause adverse traffic impact to the area.

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