

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

ENB219

(Question Serial No. 5155)

Head: (39) Drainage Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): Not specified

Programme: (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (LO Kwok-wah)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

It is mentioned that in the coming financial year, the Drainage Services Department will “continue with the design and commence the construction of transforming King Yip Street nullah into Tsui Ping River”. However, to properly resolve the odour problem of this type of nullah and its surrounding area so as to attract more citizens to get closer to water bodies, we cannot solely depend on revitalisation works. The Drainage Services Department also needs to resolve the expedient connection issue after revitalisation. In this connection, please advise this Committee of the following:

1. regarding King Yip Street nullah, the number of expedient connection cases where sewers are connected to there, handled by the Drainage Services Department every year;
2. among the aforementioned figures, the number of cases discovered by the Drainage Services Department while conducting proactive inspections and the number of cases reported by the public;
3. the staff establishment for inspecting expedient connections.

Asked by: Hon TAM Man-ho, Jeremy (LegCo internal reference no.: 482)

Reply:

1. In the past five years, the Drainage Services Department (DSD) handled one case of expedient connection to public drainage in the catchment area of King Yip Street nullah.
2. The above case handled by DSD was referred by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD).
3. At present, DSD does not have any staff in its establishment specifically designated for the inspection of expedient connections. If suspected expedient connections are found in its regular inspection of public drainages, DSD will follow up and refer such cases to relevant departments (such as EPD and the Buildings Department) and co-operate with them in investigation according to their respective duties.

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