

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB034****(Question Serial No. 3182)**Head: (39) Drainage Services DepartmentSubhead (No. & title): Not specifiedProgramme: (2) Sewage ServicesControlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (LO Kwok-wah)Director of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion:

The odour problem at Tsuen Wan Waterfront has plagued the local residents for over 20 years. Please tabulate the various measures adopted by the Drainage Services Department over the past 5 years to prevent and alleviate the odour there, as well as their expenditure and effectiveness.

Apart from physical measures such as construction of dry weather flow interceptors and use of deodourising PVC screens, does the Government plan on and earmark provision for studying and applying chemical and microbial etc. methods to eliminate the odour problem at the Waterfront, making reference to the methods adopted in Kai Tak Nullah? If yes, what are the details and timetable?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Han-pan (LegCo internal reference no.: 51)

Reply:

The Drainage Services Department (DSD) all along has been concerned about the odour problem at Tsuen Wan Waterfront, and actively adopted a multi-pronged approach to prevent and alleviate the odour.

Apart from the construction of 4 dry weather flow interceptors at Tsuen Wan Waterfront and installation of PVC screens at outlets of 3 box culverts, DSD conducted cleansing of the culverts twice yearly to prevent odour accumulation at the outlets.

Furthermore, DSD is collaborating with The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology to study the use of "odour inhibiting hydrogel" to inhibit the generation of hydrogen sulfide and other gases (such as volatile organic compounds commonly found in refuse) from the drainage system. Please refer to Table I for the expenditures and effectiveness of various measures adopted in Tsuen Wan over the past 5 years.

Table I

Measures to mitigate Tsuen Wan Waterfront odour	Expenditure over the past 5 years	Effectiveness
Construction of 4 dry weather flow interceptors	\$41 million approximately	The project is anticipated to be completed in September 2019. Effectiveness to be observed.

Measures to mitigate Tsuen Wan Waterfront odour	Expenditure over the past 5 years	Effectiveness
Installation of PVC screens at outlets of 3 box culverts	\$400,000 approximately	It can reduce the emission of odour from culverts.
Cleansing of 3 box culverts twice yearly	\$600,000 approximately	It could prevent accumulation of odour at outlets.
Placement of “odour inhibiting hydrogel”	\$40,000 approximately	Trial began in November 2018. Effectiveness to be observed.

Apart from the above measures, DSD is carrying out systematic investigation and rehabilitation works for sewers with high risks of structural failure across the territory, which can help alleviate the odour problem arising from leakage of ageing sewers.

- End -