

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**EEB(E)016**

**(Question Serial No. 2155)**

Head: (39) Drainage Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): Not specified

Programme: (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services (MOK Wing-cheong)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Environment and Ecology

Question:

It is stated in the Budget that the harbourfront resources should be better used. Apart from the scenery, however, the smell of seawater will also have an impact on the impression the Victoria Harbour leaves on tourists and the general public. The quality of the coastal waters of the Victoria Harbour plays a pivotal role in developing the Victoria Harbour into a popular leisure destination. Regarding the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme (HATS), would the Government inform this Committee of:

1. the details of the completed HATS projects related to the coastal waters of Kowloon West, including the locations, completion dates and expenditure involved;
2. the details of the ongoing HATS projects related to the coastal waters of Kowloon West, including the locations, anticipated completion dates and estimated expenditure involved;
3. the details of the pending HATS projects related to the coastal waters of Kowloon West, including the locations, anticipated completion dates and estimated expenditure involved; and
4. the annual Water Quality Objectives (WQOs) compliance rate of the Victoria Harbour Water Control Zone (WCZ) in 2023?

Asked by: Hon LEUNG Man-kwong (LegCo internal reference no.: 3)

Reply:

The Government has all along been attaching great importance to improving the water quality of Victoria Harbour, and is adopting a multi-pronged approach in implementing various pragmatic measures, having regard to the varying environment and conditions of individual districts, to endeavour to resolve the odour problems of coastal areas. Among the measures adopted, the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme (HATS) is the largest in scale, the construction cost of which is some \$25.8 billion. Since the full commissioning of HATS, the water quality of Victoria Harbour has substantially improved. The annual Cross Harbour Race, which was suspended for years due to poor water quality, was resumed in 2011 and has returned to its traditional route in the central area of Victoria Harbour since 2017. The overall compliance rate of Water Quality Objectives for Victoria Harbour Water Control Zone reached 100% in 2023.

To further improve the water quality of Victoria Harbour, the Government has been continuously implementing and planning other sewerage projects. The details of the completed and ongoing projects related to the coastal waters of Kowloon West are listed below:

#### Completed Projects

Project	Location	Completion Year	Project Cost <sup>Note 1</sup>
Upgrading of West Kowloon and Tsuen Wan Sewerage - Phase 1	West Kowloon and Tsuen Wan	2022	\$280 million
Construction of Dry Weather Flow Interceptor at Cherry Street Box Culvert	Tai Kok Tsui	2022	\$660 million
West Kowloon and Tsuen Wan Village Sewerage - Phase 1	Tsuen Wan and Kwai Chung	2023	\$100 million

Note 1: The project costs stated are approved project estimates.

#### Ongoing Projects

Project	Location	Expected Completion Year	Project Cost <sup>Note 2</sup>
Sewerage to Lo Wai, Chuen Lung and Kau Wa Keng Old Village	Lo Wai, Chuen Lung and Kau Wa Keng Old Village	2025	\$170 million
Upgrading of West Kowloon and Tsuen Wan Sewerage - Phase 2	Kowloon City, Sham Shui Po, Yau Tsim Mong, Kwai Tsing and Tsuen Wan	2026	\$2.29 billion

Note 2: The project costs stated are approved project estimates.

Furthermore, the Government plans to seek funding approval in 2024 from the Legislative Council for the project “West Kowloon and Tsuen Wan village sewerage—Phase 2 (Package 1)”. It is expected that the project will be completed about 4.5 years after the relevant funding proposal is approved by the Finance Committee.