

**Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members in
examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11**

**Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development
Session No: 19**

No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
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No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
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Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)001

Question Serial No.

0009

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat: Development Subhead (No. & title) :
Bureau (Works Branch)

Programme : (4) Intra-Governmental Services

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

It is mentioned in paragraph 58 of the Budget Speech that the Construction Industry Council (CIC) is expected to increase its investment in tandem with this funding to provide the necessary incentives to attract more young people to join the construction industry and to improve the practice of the industry. In this connection, will the Administration inform this Committee of:

- (a) the additional investment CIC will make on organising courses and the courses to be organised;
- (b) the details of the incentives for attracting more young people to join the construction industry and improving the practice of the industry and the expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

- (a) The CIC will increase its investment to cover the additional expenses on instructing staff, workshop training and operating expenses, training sundry expenses, capital expenses in furniture and equipment, overheads etc. As the CIC is drawing up the implementation plan (including the courses to be organised) in consultation with the industry, details of the investment are not yet available.
- (b) Two areas of measures are proposed. The first is to provide incentives to attract more people to receive training or re-training in the industry. It will also include enhancing publicity on various fronts so that more people will know about the construction industry and are willing to join the industry. A total of \$100 million will be used to implement the above measures.

Another area is to improve the practice of the construction industry. This will include stipulating provisions in public works contracts to require contractors to implement measures to improve the site operating environment for workers, safeguard construction site safety and site tidiness, improve measures on security of

payment and require contractors to provide uniform for site personnel. The above measures will be pursued in the context of implementing capital works projects to be funded by the Capital Works Reserve Fund.

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)002

Question Serial No.

0010

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead :
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Programme : (4) Intra-Governmental Services

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

It is mentioned in paragraph 58 of the Budget Speech that best practices will be introduced in public works projects to further improve the safety, working environment and conditions in construction sites. Please provide detailed information. When will these practices be implemented? Please also provide details of the allocation of the \$100 million funding.

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

The Government will stipulate provisions in public works contracts requiring contractors to implement measures to improve the site operating environment for workers, safeguard construction site safety and site tidiness, improve measures on security of payment and require contractors to provide uniform for site personnel. Some of these measures have already been implemented in some public works projects. We shall gradually extend the measures to other public works projects.

Of the \$100 million set out in paragraph 58 of the 2010-11 Budget Speech, \$80 million will be used for supporting the Construction Industry Council (CIC) to strengthen its training and trade testing functions and the remaining amount for helping to uplift the image of the industry through promotion and public education.

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)003

Question Serial No.

1834

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat:
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Subhead : 000 Operational expenses

Programme : (4) Intra-Governmental Services

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

As mentioned in Subhead 000 Operational expenses, there will be increased provision for the Graduate Training Scheme. Please advise:

- (a) the amount of provision, number of places offered and professional qualifications obtainable in respect of the scheme last year (i.e. 2009-10).
- (b) the amount of provision, number of places offered and professional qualifications obtainable in respect of the scheme in the coming year (i.e. 2010-11).
- (c) whether the Administration will consider extending the training scheme to cover other professional disciplines, such as conservation, heritage restoration and cultural innovation etc. so as to nurture the talents in these fields. Will the Administration extend at the same time the training to non-professional jobs so that more young people of different academic levels and qualifications can be trained?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

- (a) In 2009-10, the allocation under Head 159 for the Graduate Training Scheme (GTS) is \$49.5 million. A total of 140 new intakes were recruited in 2009. The trainees are provided training leading to 19 professional qualifications in the five disciplines of architecture, engineering, surveying, planning and landscape architecture.
- (b) In 2010-11, the allocation under Head 159 for the GTS is estimated to be \$51.2 million with similar quota and involving the same professional disciplines as in 2009-10.
- (c) At present, there are no widely recognized professional qualifications for the disciplines of conservation, heritage renovation and cultural creativity. However, trainees of the GTS may be involved in related works areas and receive the corresponding training.

In regard to the training of non-professionals, the Administration has already put in place a number of training schemes. For instance, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department recruits craft apprentices and technician apprentices on annual basis. Further, the Administration has stipulated provisions in public works contracts requiring contractors to employ and provide technician apprentices with on-the-job training.

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)004

Question Serial No.

0029

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead :
 Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Programme : (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please list out the number of staff in the Greening and Landscape Office and the Tree Management Office in 2010-11, and the number of staff with professional qualifications in tree management and maintenance in these offices. Please also advise if there is any deployment of staff from other departments to the two offices.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The Greening, Landscape and Tree Management (GLTM) Section in Works Branch of the Development Bureau have a total of 23 civil service posts and 2 non-civil service contract (NCSC) positions as follows –

	Civil Service posts		Non-directorate positions on NCSC terms
	Directorate posts	Non-directorate posts	
Greening and Landscape Office	1†	3‡	0
Tree Management Office	1	10	2
Common to Greening and Landscape Office and Tree Management Office	1*	7	0

- † Offset by the deletion of one Chief Landscape Architect post under Head 25 – Architectural Services Department
- ‡ One post offset by the deletion of one Senior Landscape Architect post under Head 25 – Architectural Services Department with effect from 1.4.2010
- * A supernumerary AOSGC post held against the Head of GLTM Section post has been created as a temporary measure pending the completion of the recruitment exercise for the latter post.

As at 19 March 2010, 17 permanent civil service posts, one supernumerary civil service post and one NCSC position have been filled. 11 of these posts are filled by professional officers, eight of whom are International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborists.

We will fill the two new directorate posts (i.e. Head of GLTM Section and Head of Tree Management Office) by recruitment, and all other new posts in the GLTM Section by posting in the normal manner through arrangement with the relevant grade management. Any consequential vacancies in the relevant grades will be handled by the grade management concerned in accordance with the established mechanism.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)006

Question Serial No.

0031

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat:
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Subhead :

Programme : (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

The estimated expenditure on greening works in 2010 is \$240 million, which is higher than that of 2008 and 2009. What are the specific works to be carried out with this expenditure?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The greening works to be carried out in 2010 comprise –

- (a) Greening Master Plans (GMPs) (\$96 million) – short-term greening measures in the GMPs for Sham Shui Po, Kowloon City, Wong Tai Sin, Kwun Tong, Eastern, Western and Southern Districts;
- (b) Greening works in other capital works projects (\$58 million) – capital works projects with major greening works include the district open space project at Po Kong Village Road in Wong Tai Sin, Aldrich Bay Park and Ma On Shan waterfront promenade; and
- (c) Greening enhancement works for existing greened areas and community involvement projects (\$86 million) – planting works in the roadside amenity area at Mei Foo Sun Chuen bus terminus, erosion control planting in Tai Lam Country Park and planting of native species to enhance biodiversity in Ma On Shan Country Park. Community involvement projects include “Action Seedling” activity in Sau Mau Ping Estate.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)007

Question Serial No.

0032

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat:
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Subhead :

Programme : (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

What are the manpower and resources involved in setting up a database of important or problematic trees in 2010-11, and when will this be completed? What kind of information will be included in the database and will the information be made available for public inspection?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The Greening, Landscape and Tree Management (GLTM) Section in Works Branch of the Development Bureau is undertaking a study on the establishment of a database of important or problematic trees pursuant to the recommendation in the Report of the Task Force on Tree Management. We will consider the detailed scope of information to be included in the database in the study. Our preliminary thinking is that relevant information (such as site conditions, tree characteristics, conditions of different parts of the tree with particular emphasis on the risk angle, etc.) would be included to facilitate follow-up remedial actions, if required, and future monitoring. As part of our study, we will consider the scope of information in the database to be made available to the public.

The GLTM Section, assisted by the Efficiency Unit, is conducting the study on the proposed database with its internal resources. The cost and implementation programme for setting up the database are subject to the outcome of the study.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)008

Question Serial No.

0033

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead :
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Programme : (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

What are the resources and manpower earmarked for 2010-11 for carrying out public education activities related to greening? What are the target groups for these activities? How to enlist community support in greening the environment, and how to evaluate the effectiveness of these activities?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The Greening, Landscape and Tree Management (GLTM) Section in the Development Bureau will organise a variety of public education and community involvement activities related to greening in 2010-11. The estimated expenditure on these activities in 2010-11 is \$1.9 million. The GLTM Section will deploy adequate staff to organise these activities. Other departments will also organise similar activities.

The public education and community involvement activities seek to enhance public awareness of greening issues and to enlist community support in greening the environment. The activities target at the community at large (e.g. appointment of District Tree Care Volunteers and roving exhibitions), at specific sectors such as students (e.g. school talks), members of the industry (e.g. workshops on tree management and new greening technologies), private owners and property management companies (e.g. seminars on proper tree care). We will enlist community support to the development of a greener Hong Kong through nurturing a culture of protecting our natural environment and dissemination of technical know-how. We will evaluate the effectiveness of the activities based on the feedback of the participants.

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)009

Question Serial No.

0130

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat:
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Subhead :

Programme : (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

What are the districts that will develop Greening Master Plans (GMPs) under this year's Estimates? What are the work plans for the next two years? What are the factors and considerations governing the decisions? How will local residents and groups be consulted in the process of developing the GMPs?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

Following the finalisation of the Greening Master Plans (GMPs) for the urban districts, the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) will move on to prepare the GMPs for the nine New Territories districts (i.e. Islands, Kwai Tsing, North, Sai Kung, Sha Tin, Tai Po, Tsuen Wan, Tuen Mun and Yuen Long Districts). CEDD will consult the relevant District Councils this year to start the preparation work for the New Territories GMPs in late 2010.

In the next two years, CEDD will continue to implement the short-term greening measures in the remaining urban areas (i.e. Sham Shui Po, Kowloon City, Wong Tai Sin, Kwun Tong, Eastern, Western and Southern Districts) and will develop the GMPs for the nine New Territories districts.

CEDD adopts an 'Enhanced Partnering Approach' to take account of community views in the formulation of the GMPs. Each District Council will set up a district participation group to advise on the greening work for the district. Through community forums and site visits, local residents and relevant stakeholders will offer their views in the course of developing the GMPs.

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)010

Question Serial No.

1039

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat:
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Subhead :

Programme : (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

As mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11, the Branch will oversee the handling of public complaints on greening, landscape and tree management matters. With the establishment of the Greening and Landscape Office (GLO) and the Tree Management Office (TMO), will the Administration continue to receive complaints through the “Government Hotline 1823” or will another complaint channel be set up? How will the Administration oversee such work?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

We recognise the need to effectively handle public complaints on greening, landscape and tree management matters, and we will continue to use “1823” Call Centre as the central point to receive public complaints in this regard. Operating round-the-clock and with the capability to receive public complaints via telephone, email or letter, the “1823” Call Centre serves as an effective platform for the public to lodge complaints. The “1823” Call Centre will ensure timely assignment of complaints to the responsible departments, monitor case progress and keep complainants updated in the process. It also provides reports on the performance of departments handling complaints. We will closely monitor the performance reports on the executive departments in handling public complaints on greening, landscape and tree management matters, and follow up with relevant departments when necessary.

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)011

Question Serial No.

1040

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat:
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Subhead :

Programme : (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Regarding the formulation and promulgation of standards, guidelines and best practices related to tree management, will the Administration develop different standards and guidelines for ordinary trees and trees listed in the Register of Old and Valuable Trees? If yes, what are the extra resources and manpower involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

Building on the existing departmental guidelines and instructions on tree care, the Greening, Landscape and Tree Management (GLTM) Section will formulate and promulgate a comprehensive set of standards and guidelines covering all aspects of tree management for compliance and reference by the executive departments and their contractors. This will ensure the adoption of a consistent and professional approach across departments. These standards and guidelines will generally be applicable to all trees.

It is Government's policy to provide priority protection to the trees in the Register of Old and Valuable Trees (OVTs). Due to the special circumstances of the OVTs (e.g. large size, old age, belonging to precious or rare species, etc.), their preservation would generally require more attention and efforts. The GLTM Section will consider the special requirements of the OVTs and draw up additional guidelines to ensure that OVTs are properly maintained, as well as updating the Register by adding in new Valuable Trees and removing those which have perished. This task will be implemented with the existing resources of the GLTM Section.

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)012

Question Serial No.

2512

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat:
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Subhead :

Programme : (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

As mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11, the Administration will enhance the capacity of tree management through research. Please provide details of the research, including topics of the research, organisation(s) responsible for it, expected completion date(s) and the resources involved.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

In 2010-11, the Greening, Landscape and Tree Management Section plans to undertake studies on selection of suitable tree species for greening, choice of planting medium, wood strength of common tree species in Hong Kong and common biological tree decaying agents in Hong Kong to enhance our capability in carrying out greening, landscape and tree management work.

We plan to engage external professional or academic institutions with appropriate background and expertise to carry out these studies, and aim to complete them by mid-2011. The estimated expenditure is \$1.6 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)013

Question Serial No.

0929

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead :
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Programme : (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

The provision for the above programme for 2010-11 is 196.9% higher than the revised estimate for 2009-10. “This is mainly due to the full-year effect of the posts created in the Greening, Landscape and Tree Management (GLTM) Section, addition of three posts and the increased provision for general departmental expenses”, etc. Will the Administration provide details of:

- (a) the payroll costs of the three additional posts;
- (b) the posts to be created in 2010-11 and their respective responsibilities;
- (c) the new scope of work of the GLTM Section.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply :

(a) and (b)

The estimated expenditure on the three additional posts in 2010-11 is \$1.7 million. A breakdown is set out below –

- (i) one Senior Landscape Architect post (\$1 million) redeployed from the Architectural Services Department to the Greening, Landscape and Tree Management (GLTM) Section to assist in the formulation of standards and guidelines on greening and landscape matters and to provide advice on landscape planning and design;
- (ii) one new Information Officer post (\$0.5 million) in the Secretariat Press Office to handle media enquiries, prepare press releases, monitor media reports on greening, landscape and tree management matters; and
- (iii) one Personal Secretary II post (\$0.2 million) redeployed from within the Development Bureau to the GLTM Section to enhance administrative support.

(c) The work plan of the GLTM Section in 2010-11 is set out below –

For both the Greening and Landscape Office and the Tree Management Office:

- formulate and promulgate standards, guidelines and best practices related to greening, landscape planning and design, and tree management;
- build up the capacity of Government and the industry in the field of greening, landscape and tree management through training, manpower development and research; and
- enhance community involvement and public education to foster an attitude of proper care for and protection of greenery.

For the Greening and Landscape Office:

- oversee the implementation of Government's annual greening programme and the overall formulation and implementation of the Greening Master Plans;
- provide advice on major landscape and greening proposals; and
- formulate measures to promote greening opportunities and the wider adoption of new greening techniques (such as rooftop greening and vertical greening) in both public and private sector projects.

For the Tree Management Office:

- implement a risk management approach to tree management and develop a database of important / problematic trees;
- enhance the public complaint handling mechanism and the emergency response arrangement; and
- provide advice on the policy and operational aspects of tree management.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

There will be an increase of \$3.1 million in operating expenditure in 2010-11 mainly due to the following –

- (1) increased provision for gratuities of NCSC staff and increased salary provision for staff changes;
- (2) increased provision for the implementation of additional heritage conservation initiatives, eg. educational and publicity activities and upgrading of the Geographical Information System on Hong Kong Heritage, etc.; and
- (3) partly offset by decreased cash flow for RHBTPS due to completion of resource kits for the historic buildings included under Batch II of RHBTPS.

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)015

Question Serial No.

1120

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat:
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Heritage Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

The Administration has implemented the “Financial Assistance for Maintenance Scheme” to provide financial assistance to owners to maintain their graded historic buildings. Will the Administration inform this Committee of the number of applications received so far under the scheme; the number of applications approved; the total amount of financial assistance granted, and the main reasons for unsuccessful applications?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau Sing, Patrick

Reply :

The Financial Assistance for Maintenance Scheme (the Scheme) was launched in August 2008. As at 10 March 2010, we have received 11 applications for financial assistance and approved nine of them. The remaining two are under assessment. The total amount of approved financial assistance is \$7.202M.

The funding provision for the Scheme is covered by Subhead 653 under Head 95 of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)016

Question Serial No.

1121

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead :
 Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Programme : (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

The Administration will continue to carry out public education activities and enlist community support in greening the environment in 2010-11. Will the Administration inform this Committee of the activities to be organised; when they will be held and their estimated funding?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply :

Building on the ongoing efforts of the executive departments in public education and community involvement to raise awareness of greening issues, the Greening, Landscape and Tree Management (GLTM) Section will organise a variety of activities to further enhance public awareness and enlist community support in greening the environment in 2010-11. Since its establishment on 1 March 2010, the GLTM Section has been working on the programme of activities for this purpose for 2010-11. Activities under planning (with indicative timing) include –

- (a) appointment of Green Ambassadors and District Tree Care Volunteers (second half of 2010);
- (b) roving exhibitions (in the course of 2010-11);
- (c) workshop(s) on greening for the industry (e.g. rooftop greening and vertical greening) (starting from third quarter of 2010);
- (d) seminar(s) on tree management for practitioners and property owners (e.g. proper tree care methods) (starting from third quarter of 2010);
- (e) launching of a new web site and publication of newsletters (second half of 2010); and
- (f) school talks (in the course of 2010-11).

The estimated expenditure for these activities is about \$1.9 million. In addition, we will collaborate with the executive departments to co-organise community involvement and public education activities on greening.

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)017

Question Serial No.

1123

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat:
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Heritage Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

The Administration will continue to organise promotional activities to raise public awareness and interest in heritage conservation in 2010-11. What activities will the Administration organise; when will they be held and what is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply :

In 2010-11, we will continue our efforts in raising public awareness of public interest in heritage conservation through the organisation of publicity and community involvement activities. The focus of our public education efforts in 2010 is community outreach. In January and February 2010, we organised a series of West Kowloon Architecture and Cultural Tours in support of the Hong Kong Shenzhen Biennale of Urbanism/Architecture 2009 attracting about 500 participants. We will organise the following activities in the remaining months of 2010 (with tentative dates shown in brackets) –

- (a) guided heritage tours for low-income families (April – August 2010);
- (b) Tai Tam waterworks heritage tours (Part II) (April – June 2010);
- (c) heritage tours for the disabled (4th quarter of 2010);
- (d) heritage tourism expo (September 2010);
- (e) heritage symposium (November 2010); and
- (f) production of teaching kit on heritage conservation for the New Secondary School Liberal Studies curriculum (to be launched in August 2010).

We have budgeted \$2.4 million for the above activities in 2010-11.

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date

22 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : Head 159 - Government Secretariat : Subhead (No. & title):
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Programme : (1) Water Supply

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

As mentioned in the Brief Description, "the Works Branch's main responsibility under this programme is to formulate water supply policies and co-ordinate their implementation". Will the Administration inform this Committee whether there was allocation of resources in the past for a study on the corporatisation of Water Supplies Department? If yes, what is the result and was there any assessment of its impact on water supply service and water charge, etc.?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

The Administration has in the past examined and studied various forms of institutional reform for Water Supplies Department (WSD), including private sector participation and corporatisation. Taking into account the relevant factors including financial, economic and management considerations, the Administration has decided that WSD should remain as a government department to ensure a sustainable and affordable water supply to the community.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

Post Title:

Date:

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER’S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)019

Question Serial No.

1303

Head :159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead :
 Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Programme : (2) Heritage Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

As mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11, the Branch will “continue to take forward the Central Police Station Compound revitalisation project in partnership with the Hong Kong Jockey Club”. Will the Administration inform this Committee of the latest progress of the project; when the whole project is expected to be finalised; and the amount of resources and manpower invested into the project since it was proposed.

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

The Hong Kong Jockey Club (HKJC) is taking forward the conservation and revitalisation of the Central Police Station Compound in partnership with the Government. HKJC has been working with its consultants on a revised design to address the public comments received during the public engagement exercise conducted from October 2007 to April 2008, in particular comments concerning the height and bulk of the proposed new structure in the compound. HKJC has continued to engage stakeholders in the process. We expect that the revised design, together with the updated project implementation programme, will be available in the next few months.

HKJC is funding the entire cost of the project, including the planning and design work being carried out. On Government’s part, Development Bureau, in particular the Commissioner for Heritage’s Office, has been handling the project with its existing resources.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)021

Question Serial No.

1305

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat:
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Heritage Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

As mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11, the Branch will “continue to implement the ‘Financial Assistance for Maintenance Scheme’ to provide financial assistance to private owners to maintain their graded historic buildings”. Will the Administration inform this Committee if there is any assessment so far on the response to the scheme since its implementation. Please list out the sites of the historic buildings provided with grants under the scheme and the amount of grants approved.

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

Since the launching of the Financial Assistance for Maintenance Scheme (the Scheme) in August 2008, the Scheme has been well received by private owners of historic buildings. Up to 10 March 2010, we have received 11 applications for financial assistance and approved nine of them. Details of the nine approved applications are as follows:

<u>Name of historic building</u>	<u>Approved amount</u>
1. Lo Pan Temple, Kennedy Town	\$711,000
2. Tao Fong Shan Christian Centre, Shatin	\$820,000
3. Jamia Mosque, Sheung Wan	\$600,000
4. No. 3 Bungalow, St. Stephen's College, Stanley	\$606,000
5. Ancestral Hall of Tsang Tai Uk, Shatin	\$1,000,000
6. Tin Hau Temple, Kam Tin, Yuen Long	\$985,000

7. Hung Shing Temple, Fanling	\$880,000
8. Main Building of Helena May, Central	\$600,000
9. Hung Shing Temple, Ping Shan, Yuen Long	\$1,000,000

The funding provision for the Scheme is covered by Subhead 653 under Head 95 of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)022

Question Serial No.

1369

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat:
 Development Bureau (Works Branch) Subhead :

Programme : (1) Water Supply

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please provide the following information regarding Programme (1) Water Supply:

	Dongjiang Water Supplied to Hong Kong (million cubic metres)	Total Storage in Local Reservoirs (million cubic metres)	Actual Fresh Water Consumption (million cubic metres)		
			Dongjiang Water (percentage share of water from Dongjiang)	Total Storage in Local Reservoirs (percentage share of total storage in local reservoirs)	Total Annual Fresh Water Consumption (million cubic metres)
2005			(%)	(%)	
2006			(%)	(%)	
2007			(%)	(%)	
2008			(%)	(%)	
2009			(%)	(%)	

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

The requested information is as follows -

Year	Dongjiang Water Supplied to Hong Kong (million cubic metres)	Total Storage in Local Reservoirs (million cubic metres) (Note 1)	Actual Fresh Water Consumption (million cubic metres)		
			Dongjiang Water (percentage share of water from Dongjiang) (Note 2)	Local Storage (percentage share of total storage in local reservoirs) (Note 3)	Total Annual Fresh Water Consumption (million cubic metres)
2005	771	479	720(93%)	248(52%)	968
2006	617	477	617(100%)	346(73%)	963
2007	715	423	715(100%)	236(56%)	951
2008	653	452	653(100%)	303(67%)	956
2009	725	421	725(100%)	227(54%)	952

Notes

- 1. The total storage in local reservoirs fluctuated with time. The figures quoted are the yearly average of the storage recorded on the first day of each month of the year.*
- 2. Since 2006, the Agreement for the Supply of Dongjiang Water to Hong Kong has provided flexibility in the daily supply rate to tie in with seasonal fluctuations in quantity of rain water collected from local sources.*
- 3. The figures in this column represent the balance between the total annual fresh water consumption and the actual fresh water consumption of water from Dongjiang in the same year and are related to the seasonal fluctuations in quantity of rain water collected from local sources.*

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)023

Question Serial No.

1370

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat:
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Subhead :

Programme : (1) Water Supply

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

What specific measures for the promotion of water conservation are to be taken in 2010-11?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

Measures to be taken for the promotion of water conservation in 2010-11 include:

- (a) extension of the “Water Efficiency Labeling Scheme” to water taps and washing machines to facilitate consumers to choose water-saving appliances;
- (b) launching of publicity and school education campaigns to promote water-saving tips and use of water-saving devices; and
- (c) retrofitting of water-saving devices in government buildings and schools.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)024

Question Serial No.

1470

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead :
 Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Programme : (2) Heritage Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please provide details of the revitalisation project of Haw Par Mansion, including progress of the project, number of proposals received, proposed uses and timetable for its commissioning etc.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

Development Bureau plans to invite tenders for conservation and revitalisation of Haw Par Mansion later this year and is making preparatory works in this connection. The proposed usage of the Site and the implementation programme will depend on the result of the assessment on the proposals received.

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)025

Question Serial No.

1569

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat:
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Subhead :

Programme : (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please provide the number of trees fell in 2008-09 due to tree risk and the expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

Executive departments with tree management responsibility removed 2 849 problematic trees that posed public safety risks in 2008-09. The figure does not include severely damaged trees removed after inclement weather.

The departments concerned carried out the tree removal work with their existing resources and no breakdown of expenditure is available.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)026

Question Serial No.

2499

Head: 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead:
 Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Please provide details of the consultations on policy formulation and assessment under all programmes in the following format. Using the table below, please provide information on the consultations for which funds had been allocated in 2009-10 :

Name/content of consultation	Revised estimate (\$)	Progress of consultation (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Mode of consultation (e.g. by means of written submissions, consultation sessions, focus groups), number of consultation exercises, name of organisations and number of people consulted/to be consulted	The Administration's follow-up actions on the consultation results and the progress made (if applicable)	For consultations already completed, have the results been released to the public? If yes, what are the channels? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply:

Details of the consultations on policy making and assessment in 2009-10 are given in the following table :

Name/content of consultation	Revised estimate (\$)	Progress of consultation (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Mode of consultation (e.g. by means of written submissions, consultation sessions, focus groups), number of consultation exercises, name of organisations and number of people	The Administration's follow-up actions on the consultation results and the progress made (if applicable)	For consultations already completed, have the results been released to the public? If yes, what are the channels? If not, what are the reasons?

			consulted/to be consulted		
Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme (Scheme)	No additional financial implication	Completed	An experience-sharing forum was held in May 2009 for interested non-profit-making organisations and professional bodies on the review of the implementation of Batch I of the Scheme with a view to improving the Scheme details.	Information received was reported to the Advisory Committee on Revitalisation of Historic Buildings.	Views obtained from the experience-sharing forum were reported to the Development Panel of the Legislative Council on 28.7.2009. Information was also shared within Government and relevant parties.
Heritage conservation policy and initiatives in general	No additional financial implication	In progress	Commissioner for Heritage and Executive Secretary of the Antiquities and Monuments Office had attended meetings of 18 District Councils to collect members' views on heritage conservation.	Information was shared within Government and relevant parties.	Information will be shared within Government and relevant parties concerned, as appropriate, to enhance the formulation and implementation of policies and initiatives on heritage conservation.
Development strategy for professional resources of Hong Kong's construction and related engineering services sector	No additional financial implication	In progress	By means of an Advisory Group comprising representatives from the construction industry stakeholders	Views collected in the consultation will be taken into consideration when formulating the development strategy.	Information will be shared within Government and stakeholders of the construction industry

Signature _____

Name in block letters C K MAK

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Date 22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)027

Head: 159 – Government Secretariat:
 Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Subhead:

Question Serial No.

2500

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Please provide details of the consultations on policy formulation and assessment under all programmes in the following format. Have resources been earmarked for holding consultations in 2010-11? If so, please provide the following details :

Name/content of consultation	Expenditure (\$)	Progress of consultation (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Mode of consultation (e.g. by means of written submissions, consultation sessions, focus groups), number of consultation exercises, name of organisations and number of people consulted/to be consulted	For consultations scheduled for completion in the 2010-11 financial year, will the results be released to the public? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply:

Details of the consultations on policy making and assessment in 2010-11 are given in the following table :

Name/content of consultation	Expenditure (\$)	Progress of consultation (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Mode of consultation (e.g. by means of written submissions, consultation sessions, focus groups), number of consultation exercises, name of organisations and number of people consulted/to be consulted	For consultations scheduled for completion in the 2010-11 financial year, will the results be released to the public? If not, what are the reasons?

Heritage conservation policy and initiatives in general	No additional financial implication	In progress	Commissioner for Heritage and Executive Secretary of the Antiquities and Monuments Office will continue to attend meetings of District Councils to collect members' views on heritage conservation.	Information will be shared within Government and relevant parties concerned, as appropriate, to enhance the formulation and implementation of policies and initiatives on heritage conservation.
Government Procurement Practices for Design and Build Contracts	No additional financial implication	Under planning	By means of written submissions and consultation sessions with stakeholders of the construction industry.	Information will be shared within Government and stakeholders of the construction industry.
Sustainable Construction Management Framework for Public Works Projects	No additional financial implication	Under planning	Presentation to the Construction Industry Council	Information will be shared within Government and stakeholders of the construction industry.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C K MAK

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Date _____ 22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)029

Question Serial No.

1694

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat:
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Subhead :

Programme : (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

What is the cost of each tree planted by the Administration? What are the main species of the trees planted by the Government?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

Government plants a great variety of trees and seedlings of different species and sizes for different purposes (e.g. landscape enhancement, afforestation, erosion control, etc.). The unit cost of planting a tree or seedling depends on a number of factors (such as tree size and species, length of the establishment period, whether soil improvement and tree mounting fixtures are involved, etc.). As an indication, the weighted average unit cost of planting a seedling in 2009 was about \$15 whereas that of planting a tree (of about 95 millimeters in diameter at breast height) was about \$1,200.

In 2009, the most common species of seedlings planted included Schima (木荷), Hong Kong Gordonia (大頭茶), Brisbane box (紅膠木), Big-leaved Acacia (大葉相思) and Ear-leaved Acacia (耳果相思) whereas the most common species of trees planted are Queen Crape Myrtle (大花紫薇), Hong Kong Orchid Tree (洋紫荊) and Rose Apple (蒲桃).

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

courses thus enabling them to register as skilled / semi-skilled workers.

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)032

Question Serial No.

1982

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead :
 Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Programme : (2) Heritage Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question : It is mentioned in paragraph 102 of the Budget Speech that in order to promote creativity and innovation, the Government plans to revitalise the Former Police Married Quarters on Hollywood Road as a centre for promoting creative industries. Will the Administration inform this Committee:

- (a) of the estimated expenditure for the maintenance/conversion of this project;
- (b) whether the subsequent operating expenses will be counted towards the annual government recurrent expenditure;
- (c) of the estimated number of organisations that will benefit from the project upon its completion;
- (d) of the work schedule of the whole project;
- (e) of the criteria and mechanism used to vet the proposals submitted by the organisations; and of the way and means to consult the creative industries and the organisations concerned.

Asked by : Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

- Reply :
- (a) Under a new partnership approach, the Government will carry out the capital works for the core facilities and the successful applicant will operate and manage the revitalised facilities. The estimated cost of the government works will be available upon finalisation of the detailed design and the estimated maintenance cost will be known upon selection of the successful applicant to operate and manage the revitalised facilities.
 - (b) The project will be run on a self-sustainable basis. The Government will not finance or subsidise the operating expenses of the revitalised facilities.
 - (c) The Development Bureau has launched an exercise in March 2010 to invite proposals on the transformation of the Former Police Married Quarters (PMQ) site into a creative industries landmark. The number of organisations which may benefit from the project will only be known upon selection of the successful applicant and commencement of operation of the revitalised facilities.
 - (d) Tentatively, we anticipate that government works on the core facilities will be completed in the fourth quarter of 2013 and the revitalised facilities will commence operation in 2014.

- (e) The proposals will be assessed in accordance with four pre-determined criteria, namely (i) reflection of historical value and technical aspects, (ii) creative industries value, social value and social enterprise operation, (iii) financial viability, and (iv) management capability and other consideration. An assessment committee comprising the Advisory Committee on Revitalisation of Historic Buildings, augmented by experts in the field of creative industries will consider the proposals according to the above assessment criteria.

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)033

Question Serial No.

2043

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead :
 Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Programme : (4) Intra-Governmental Services

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

As mentioned in paragraph 58 of the Financial Secretary's Budget Speech, the Government is "mindful of the ageing problem and possible skills mismatch in the construction workforce earmark \$100 million to support the CIC.... and I expect that the CIC will increase its investment in tandem with this funding to provide the necessary incentives to attract more young people to join the construction industry and to improve the practice of the industry". In this connection,

- (a) Please advise the number of young people expected to be attracted to the industry in 2010-11.
- (b) As the Administration has mentioned the ageing problem of the construction workforce, does it have an estimate of the number of existing workers whose jobs will be taken up by younger generation because of the ageing problem? If yes, does the Administration have any measures to help those workers and what is the estimated expenditure involved? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Sing-chi

Reply :

- (a) We are now actively liaising with the Construction Industry Council (CIC) to work out the detailed implementation plan for the relevant training schemes. The target number can only be ascertained after the implementation plan is drawn up and finalised.
- (b) The proposed training schemes are specifically targeted at trades with shortage and with difficulty in recruiting trainees. We therefore do not envisage that substantial number of in-service construction workers will be displaced by young new entrants.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)034

Question Serial No.

2301

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead :
 Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Programme : (4) Intra-Governmental Services

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

The Financial Secretary mentioned in paragraph 58 of the 2010-11 Budget Speech that \$100 million would be earmarked to support the Construction Industry Council (CIC) to attract more people to join the construction industry among other measures. As explained by the Secretary for Development at the press conference held on 26 February 2010, the new measures would cover two main aspects: provide incentives to attract more people to participate in construction training and retraining and to improve the practice of the construction industry. In this connection, please provide the following information –

- (a) a breakdown of the provision for enhancing the training and retraining of construction personnel, i.e. the provision for the enhanced “Adult Short Course”, advancement training course for senior construction workers, the training allowance for CIC’s Construction Supervisor / Technician Programme and subsidy for fees of trade tests and specified training courses;
- (b) a breakdown of the provision for improving the culture of construction industry, i.e. the provision for improving the safety, working environment and conditions in public works construction sites, and requiring public works contractors to provide uniform for site personnel; and
- (c) the targets for the work mentioned in (a) and (b) to be achieved in 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13.

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply :

- (a) Of the \$100 million set out in paragraph 58 of the 2010-11 Budget Speech, \$80 million will be used for supporting the Construction Industry Council (CIC) to strengthen its training and trade testing functions and the remaining amount for helping to attract new entrants to the industry through promotion and publicity activities.

- (b) The proposed measures for improving the practice of construction industry include stipulating provisions in public works contracts to require contractors to implement measures to improve the site operating environment for workers, safeguard construction site safety and site tidiness, improve measures on security of payment and require contractors to provide uniform for site personnel. The above measures will be pursued in the context of implementing capital works projects to be funded by the Capital Works Reserve Fund.
- (c) We are now actively liaising with the CIC to work out the detailed implementation programme for the relevant training schemes. The target for the proposed measures mentioned in paragraph (a) above can only be ascertained after the implementation programme is drawn up and finalised. Regarding the proposed measures for improving the practice of construction industry in paragraph (b) above, some of these measures have already been implemented in a number of public works projects. We will gradually extend the measures to other public works projects.

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)035

Question Serial No.

2981

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead :
 Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Programme : (4) – Intra-Governmental Services

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

In paragraph 56 of the Budget Speech, the Financial Secretary stated that the estimated capital works expenditure for 2010-11 will increase to \$49.6 billion. Please provide the following information : (a) the estimated provision for capital works expenditure for 2010-11 excluding the provision for ten major infrastructure projects as announced in 2007-08 Policy Address; and (b) the number of jobs thus created for the construction sector?

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply :

The estimated expenditure on capital works projects in 2010-11 will increase to \$49.6 billion, of which \$37.7 billion is attributed to the non-ten major infrastructure projects.

We estimate that the expenditure of \$37.7 billion alone could provide some 56 530 job opportunities, including some 4 870 job opportunities for professional/technical staff and some 51 660 job opportunities for labourers.

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)037

Question Serial No.

2817

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat:
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Subhead :

Programme : (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

The Bureau will formulate and implement policies and strategies on greening, landscape, and tree management in 2010-11. In this connection, what are the specific work plans and the estimated expenditure for the various measures concerned? Will this include enacting dedicated legislation for tree conservation and management? If yes, what are the specific work plan and estimated expenditure for the legal research work? If legislation will not be considered, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. NG Margaret

Reply :

In 2010-11, the Greening, Landscape and Tree Management (GLTM) Section, underpinned by the Greening and Landscape Office and the Tree Management Office, will formulate and implement policies and initiatives on greening, landscape and tree management in accordance with the new, holistic approach recommended by the Task Force on Tree Management. The work plan of the GLTM Section is set out below –

For both the Greening and Landscape Office and the Tree Management Office:

- formulate and promulgate standards, guidelines and best practices related to greening, landscape planning and design, and tree management;
- build up the capacity of Government and the industry in the field of greening, landscape and tree management through training, manpower development and research; and
- enhance community involvement and public education to foster an attitude of proper care for and protection of greenery.

For the Greening and Landscape Office:

- oversee the implementation of Government's annual greening programme and the overall formulation and implementation of the Greening Master Plans;
- provides advice on major landscape and greening proposals; and
- formulate measures to promote greening opportunities and the wider adoption of new greening techniques (such as rooftop greening and vertical greening) in both public and private sector projects.

For the Tree Management Office:

- implement a risk management approach to tree management and develop a database of important / problematic trees;
- enhance the public complaint handling mechanism and the emergency response arrangement; and
- provides advice on the policy and operational aspects of tree management.

A breakdown of the estimated expenditure of the GLTM Section to implement the above work plan is as follows:

Expenditure Items	Estimated Expenditure in 2010-11 (\$ million)
Staff expenses	22.2
Community involvement and public education activities	1.9
Research on technical aspects of greening, landscape and tree management	1.6
Training and equipment	1.2
Other departmental expenses	1.6
Total	28.5

As stated in the Report of the Task Force on Tree Management, Government considers that there is no need to introduce any legislative change in the area of tree conservation at this stage. Instead, efforts should be channelled to the improvement of administrative measures. The work plan of the GLTM Section in 2010-11 reflects this approach.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)038

Question Serial No.

2818

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead :
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Programme : (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Under the key initiatives for the new financial year, the Bureau mentioned that it would review the tree risk assessment mechanism. However, no reference is made to any mechanism for handling trees with potential risks. This will inevitably make people feel that the Bureau will continue with the existing approach, that is, removal as the only way to handle trees with potential risks. Will the Bureau allocate any resources in the new financial year for the purposes of exploring, developing and taking forward an enhanced mechanism for tree restoration under which trees with risk are handled through various practicable measures so as to safeguard public safety on the one hand and avoid tree removal on the other? If yes, what are the estimated expenditure and work plans in this respect? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. NG Margaret

Reply :

The effective management of problematic trees is part and parcel of the implementation of the risk management approach to tree management. The new tree risk assessment arrangements is based on a dual approach, first through an “area basis” assessment to identify those areas where members of the public would be subject to significant risk if a tree failed, followed by a “tree basis” assessment where selected trees will be assessed on their conditions with particular emphasis on the risk angle. Based on the assessment, we aim to identify the most appropriate remedial action for each problematic tree (which may range from trimming of excessive crown to reduce weight, pruning of withered branches, construction of supporting structures, etc.) and formulate a suitable programme for subsequent monitoring. Problematic trees will only be removed when no other suitable remedial action could be identified or justified. The Greening, Landscape and Tree Management Section will take the lead in developing the new tree risk assessment mechanism in 2010-11 having regard to overseas best practices and local circumstances, and will arrange training for staff to familiarise them with the new mechanism. We will take forward this task by deployment of existing resources.

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)039

Question Serial No.

2819

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead :
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Programme : (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

The removal of a tree earlier within the site boundary of a declared monument has aroused much community concern about conservation of trees within such boundaries. As such, will the Bureau set aside resources in the new financial year to review the present tree conservation measures in this respect? If yes, please provide details of the work plans. If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. NG Margaret

Reply :

We consider that the existing statutory requirements and associated administrative measures are able to adequately protect the trees within the monument boundary. Nevertheless, we will enhance the monument owners' understanding of the existing control system through the following measures in 2010-11:

- (a) Following the written reminder issued by the Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO) to all owners of monuments that they should follow the requirements specified in the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance (Cap. 53), AMO will organise briefings and provide guidelines to owners of monuments to enhance their understanding of the statutory requirements and matters requiring attention when carrying out works or tree removal within the monument boundary;
- (b) In handling applications for permits for carrying on works within the monument boundary, AMO will pay heed to any impact of the construction works on the trees in the vicinity of the works area and follow up with the owner as necessary to avoid any inadvertent adverse impact on the trees; and

- (c) The Greening, Landscape and Tree Management (GLTM) Section in the Development Bureau will collaborate with AMO in encouraging owners of monuments to carry out proper maintenance of trees in their premises, and enhancing the awareness of the construction industry of tree conservations issues in carrying out works, including works within the monument boundary.

AMO and the GLTM Section will implement the above measures with their existing resources.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	C K Mak
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)
Date	22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)040

Question Serial No.

2820

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat:
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Subhead :

Programme : (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

As tree management is a job requiring special expertise, the Chief Secretary for Administration mentioned last year that training for tree management personnel would be strengthened. Will the Bureau put more resources into this area and recruit more tree management professionals from outside in the new financial year? If yes, please provide details, including the amount of additional resources, the number of additional staff and their duties and job nature. If the Administration will not increase resources on this area, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. NG Margaret

Reply :

Training and manpower development are priority action areas for the newly established Greening, Landscape and Tree Management (GLTM) Section so as to enhance the capability of the executive departments in discharging their tree management responsibility. A Training Committee will be established to plan tree management training for staff within the Government in a comprehensive and strategic manner. The GLTM Section will source appropriate training courses for government staff. We will also liaise with local training institutions on the organisation of suitable tree management training courses to meet Government's operational needs. In 2010-11, \$0.9 million has been earmarked for providing training to staff in the GLTM Section to keep them abreast of the latest professional and technical developments in tree management and for organising group training sessions for the executive departments. This is supplemented by additional tree management training arranged by the executive departments for their staff.

On professional qualification of staff serving in the GLTM Section, as at 19 March 2010, eight (out of 11 professional grade officers) have obtained professional tree management qualifications. As regards conducting open recruitment for tree management professionals, one Arborist has been employed on non-civil service contract (NCSC) terms and, in 2010-11, the GLTM Section will conclude open recruitment for three more tree management professionals as follows –

- (a) one Head of GLTM Section to formulate policies and strategies on greening, landscape and tree management and to oversee the work of the Greening and Landscape Office and the Tree Management Office;
- (b) one Head of Tree Management Office to assist in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of the policy on tree management; and
- (c) one more Arborist (on NCSC terms) to provide technical advice on tree management matters.

The annual expenditure on these three posts is \$3.4 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)042

Question Serial No.

3028

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat:
 Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Heritage Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

The Bureau indicated that it would oversee the implementation of the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) mechanism. Does the Bureau have any plans to review the existing HIA mechanism in 2010-11? If yes, please provide details of the work plans and estimated expenditure. If not, what are the reasons? Will the Bureau allocate resources to further enhance the conservation of buildings of historical significance apart from assessing the heritage value of districts or buildings? If yes, please provide details and the estimated expenditure. If no resources will be allocated, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. NG Margaret

Reply :

Since the implementation of the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) mechanism in January 2008 for capital works projects, the Commissioner for Heritage's Office (CHO) in Development Bureau has kept the mechanism under constant review, using its existing resources. In September 2009, CHO refined the HIA mechanism to require a project proponent to seek the Antiquities Advisory Board's support for the recommended mitigation measures if the HIA conducted for the project has identified impacts on the historic site(s).

Upon identifying impacts on historic site(s), the proponent of the project has to devise and carry out the necessary mitigation measures so as to evitali the impacts. The cost associated with these mitigation measures will be charged to the project vote of the relevant capital works projects.

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for
 Development (Works)

Date

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)043

Question Serial No.

3029

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead :
 Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Programme : (2) Heritage Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Will the Bureau consider allocating resources to assist owners of buildings of historical value to carry out maintenance or revitalization works, or will the relevant costs be borne by the Government? If yes, please provide details. If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. NG Margaret

Reply :

To help arrest the deterioration of privately-owned graded historic buildings due to lack of maintenance, the Administration launched the Financial Assistance for Maintenance Scheme (the Scheme) in August 2008 to provide financial assistance to private owners of historic buildings for carrying out minor maintenance works. The amount of financial assistance for each successful application, up to the ceiling of \$1 million, is determined having regard to the justifications provided by the applicant. If the conditions of the historic buildings so justify, more than one application may be put forward for the same building. The successful applicant is required to undertake not to demolish and transfer ownership of the building and to allow reasonable public access to the building within ten years after completion of the maintenance works.

As at 10 March 2010, we have received 11 applications for financial assistance and approved nine of them. The remaining two are under assessment. The total amount of approved financial assistance is \$7.202 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)044

Question Serial No.

3030

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead :
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Programme : (2) Heritage Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question : Regarding the conservation of the Former Police Married Quarters on Hollywood Road, will the Government allocate resources to introduce more public participation, especially to encourage non-governmental organisations to take part in the project? If yes, please provide details of the work plans and the estimated expenditure.

Asked by : Hon. NG Margaret

Reply : The Development Bureau (DEVB) has launched an exercise in March 2010 to invite proposals from interested organisations or enterprises, which include non-profit-making organisations and non-government organisations, on the transformation of the Former Police Married Quarters (PMQ) site into a creative industries landmark. Under a new partnership approach, Government will carry out the capital works for the core facilities and the successful applicant will operate and manage the revitalised facilities. The invitation for proposals exercise will close in mid-June 2010 and we expect to select the successful applicant in the fourth quarter of 2010. Subject to finalisation of the final design, the government works will tentatively be completed in the fourth quarter of 2013. We expect the revitalised facilities to commence operation in 2014. We envisage that the revitalised PMQ site will provide studios for artists, designers, etc. from different creative sectors, exhibition space and galleries for the display and sales of creative products, an exhibition area for displaying the relics of the Central School and interpreting the history of the Central School and the PMQ, as well as landscaped open space. The estimated expenditure for the capital works to be undertaken by the Government would be available upon finalisation of the detailed design. DEVB and the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau will administer the revitalisation project with their existing resources.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

C K Mak

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date _____

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)046

Question Serial No.

2846

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead :
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Programme : (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Will the Administration provide the total number of outsourced contracts and landscape contractors for tree pruning? Please give a breakdown by coverage (such as public housing area, slope) of the existing number of outsourced contracts and landscape contractors. Are the contractors provided with guidelines on tree pruning? If yes, please provide details. If not, how can the Administration ensure the proper pruning of trees?

Asked by : Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply :

Tree pruning is an area normally covered by maintenance contracts for landscaping works; either directly awarded to Specialist Contractors in the Landscaping category under the List of Approved Suppliers of Materials and Specialist Contractors for Public Works or to other public works contractors who will appoint Specialist Contractors in the Landscaping category as sub-contractors where necessary.

Taking account of both types of contracts, as at 1 March 2010, Government departments had 53 maintenance contracts covering landscaping service and altogether 15 Specialist Contractors in the Landscaping category were involved. A breakdown of the contracts and the Specialist Contractors in the Landscaping category involved is set out below –

Coverage of the Maintenance Contract	No. of Maintenance Contracts	No. of Specialist Contractors in the Landscaping Category*
Public Housing Estates	8	3
Slopes	9	6
Within the boundary of expressways	2	2
Parks and roadside landscaped areas	23	3
Stormwater drainage system and facilities	3	2
Waterworks reserves	5	- #
Ad-hoc vegetation maintenance on other unallocated and unleased government land	3	2

* Among the 15 Specialist Contractors engaging in landscaping service, some of them are involved in more than one maintenance contracts.

All the five contracts have been awarded to public works contractors who are not Specialist Contractors in the Landscaping category. Specialist Contractors in the Landscaping category would be engaged as a sub-contractor on a need basis when works requirement is identified.

All the above maintenance contracts contain specifications on how to properly carry out tree pruning.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

- (b) The GLTM Section in Works Branch of the Development Bureau was set up on 1 March 2010 to facilitate the sustainable development of a green environment in Hong Kong through the adoption of a holistic approach. One of its priority tasks is to formulate standards, guidelines and best practices on greening, landscape and tree management to provide guidance to executive departments. In taking forward this task, the GLTM Section will make reference to professional advice as well as good practices both locally and elsewhere, where appropriate. It will also consult the Expert Panel on Tree Management, which will comprise local and non-local experts and stakeholders on tree management, to be set up, as appropriate.

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)048

Question Serial No.

2848

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat:
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Subhead :

Programme : (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Regarding the Administration's tree management work, please provide :

- (a) the total number of enquiries and complaints received so far on tree management in each of the past three years. Please list out by year the enquiries and complaints received;
- (b) the number of the above cases requiring follow-up actions, with a breakdown by year of the number of follow-up cases, including a breakdown of both the completed and outstanding ones;
- (c) the number of trees felled and removed as a result. Please give a breakdown of the dates of receipt of complaints, details of follow-up actions, and the dates of and reasons for the felling of trees in the past five years.

Asked by : Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply :

A breakdown of the enquiries and complaints received in the past three years concerning tree management is as follows:

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10@
No. of enquires and complaints handled	4 400	10 700	7 900
No. of completed cases	4 200	9 700	7 600
No. of outstanding cases #	800	1 800	2 100
No. of trees removed ^	600	1 900	1 500

No. of outstanding cases at the end of the year brought forward to the following year.

@ As at 1 March 2010.

^ Only three years of data are readily available.

As there are 4 000 cases of tree removal in the past three years in response to public enquiries and complaints, it would not be practical to list all the case details. Those trees that were removed were mostly fallen or severely damaged trees due to inclement weather (e.g. tropical cyclone, heavy rainstorm or thunderstorm), or dead or structurally unstable trees which posed high potential danger to the general public. The trees were removed after careful consideration of all relevant factors, of which protection of public safety is a priority concern. As a general rule, trees will only be removed after a rigorous assessment process.

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)049

Question Serial No.

2849

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat:
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Subhead :

Programme : (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Will the Administration provide the following information on tree management work:

- (a) In formulating standards for tree management, does the Government have an expanded checklist with additional tools and equipment needed for tree inspection? Please give a breakdown of the names of the tools and equipment on the checklist and list out their original quantities and the estimated increase in quantity and expenditure.
- (b) In formulating standards for tree management, has the Government developed any maintenance methods for use on trees infected by pests? Please provide a detailed list of maintenance methods in use in the past and give a breakdown by maintenance method of the quantities of infected trees and relevant maintenance costs in the past five years.

Asked by : Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply :

- (a) The Greening, Landscape and Tree Management (GLTM) Section will formulate guidelines on tree risk assessment arrangements based on a dual approach, first through an “area basis” assessment to identify those areas where members of the public would be subject to significant risk if a tree failed, followed by a “tree basis” assessment where selected trees will be assessed on their conditions with particular emphasis on the risk angle. Assessment of individual trees involves visual inspection of various aspects of a tree’s condition, to be supplemented by inspection with the aid of tools and equipment where necessary.

A list of advanced equipment available in Government bureaux/departments as at 1 March 2010 and to be procured in 2010-11 for use in tree inspection is set out below –

Description	Quantity as at 1 March 2010	To be procured in 2010-11	
		Quantity	Estimated Expenditure (\$ million)
Resistograph	12	23	1.55
Sonic tomograph	10	21	6.30

Other common types of hand-held tools and equipment available within Government bureaux/departments for tree inspection purpose include measuring tape, mallet, thin long metal pole, electric torch; binocular, etc. These tools and equipment are relatively large in number and we do not have ready statistics on them. Additional purchase will be made in 2010-11 having regard to operational needs.

- (b) The GLTM Section will formulate standards and guidelines on pest and disease control to assist executive departments to better manage the vegetation under their care. Executive departments with tree management responsibility do not have comprehensive statistics on cases of trees affected by pests or diseases in the past five years and the treatment methods. Based on available information, the most common types of pest and disease affecting local trees are set out below:

Pest or disease	Treatments	Approximate no. of trees affected in the past five years
fungal attack	apply fungicide	not available
erythrina gall wasp	remove infested parts and apply pesticide	1 300
Termite	use of chemical treatment and/or baiting	150

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

Signature

Name in block letters

C K Mak

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

Date

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)051

Question Serial No.

2851

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat: Subhead :
 Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Programme : (3) Greening, Landscape and Tree Management

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Regarding the Administration's tree management work, please provide the following information:

- (a) the amount of expenditure on tree maintenance training provided by the Administration since the establishment of the Tree Management Office; and the number of staff receiving such training; and
- (b) the existing number of staff at supervisory level responsible for tree management within the Administration and whether they all received arboriculture training provided by overseas experts; the annual expenditure on these training courses; the number of staff nominated for these overseas courses and having obtained relevant qualifications, together with the amount of expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply :

- (a) The Greening, Landscape and Tree Management (GLTM) Section, together with its subordinate Tree Management Office, was set up on 1 March 2010. From February to March 2010, the GLTM Section (and the Preparatory Team for its establishment) has organised a series of tree risk assessment training courses for 1 840 officers in executive departments at a cost of \$0.46 million.
- (b) As at 1 March 2010, 129 officers at the managerial/supervisory level were directly involved in vegetation maintenance duties on either a full-time or part-time basis, 63 of them have previously attended arboriculture training provided by overseas experts.

To ensure that managerial/supervisory officers with tree management responsibility are equipped with the necessary expertise for discharging their responsibility, departments will arrange suitable training for the professional development of their staff and will source the most appropriate training opportunities, both locally and overseas, having regards to the operational requirements, the course content and availability, resource implications, etc. Besides sending officers to overseas training courses, departments may on occasions arrange overseas experts to conduct training courses locally for the benefit of more staff. The training courses that these officers attend normally do not lead to conferment of qualification. But the officers may acquire additional qualification on a voluntary basis.

Details of continuous professional development training on arboriculture attended by managerial/supervisory officers with tree management responsibility either overseas or locally under the instruction of overseas experts in 2008-09 and 2009-10 are set out below:

	Arboricultural courses provided by overseas experts	
	2008-09	2009-10
Number of officers attending the training	131	172
Number of officers who obtained qualification following attendance of the training courses	21	71
Actual expenditure/ Estimated expenditure (\$ million)	0.9	1.5

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

<p>* offset by the deletion of one Senior Landscape Architect post under Head 25 – Architectural Services Department with effect from 1.4.2010</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promote greening opportunities and new greening technologies • enhance the capacity of Government and the industry in landscape matters through manpower development and research • organise community involvement and public education activities.
<p><u>Tree Management Office</u> 1 Head of Tree Management Office 1 Senior Landscape Architect 1 Senior Forestry Officer 1 Chief Leisure Services Manager 2 Landscape Architects / Assistant Landscape Architects 1 Forestry Officer / Assistant Forestry Officer 2 Senior Leisure Services Manager 1 Senior Field Officer 1 Field Officer I 2 Arborists # # NCSC positions</p>	<p>97,840-106,925 76,155-87,735 76,155-87,735 76,155-87,735 24,120-73,500 21,880-73,500 62,510-73,500 40,290-48,400 29,235-38,470 55,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assist in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of the policy on tree management, including tree risk assessment • formulate standards and guidelines on tree management • enhance the capacity of Government and the industry in tree management through manpower development and research • enhance the public complaint handling mechanism • provide advice on tree management to departments • organise community involvement and public education activities
<p><u>Administrative Support</u> 1 Senior Executive Officer 1 Executive Officer II 1 Personal Secretary I 1 Clerical Officer 2 Assistant Clerical Officers</p>	<p>48,700-73,500 22,985-36,740 21,880-27,910 21,880-27,910 10,190-20,835</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide administrative support to the GLTM Section

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

5. Ancestral Hall of Tsang Tai Uk, Shatin	\$1,000,000
6. Tin Hau Temple, Kam Tin, Yuen Long	\$985,000
7. Hung Shing Temple, Fanling	\$880,000
8. Main Building of Helena May, Central	\$600,000
9. Hung Shing Temple, Ping Shan, Yuen Long	\$1,000,000

- (c) For the historic buildings that have received financial assistance under the Scheme, their owners are required to allow reasonable public access to their buildings for appreciation. The reasonableness of public access is to be considered case by case in order to strike a balance between public appreciation of the building and allowing the building to maintain its normal operation.

At present, of the nine buildings which have received financial assistance, except items 4 and 8, all of them are open to the public during daytime. For item 4, the No. 3 Bungalow in St Stephen's College at Stanley is to open for public appreciation on a Saturday each month. As for item 8, Helena May arranges monthly heritage tours for schools. A number of community organisations, such as YWCA of Hong Kong, Hong Kong Breast Cancer Foundation and Riding for the Disabled use the building regularly. In addition, Helena May will organise bi-monthly guided tours to the building from late 2010, upon completion of the maintenance works carried out under the Scheme; therefore there is ample scope for public access.

Signature

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Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

In addition, a series of other publicity programmes were organised in 2009-2010 including :

- Heritage photo exhibition with Royal Asiatic Society at the Central Police Station Compound and Heritage Discovery Centre from September to November 2009 with an attendance of about 23,500, and;
- Symposium on the Revitalisation of Urban Heritage Buildings and Sites by the Private Sector in collaboration with University of Hong Kong in November 2009.

These events also drew the participation and attendance of students and youths.

(b) In 2010-11, the focus of our publicity and public education programme will be community outreach. The following events and publicity will involve the participation of students and youths (with the estimated number of participants shown in brackets) :

- Guided heritage tours for low-income families (1 440);
- Tai Tam waterworks heritage tours (Part II) (1 200); and
- Production of teaching kit on heritage conservation for the New Secondary School Liberal Studies curriculum, to be launched in August 2010.

The above activities will incur an estimated expenditure of \$700,000.

Signature

Name in block letters

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Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

1	Senior Field Officer
1	Field Officer I
2	Arborists (employed on non-civil service contract (NCSC) terms)
1	Senior Executive Officer
1	Executive Officer II
1	Personal Secretary I
1	Personal Secretary II
1	Clerical Officer
2	Assistant Clerical Officer

Some of the above officers will carry out frontline work (e.g. Senior Field Officer, Field Officer I and the NCSC Arborists), i.e. to provide advice to departments without in-house tree expertise and on complex cases escalated by departments.

(b) The work plan of the GLTM Section in 2010-11 is set out below –

For both the Greening and Landscape Office and the Tree Management Office:

- formulate and promulgate standards, guidelines and best practices related to greening, landscape planning and design, and tree management;
- build up the capacity of Government and the industry in the field of greening, landscape and tree management through training, manpower development and research; and
- enhance community involvement and public education to foster an attitude of proper care for and protection of greenery.

For the Greening and Landscape Office:

- oversee the implementation of Government's annual greening programme and the overall formulation and implementation of the Greening Master Plans;
- provides advice on major landscape and greening proposals; and
- formulate measures to promote greening opportunities and the wider adoption of new greening techniques (such as rooftop greening and vertical greening) in both public and private sector projects.

For the Tree Management Office:

- implement a risk management approach to tree management and develop a database of important / problematic trees;
- enhance the public complaint handling mechanism and the emergency response arrangement; and
- provides advice on the policy and operational aspects of tree management.

A breakdown of the estimated expenditure of the GLTM Section to implement the above work plan is as follows:

Expenditure Item	Estimated Expenditure in 2010-11 (\$ million)
Staff expenses	22.2
Community involvement and public education activities	1.9
Researches on technical aspects of greening, landscape and tree management	1.6
Training and equipment	1.2
Other departmental expenses	1.6
Total	28.5

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)057

Question Serial No.

3009

Head : 159 – Government Secretariat:
Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Subhead :

Programme : (2) Heritage Conservation

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Major capital projects estimated to start in 2010-11 include three projects under the Revitalisation Schemes, that is, “Conversion of Lai Chi Kok Hospital into the Hong Kong Cultural Heritage”, “Conversion of Lui Seng Chun into Hong Kong Baptist University Chinese Medicine and Healthcare Centre” and “Conversion of Mei Ho House as City Hostel”. Please provide details of the three projects (including the scheduled commencement and completion dates, the estimated expenditure and the job opportunities created by the projects for grassroots workers and the middle class).

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla

Reply :

Details of the three projects under the Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme, namely, Conversion of Lai Chi Kok Hospital into the Jao Tsung-I Academy / Hong Kong Cultural Heritage; Conversion of Mei Ho House as City Hostel; and Conversion of Lui Seng Chun into Hong Kong Baptist University Chinese Medicine and Healthcare Centre are as follows:

Project	Anticipated date of commencement	Anticipated date of completion	Estimated capital costs (HK\$ million)**	Anticipated number of job creation	
				Workers	Professional/ technical staff
Conversion of Lai Chi Kok Hospital into the Jao Tsung-I Academy / Hong Kong Cultural Heritage	October 2010	Lower zone: August 2011 Other parts: June 2012	240.7 (in September 2009 prices)	229	33
Conversion of Mei Ho House as City Hostel	November 2010	February 2012	199.2 (in September 2009 prices)	256	34

Conversion of Lui Seng Chun into Hong Kong Baptist University Chinese Medicine and Healthcare Centre	December 2010	March 2012	25.2 (in September 2009 prices)	62	9
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** The project costs are subject to adjustment upon completion of detailed designs in the 2nd Quarter of 2010

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

**Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)058

Question Serial No.

0146

Head : 25 – Architectural Services Department

Subhead : 000 Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question : The revised estimate of hire of services and professional fees under Departmental Expenses in 2009-10 is \$51.445 million, which is higher than the original estimate of \$35.082 million, and the estimate for 2010-11 is also increased to \$72.401 million. What are the reasons for the increases ?

Asked by : Hon. IP LAU Suk-ye, Regina

Reply : The increase in hire of services and professional fees for revised estimate in 2009-10 is mainly due to hire of consultancy services for conducting territory-wide building inspection of government buildings and facilities, review and updating of schedules of rates for term contracts. In addition, the scope of the service level agreement with the Electrical and Mechanical Services Trading Fund has been extended to provide additional information technology support services for the Architectural Services Department.

The increase for estimate in 2010-11 is mainly due to the hire of consultancy services to complete the territory-wide building inspection launched back in July 2009 and for conducting detailed structural condition survey of government buildings and facilities.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs Marigold LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Architectural Services

Date _____ 17 March 2010

**Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)059

Question Serial No.

1391

Head : 25 – Architectural Services Department Subhead : 000 Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question : The estimated provision for “hire of services and professional fees” under departmental expenses in 2010-11 is \$72,401,000 which has risen sharply over the actual expenditures of the past two years. What are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply : The increase in hire of services and professional fees for estimate in 2010-11 over the actual expenditure in 2008-09 and revised estimate in 2009-10 is mainly due to:

- (a) hire of consultancy services for conducting detailed structural condition survey of government buildings and facilities, and completing territory-wide building inspection launched back in July 2009;
- (b) hire of consultancy services for the review and updating of schedules of rates for term contracts; and
- (c) the expansion of scope of the service level agreement with the Electrical and Mechanical Services Trading Fund to provide additional information technology support services for the Architectural Services Department.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs Marigold LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Architectural Services

Date _____ 17 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)060

Question Serial No.

1983

Head : 25 – Architectural Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (3) Facilities Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Regarding Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11, please advise –

- (a) The details of the work on promotion of roof greening and vertical greening, and the enhancement of practices on greening, landscaping and tree management in government building works in 2009-10 and 2010-11.
- (b) Currently, how many buildings are owned by the government? What is the average greening ratio in these buildings?
- (c) Did the Administration implement roof greening and vertical greening projects in all new government buildings in the past 3 years (i.e. from 2007-08 to 2009-10)? What is the average greening ratio in these new buildings?
- (d) Did the Administration examine the feasibility of implementing the above greening projects for existing buildings in the past 3 years (i.e. from 2007-08 to 2009-10)? How many greening projects have been implemented for the existing buildings in respective year?

Asked by : Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply :

- (a) (i) Promotion of Roof Greening
On including roof greening in new buildings, the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) has included this initiative where practicable in the implementation of its capital works projects which have usable roof area since 2001 and will continue to do so in 2010-11. On promoting roof greening in existing buildings, ArchSD has since 2006 recommended and encouraged the management departments of existing government buildings to consider installation of green roofs whenever there are major works involving the roofs of the buildings concerned and will continue to do so in 2010-11. ArchSD will also continue to encourage roof greening wherever practicable when giving advice to other government bureaux/departments, and will continue the extensive green roof planting trial for observation on the sustainability of plant materials used. When opportunities arise, ArchSD will give presentations to the relevant stakeholders to promote application of green roof.

(ii) Promotion of Vertical Greening

On implementation of vertical greening, ArchSD has embarked upon pilot schemes in capital works projects including schools and other government buildings. In 2009-10, ArchSD has completed and launched an internal guidance document on vertical greening system. In 2010-11, ArchSD will continue to explore opportunities for vertical greening in its new government building works. With the experience of successful installation of vertical greening in new buildings, we would extend our recommendation of vertical greening to management departments of existing buildings whenever practicable.

(iii) Enhancing Practices on Greening, Landscaping and Tree Management

In 2009-10, ArchSD developed the departmental design checklist for green features for government building works and embarked on the tree risk assessment for the trees under its maintenance jurisdiction and those within the construction sites of its new works projects. In 2010-11, ArchSD will continue the tree risk assessment and will implement other improvement measures on greening, landscaping and tree management in accordance with the relevant policies.

- (b) Currently, ArchSD maintains about 8 000 government buildings and facilities. We do not have statistics on the average greening ratio of these buildings.
- (c) In the last three financial years, ArchSD has been implementing roof greening and vertical greening on new government buildings wherever practicable. However, we do not have statistics on the average greening ratio for these new government buildings. Starting from 2010, we aim to achieve a greening coverage of over 20% of the site area for new projects each with a site area of over 1 000m² and will compile statistics on greening coverage for these projects.
- (d) Since 2006, ArchSD has recommended the management departments of existing government buildings to consider installation of green roofs whenever there are major works involving the roof of the building concerned. With the accumulation of experience in successful installation of vertical greening, we will also recommend management departments to consider installation of vertical greening in existing buildings whenever practicable. The number of projects with roof greening in existing government buildings in the last three financial years are :

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Number of green roofs completed/near completion in existing government building	3	17	19

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs Marigold LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Architectural Services

Date _____ 19 March 2010

**Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)061

Question Serial No.

2337

Head : 25 – Architectural Services Department Subhead : 000 Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

- (a) Please provide information on the employment of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff as follows -

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of NCSC staff	()	()	()	()
Total expenditure on salary for NCSC staff	()	()	()	()
Number of NCSC staff appointed as civil servant	()	()	()	()
Number of NCSC staff who had the opportunity but failed to be appointed as civil servants	()	()	()	()
Percentage of NCSC staff in the total number of staff of the Department	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

- (b) Please provide a breakdown of the length of employment of the NCSC staff from 2007-08 to 2010-11 as follows -

Period (years)	Numbers of staff (2010-11)	Numbers of staff (2009-10)	Numbers of staff (2008-09)	Numbers of staff (2007-08)
0.5 to 1 year	()	()	()	()
1 to 3 years	()	()	()	()
3 to 5 years	()	()	()	()
5 to 10 years	()	()	()	()
10 to 15 years	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

- (c) Please advise the number of NCSC staff who would be appointed as civil servants on permanent terms in the next three years, i.e. from 2010-11 to 2012-13.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (a) Information on the employment of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff is provided below. As the number of NCSC staff fluctuates with changing service needs and staff turnover, a projection for 2010-11 cannot be made.

	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of NCSC staff	50 (Note) (+78.6%) (projection as at 31.3.2010)	28 (-42.9%) (as at 31.3.2009)	49 (as at 31.3.2008)
Total expenditure on salary for NCSC staff (\$million)	17.90 (Note) (-12.3%)	20.42 (-35.6%)	31.68
Number of NCSC staff appointed as civil servant	8 (-125.0%)	18 (+20.0%)	15
Number of NCSC staff who had the opportunity but failed to be appointed as civil servants	1 (-87.5%)	8 (+60.0%)	5
Percentage of NCSC staff in the total number of staff of the Department	2.8% (+1.2%)	1.6% (-1.2%)	2.8%

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

Note: The number of NCSC staff in 2009-10 includes 23 NCSC staff for implementing ad hoc urgent projects initiated by other bureaux/departments. The expenditure on the salary in 2009-10 is \$5.32 million.

- (b) Breakdown of the length of employment of the NCSC from 2007-08 to 2009-10 is provided below. As explained in (a) above, a projection for 2010-11 cannot be made.

Period (years)	Numbers of staff (2009-10) (projection as at 31.3.2010)	Numbers of staff (2008-09) (as at 31.3.2009)	Numbers of staff (2007-08) (as at 31.3.2008)
0.5 to less than 1 year	32 (+700%)	4 (-63.6%)	11
1 to less than 3 years	3 (-82.4%)	17 (-32%)	25
3 to less than 5 years	10	0	1
5 to less than 10 years	4 (-42.9%)	7 (-41.7%)	12
10 to less than 15 years	1	0	0
Total number of staff	50	28	49

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

- (c) Civil service posts are filled through an open and competitive recruitment process. All NCSC staff would be subject to the same appointment procedures and arrangements as with all outside applicants. We are unable to predict the number of NCSC staff who would be appointed as civil servants in the next three years.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs Marigold LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Architectural Services

Date _____ 19 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)062

Question Serial No.

2338

Head : 25 – Architectural Services Department Subhead : 000 Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please provide the following information on the procurement of services of employment agencies (EAs) by the department from 2006-07 to 2009-10 in the form of a table :

- (a) the number of contracts signed with EAs;
- (b) the contract sum and duration for each EA;
- (c) the number and duties of workers supplied under each contract signed with EAs;
- (d) details of the pay of workers supplied under each contract signed with EAs, including monthly salaries and daily wages;
- (e) the percentage changes in the number of EAs, the number of contracts, the number of workers employed and the total expenditure in each year over the previous year;
- (f) if more than one EA was hired to supply workers in the year, please list the number and total value of contracts awarded to each EA, and the number of workers supplied under it;
- (g) the highest, median and lowest pay of workers supplied by each EA;
- (h) the proportion of workers supplied by EAs in the existing staff of the department in the year; and
- (i) the proportion of expenditure on procuring the services of EAs in departmental expenditure.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply : The Architectural Services Department has not procured any agency service from 2006-07 to 2009-10.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs Marigold LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Architectural Services

Date _____ 19 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)063

Question Serial No.

2339

Head : 25 – Architectural Services Department Subhead : 000 Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

- (a) Please provide information on the use of outsourced services (including property management, security, cleansing, telecommunication technology, statistics, etc. (excluding the outsourcing of construction works) -

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of outsourced service contracts	()	()	()	()
Total value of outsourced service contracts	()	()	()	()
Total number of employees under the outsourced service contracts	()	()	()	()
Number of employees under outsourced service contract replaced by civil servants	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

- (b) Please provide a projection on the number of posts under the outsourced service contracts which can be replaced by the government employing staff on a long-term basis in the next 3 years (i.e. 2010-11 to 2012-13).

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (a) The information on the use of outsourced services (including property management, security, cleansing, telecommunication technology, statistics, etc. (excluding the outsourcing of construction works) is as follows -

	2010-11 (projection)	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of outsourced service contracts	3	3 (-25%)	4	4
Total value of outsourced service contracts (\$ million)	2.73 (+13.7%)	2.40 (+17.7%)	2.04 (+11.5%)	1.83
Total number of employees under the outsourced service contracts	23	23 (+4.6%)	22 (+10.0%)	20
Number of employees under outsourced service contract replaced by civil servants	0	0	0	0

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

In addition to the above, since early 2007, ArchSD has also entered into Service Level Agreements (SLAs) with the Electrical and Mechanical Services Trading Fund (EMSTF) for providing information and technology support services to ArchSD. Currently, there are 42 EMSTF staff providing the service at an annual total fee of around \$22 million.

- (b) While the need for outsourced service varies from time to time and depends on the prevailing workload, we are unable to predict the number of posts under the outsourced service contracts which can be replaced by civil service posts in the next 3 years.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs Marigold LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Architectural Services

Date _____ 19 March 2010

**Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)064

Question Serial No.

2340

Head : 25 – Architectural Services Department Subhead : 000 Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

- (a) Please provide information on the employment and anticipated employment of temporary staff from 2007-08 to 2010-11 as follows -

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Numbers of temporary staff	()	()	()	()
Total expenditure on salary for the temporary staff	()	()	()	()
Percentage of temporary staff in the total number of staff of the Department	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

- (b) Please provide a breakdown of the length of employment of the temporary staff employed and planned to be employed from 2007-08 to 2010-11 as follows -

Period	Numbers of staff in 2010-11	Numbers of staff in 2009-10	Numbers of staff in 2008-09	Numbers of staff in 2007-08
Half year	()	()	()	()
1 year	()	()	()	()
2 years	()	()	()	()
3 years	()	()	()	()
3 years or above	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

(a) and (b) We have not employed any temporary staff from 2007-08 to 2009-10 nor have any plan to do so in 2010-11.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs Marigold LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Architectural Services

Date _____ 19 March 2010

**Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)065

Question Serial No.

2491

Head : 25 – Architectural Services Department Subhead :

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please provide details of the consultations on policy formulation and assessment under all programmes in the following format. Using the table below, please provide information on the consultations for which funds had been allocated in 2009-10 :

Name/content of consultation	Revised estimate (\$)	Progress of consultation (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Mode of consultation (e.g. by means of written submissions, consultation sessions, focus groups), number of consultation exercises, name of organisations and number of people consulted/to be consulted	The Administration's follow-up actions on the consultation results and the progress made (if applicable)	For consultations already completed, have the results been released to the public? If yes, what are the channels? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply : The Architectural Services Department has not conducted any consultation on policy formulation and assessment in 2009-10.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs Marigold LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Architectural Services

Date _____ 17 March 2010

**Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)066

Question Serial No.

2492

Head : 25 – Architectural Services Department Subhead :

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please provide details of the consultations on policy formulation and assessment under all programmes in the following format. Have resources been earmarked for holding consultations in 2010-11? If so, please provide the following details :

Name/content of consultation	Expenditure (\$)	Progress of consultation (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Mode of consultation (e.g. by means of written submissions, consultation sessions, focus groups), number of consultation exercises, name of organisations and number of people consulted/to be consulted	For consultations scheduled for completion in the 2010-11 financial year, will the results be released to the public? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply : There is no plan for consultation activities under all programmes in 2010-11.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs Marigold LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Architectural Services

Date _____ 18 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)067

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Question Serial No.

0096

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead (No. & title) : 700 General non-recurrent

Programme : (5) Greening and Technical Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please provide details about the study on 'Enhanced use of underground space in Hong Kong'. When will the study commence and the time for completion? What is the cost of the study?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply :

The study on 'Enhanced use of underground space in Hong Kong' aims at exploring strategic planning and technical issues related to cavern development, identifying strategic areas for future cavern development, and carrying out preliminary feasibility study on selected sites. The study will facilitate the planned development of underground space with the objective of promoting the enhanced use of rock caverns in our pursuit of sustainable and diversified development.

We are currently selecting consultants for the above study. The consultancy study and associated ground investigation works are planned to commence in the second quarter of 2010 for completion in 2011, at an estimated cost of about \$10 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ JOHN S V CHAI

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date _____ 19.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead
(No. & title) :

Programme : (5) Greening and Technical Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

The planned expenditure in 2010 on greening works implemented under greening master plans is \$159 million, indicating a significant increase when compared with the actual expenditure of \$68.9 million in 2009. Please provide a breakdown in terms of job opportunities and expenditure involved for each of the ongoing greening works projects and new greening works projects to be implemented in 2010.

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply :

There are two ongoing greening works projects under the greening master plans initiative in 2010. The estimated expenditure of the two projects and the number of jobs to be created are as follows :

Project Code	Project Title	Total Job Creation	Estimated Expenditure in 2010 (\$ million)
5044CG	Greening master plans for Kowloon West and Hong Kong Island – works for Mong Kok, Yau Ma Tei, Sheung Wan, Wan Chai and Causeway Bay	Labourers: 141 Professional/technical staff: 30	15
5046CG	Greening master plans for Kowloon West, Kowloon East and Hong Kong Island – works for remaining urban areas	Labourers : 309 Professional/technical staff: 51	144
Total :			159

Signature

Name in block letters

JOHN S V CHAI

Post Title

Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date

22.3.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)069

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Question Serial No.

1124

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Subhead :
 Development Department

Programme : (5) Greening and Technical Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of
Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

- (a) In 2010, the number of greening master plans (GMPs) under planning by the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) is zero. What are the reasons? The Department states that the planning for GMPs in the New Territories (NT) is expected to start by end 2010. What is the works schedule? What are the details? Has the Department considered carrying out GMP for other districts? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
- (b) In 2010, the number of GMPs under planning by CEDD is zero, but the estimated expenditure on greening works implemented under GMPs in 2010 is \$159 million, which is more than double of the \$68.9 million in 2009. What are the reasons? What are the details?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply :

- (a) CEDD completed the formulation of GMPs for all urban areas in 2009. We will consult the District Councils in the NT later this year to prepare for the commencement of the formulation of GMPs for the relevant districts in the NT. Eventually, all the urban areas and the NT districts will be covered by GMPs.

(b) With the completion of the formulation of GMPs for the urban areas, implementation of the greening works under the GMPs will be in full swing in 2010. A breakdown of the estimated expenditure on these greening works in 2010 is set out below –

- remaining greening works in Mong Kok, Yau Ma Tei, Sheung Wan, Wan Chai and Causeway Bay. \$15 million
- greening works in Sham Shui Po, Kowloon City, Wong Tai Sin, Kwun Tong, Western District, Southern District and Eastern District \$144 million

Signature _____

Name in block letters JOHN S V CHAI

Post Title Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date 22.3.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)070

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Question Serial No.

1383

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead
(No. & title) :

Programme : (3) Provision of Land and Infrastructure

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

When will the construction works for the cycle track network between Sheung Shui and Ma On Shan be completed and opened to the public? What is the cost of the above works in 2010-11?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

The construction works for the part of the cycle track network between Sheung Shui and Ma On Shan are expected to start in mid 2010 for completion in phases from mid 2012 to early 2013. The estimated expenditure of the project for 2010-11 is about \$45 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **JOHN S V CHAI** _____

Post Title _____ **Director of Civil Engineering and Development** _____

Date _____ **18.3.2010** _____

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead
(No. & title) :

Programme : (4) Slope Safety and Geotechnical Standards

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Regarding Programme (4), please provide the following information:

(a)

	Up to 31 December 2007	Up to 31 December 2008	Up to 31 December 2009
Total number of registered government slopes and man-made slopes			
Total number of registered government retaining walls			
Total number of registered private slopes and man-made slopes			

- (b) Please provide the number of accidents and casualties on government slopes, man-made slopes and retaining walls in the past three years.
- (c) Please provide the number of accidents and casualties on private slopes and man-made slopes in the past three years.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

- (a) Civil Engineering and Development Department maintains a Catalogue of Slopes which broadly covers man-made slopes and retaining walls in Hong Kong. The numbers of registered slopes and retaining walls in the Catalogue are as follows:

	Up to 31 December 2007	Up to 31 December 2008	Up to 31 December 2009
Total number of registered government man-made slopes	35 920	36 165	36 260
Total number of registered government retaining walls	4 180	4 235	4 240
Total number of registered private man-made slopes and retaining walls	18 700	18 850	18 900

(b) and (c)

Over the past three years, the number of reported landslides occurred on registered government and private man-made slopes and retaining walls are as follows:

Year	Number of reported landslides on registered government man-made slopes and retaining walls	Number of reported landslides on registered private man-made slopes and retaining walls	Total Number of reported landslides
2007	46	6	52
2008	369	65	434
2009	51	14	65

Whilst we do not have statistics of the number of injuries arising from the reported landslides, there was one fatal landslide in 2008 involving private land and government land and resulted in two fatalities.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ JOHN S V CHAI

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date _____ 19.3.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)072

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Question Serial No.

1921

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead
(No. & title) :

Programme : (4) Slope Safety and Geotechnical Standards

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Regarding the raising of public awareness on landslide risk arising from natural terrain and man-made slopes, please advise on the specific implementation details of the new public education campaign and the expenditure involved in 2010-11.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

In 2010-11, the Department will launch a new public education campaign on the Landslip Prevention and Mitigation Programme to raise public awareness on landslide risks arising from man-made slopes and natural terrain. The major activities include roving exhibitions in popular shopping centres, a "Slope Safety Fiesta" in the Victoria Park, school talks, field trips for secondary school teachers, media briefings and promulgation of new warning signs for natural landslide hazards. The estimated expenditure for the campaign is about \$1.3 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ JOHN S V CHAI

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date _____ 19.3.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)073

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Question Serial No.

2127

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Development Department
Subhead :

Programme : (5) Greening and Technical Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Regarding the Programme about greening master plans (GMPs), please advise

- (a) the status of completion of the GMPs for the urban areas in 2010-11 and the estimated expenditures.
- (b) the details of the preparatory and consultation works for the planning of GMPs for the New Territories (NT) as well as the estimated expenditures and manpower in 2010-11?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (a) We have completed the formulation of the GMPs for all the urban areas in early 2009, and are now focusing on the implementation of the greening works recommended in the GMPs. The greening works in Tsim Sha Tsui, Central, Mong Kok, Yau Ma Tei, Sheung Wan, Wan Chai and Causeway Bay have been substantially completed. The greening works in the remaining urban areas of Sham Shui Po, Kowloon City, Wong Tai Sin, Kwun Tong, Western District, Southern District and Eastern District are on-going and will be completed by mid-2011. The total estimated expenditure on the greening works in 2010-11 is about \$147.8 million.
- (b) We will formulate GMPs for all the nine districts in the NT. We will consult the District Councils in the NT later this year to prepare for the commencement of the formulation of GMPs for the relevant districts.
In 2010-11, we will deploy six officers for the preparatory and consultation works for the NT GMPs. Apart from these staff resources, no other expenditure is anticipated in 2010-11.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ JOHN S V CHAI _____

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development _____

Date _____ 22.3.2010 _____

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead 000 Operational Expenses
(No. & title) :

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please provide the following information on the procurement of services of employment agencies (EAs):

- (a) the number of contracts signed with the EAs;
- (b) the contract sum and duration for each EA;
- (c) the number and duties of workers supplied for each EA;
- (d) details of the pay of workers supplied by each EA. What is the range of monthly salaries? For daily or hourly wages, what is the range?
- (e) with regard to the information in items a, b, c and d, please provide the respective numbers and percentages of change for each year:

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of EAs	()	()	()	()
Total contract sum for EAs	()	()	()	()
Contract duration for EAs (average)	()	()	()	()
Total number of workers supplied by EAs	()	()	()	()
The pay (highest, median and lowest) of workers supplied by EAs	highest () median () lowest ()	highest () median () lowest ()	highest () median () lowest ()	highest () median () lowest ()

() percentage increase/decrease

- (f) the proportion of workers supplied by EAs in the existing staff of the Department; and
- (g) the proportion of expenditure on procuring the services of EAs in departmental expenditure

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

The information in respect of procurement of employment agency services from 2007-08 to 2009-10 is appended below. The projection of information for 2010-11 is, however, not available as the number of agency workers varies over time in accordance with changing service needs. The information below also excludes services provided under term contracts centrally administered by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer.

(a) The number of contracts signed with EAs

2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)
16	11	12

(b) Contract sums and duration of services

Contract sum	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)
	Number of contracts		
Less than \$0.5 million	13	8	11
\$0.5 million to \$1 million	1	1	1
Over \$1 million	2	2	0
Total:	16	11	12

Duration of services	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)
	Number of contracts		
6 months or less	2	1	4
Over 6 months to 1 year	14	9	7
Over 1 year to 2 years	0	1	1
Total:	16	11	12

(c) **Number and duties of workers supplied**

Number of workers supplied	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)
	Number of contracts		
5 or less	13	8	8
6 to 10	1	1	3
11 to 15	2	2	1
Total:	16	11	12

Duties of workers	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)
	Number of contracts		
Backend office support	12	8	8
Technical services	4	3	4
Total:	16	11	12

(d) **Salaries of workers supplied**

The contracts we entered into with employment agencies specified only the service fee charged by the latter in providing agency workers. We do not specify the wages of agency workers as the workers we required in the contracts are not non-skilled workers.^{Note} Hence we are unable to provide the information requested.

Note : As a measure to protect non-skilled workers, the Administration promulgated a mandatory requirement on wage rates for government service contracts in May 2004. Under this requirement, service providers are required to offer monthly wages to non-skilled workers which are no less than the average monthly wages for the relevant industry/occupation as published in the latest Census and Statistics Department's Quarterly Report of Wage and Payroll Statistics at the time when tenders are invited. This requirement also applies to service contracts in respect of supply of non-skilled agency workers.

- (e) **The numbers and corresponding percentages of change for each year in respect of the items in the specified table are appended below:**

	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)
Number of EAs	6 (+20%)	5 (+150%)	2
Total contract sum (\$ million)	4.3 (+8%)	4.0 (+38%)	2.9
Average duration of the contracts (months)	10.8 (-5%)	11.4 (+14%)	10.0
Total number of workers supplied by EAs	53 (+20%)	44 (-17%)	53
The salaries (highest, median and lowest) of workers supplied by EAs	Please refer to item (d) above.		

() are the percentage increase/decrease over the preceding year

- (f) **The percentage of workers supplied by EAs against the total existing staff of the Department**

2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)
3.0%	2.5%	3.0%

- (g) **The percentage of expenditure on procuring the services of EAs against the departmental expenditure of the Department**

2009-10 (estimate)	2008-09	2007-08
0.2%	0.2%	0.4%

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

JOHN S V CHAI

Post Title _____

Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date _____

22.3.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)075

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Question Serial No.

2183

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead 000 Operational Expenses
(No. & title) :

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please provide information on the employment of temporary staff for the provision of services:

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Total number of temporary staff	()	()	()	()
Total expenditures on the salaries for temporary staff	()	()	()	()
Percentage of temporary staff in the total number of staff in the department	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

We have not employed any temporary staff from 2007-08 to 2009-10 nor have any plan to do so in 2010-11.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ JOHN S V CHAI

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date _____ 19.3.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)076

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Question Serial No.

2184

33 Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead 000 Operational Expenses
(No. & title) :

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please provide information on the employment of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff as follows-

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of NCSC staff	()	()	()	()
Total expenditure on salary for NCSC staff	()	()	()	()
Years of employment of NCSC staff (average)	()	()	()	()
Number of NCSC staff appointed as civil servant	()	()	()	()
Number of NCSC staff who had the opportunity but failed to be appointed as civil servant	()	()	()	()
Percentage of NCSC staff in the total number of staff of the Department	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

Information on the employment of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff employed under the recurrent expenditure of the Department during the period from 2007-08 to 2009-10 is provided below. As the number of NCSC staff fluctuates with changing service needs and staff turnover, a projection for 2010-11 cannot be made.

	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of NCSC staff	39 (+3%) (projection as at 31.3.10)	38 (-41%) (as at 31.3.09)	64 (as at 31.3.08)
Total expenditure on salary for NCSC staff (\$ million)	11.6 (-27%)	15.9 (-20%)	19.8
Years of employment of NCSC staff (average)	1.3 (-32%)	1.9 (+27%)	1.5
Number of NCSC staff appointed as civil servant	11 (-39%)	18	No civil service recruitment in the relevant grades had been conducted
Number of NCSC staff who had the opportunity but failed to be appointed as civil servant	9 (+13%)	8	
Percentage of NCSC staff in the total number of staff of the Department	2%	2% (-50%)	4%

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ JOHN S V CHAI

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date _____ 22.3.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)077

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Question Serial No.

2185

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead : 000 Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please provide information on the use of outsourced services (including property management, security, cleansing, telecommunication technology, statistics, etc. (excluding the outsourcing of construction works) -

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of outsourced service contracts	()	()	()	()
Total value of outsourced service contracts	()	()	()	()
Total number of employees under the outsourced service contracts	()	()	()	()
Number of employees under outsourced service contract replaced by civil servants	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

Civil Engineering and Development Department uses a wide range of outsourced services, such as office cleansing, security, staff training, IT support, public relation services, etc. The requested information is provided below. As there is fluctuating need for the services concerned, information for 2010-11 cannot be projected.

	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of outsourced service contracts	55 (+20%)	46 (+5%)	44
Total value of outsourced service contracts (\$ million)	40.4 (+135%)	17.2 (+4%)	16.5
Total number of employees under the outsourced service contracts *	176 (+6%)	166 (+7%)	155
Number of employees under outsourced service contract replaced by civil servants	0	0	0

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

* Only those contracts with known number of staff to be provided are counted.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ JOHN S V CHAI _____

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development _____

Date _____ 19.3.2010 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)078

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Question Serial No.

2341

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead 000 Operational Expenses
(No. & title) :

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

(a) Please provide information on the employment of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff as follows -

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of NCSC staff	()	()	()	()
Total expenditure on salary for NCSC staff	()	()	()	()
Number of NCSC staff appointed as civil servant	()	()	()	()
Number of NCSC staff who had the opportunity but failed to be appointed as civil servant	()	()	()	()
Percentage of NCSC staff in the total number of staff of the Department	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

(b) Please provide a breakdown of the length of employment of the NCSC staff from 2007-08 to 2010-11 as follows -

Period (years)	Number of staff in 2010-11	Number of staff in 2009-10	Number of staff in 2008-09	Number of staff in 2007-08
0.5 to 1 year	()	()	()	()
1 to 3 years	()	()	()	()
3 to 5 years	()	()	()	()
5 to 10 years	()	()	()	()
10 to 15 years	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

- (c) Please advise the number of NCSC staff who would be appointed as civil servants on permanent terms in the next three years i.e. from 2010-11 to 2012-13.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (a) Information on the employment of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff employed under the recurrent expenditure of the Department during the period from 2007-08 to 2009-10 is provided below. As the number of NCSC staff fluctuates with changing service needs and staff turnover, the projection for 2010-11 cannot be made.

	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of NCSC staff	39 (+3%) (projection as at 31.3.10)	38 (-41%) (as at 31.3.09)	64 (as at 31.3.08)
Total expenditure on salary for NCSC staff (\$ million)	11.6 (-27%)	15.9 (-20%)	19.8
Number of NCSC staff appointed as civil servant	11 (-39%)	18	No civil service recruitment in the relevant grades had been conducted
Number of NCSC staff who had the opportunity but failed to be appointed as civil servant	9 (+13%)	8	
Percentage of NCSC staff in the total number of staff of the Department	2%	2% (-50%)	4%

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

- (b) Breakdown of the length of employment of the NCSC staff from 2007-08 to 2009-10 is provided below. As explained in (a) above, a projection for 2010-11 cannot be made.

Period (years)	Number of staff in 2009-10 (projection as at 31.3.10)	Number of staff in 2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	Number of staff in 2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)
0.5 to less than 1 year	25 (+92%)	13 (-57%)	30
1 to less than 3 years	9 (-44%)	16 (-27%)	22
3 to less than 5 years	1	1	1
5 to less than 10 years	4 (-50%)	8 (-27%)	11
10 to less than 15 years	0	0	0
Total number of staff	39	38	64

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

- (c) Civil service posts are filled through an open and competitive recruitment process. All NCSC staff would be subject to the same appointment procedures and arrangements as with all outside applicants. We are unable to predict the number of NCSC staff who would be appointed as civil servants in the next three years.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ JOHN S V CHAI

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date _____ 22.3.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)079

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Question Serial No.

2342

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead 000 Operational Expenses
(No. & title) :

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please provide the following information on the procurement of services of employment agencies (EAs) by the Department from 2006-07 to 2009-10 in the form of a table:

- (a) the number of contracts signed with EAs;
- (b) the contract sum and duration for each EA;
- (c) the number and duties of workers supplied under each contract signed with EAs;
- (d) details of the pay of workers supplied under each contract signed with EAs, including monthly salaries and daily wages;
- (e) the percentage changes in the number of EAs, the number of contracts, the number of workers employed and the total expenditure in each year over the previous year;
- (f) if more than one EA was hired to supply workers in the year, please list the number and total value of contracts awarded to each EA, and the number of workers supplied under it;
- (g) the highest, median and lowest pay of workers supplied by each EA;
- (h) the proportion of workers supplied by EAs in the existing staff of the Department in the year; and
- (i) the proportion of expenditure on procuring the services of EAs in departmental expenditure.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply

The information in respect of procurement of employment agency services from 2006-07 to 2009-10 is appended below. This information excludes services provided under term contracts centrally administered by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer.

(a) The number of contracts signed with EAs

2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
16	11	12	3

(b) Contract sums and duration of services

<u>Contract sum</u>	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
	<u>Number of contracts</u>			
Less than \$0.5 million	13	8	11	3
\$0.5 million to \$1 million	1	1	1	0
Over \$1 million	2	2	0	0
Total:	16	11	12	3

<u>Duration of services</u>	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
	<u>Number of contracts</u>			
6 months or less	2	1	4	0
Over 6 months to 1 year	14	9	7	3
Over 1 year to 2 years	0	1	1	0
Total:	16	11	12	3

(c) Number and duties of workers supplied

Number of workers supplied	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
	<u>Number of contracts</u>			
5 or less	13	8	8	1
6 to 10	1	1	3	2
11 to 15	2	2	1	0
Total:	16	11	12	3

Duties of workers	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
	<u>Number of contracts</u>			
Backend office support	12	8	8	2
Technical services	4	3	4	1
Total:	16	11	12	3

(d) Salaries of workers supplied

The contracts we entered into with employment agencies specified only the service fee charged by the latter in providing agency workers. We do not specify the wages of agency workers as the workers we required in the contracts are not non-skilled workers.^{Note} Hence we are unable to provide the information requested.

Note : As a measure to protect non-skilled workers, the Administration promulgated a mandatory requirement on wage rates for government service contracts in May 2004. Under this requirement, service providers are required to offer monthly wages to non-skilled workers which are no less than the average monthly wages for the relevant industry/occupation as published in the latest Census and Statistics Department's Quarterly Report of Wage and Payroll Statistics at the time when tenders are invited. This requirement also applies to service contracts in respect of supply of non-skilled agency workers.

(e) The numbers and corresponding percentages of change for each year in respect of the requested information are appended below:

	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
Number of EAs	6 (+20%)	5 (+150%)	2 (0%)	2
Number of contracts	16 (+45%)	11 (-8%)	12 (+300%)	3
Total number of workers supplied by EAs	53 (+20%)	44 (-17%)	53 (+212%)	17
Total contract sum (\$ million)	4.3 (+8%)	4.0 (+38%)	2.9 (+263%)	0.8

() are the percentage increase/decrease over the preceding year

(f) More than one EA were hired to supply workers during the concerned periods. The numbers and total values of contracts awarded and the total number of workers supplied by each EA are as follows:

	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
Number of contracts awarded	Number of EAs			
5 or less	6	5	1	2
6 to 10	0	0	0	0
Over 10	0	0	1	0

	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
Total value of contracts awarded	Number of EAs			
Less than \$1 million	4	3	1	2
\$1 million to \$2 million	1	1	0	0
Over \$2 million	1	1	1	0
Total number of workers supplied	Number of EAs			
10 or less	4	3	1	1
11 to 20	1	1	0	1
21 to 30	1	1	0	0
Over 30	0	0	1	0

- (g) **Salaries of the workers supplied by the EAs under the contracts (highest, median, lowest)**

Please refer to item (d) above.

- (h) **The percentage of workers supplied by EAs against the total existing staff of the Department**

2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
3.0%	2.5%	3.0%	0.9%

- (i) **The percentage of expenditure on procuring the services of EAs against the departmental expenditure of the Department**

2009-10 (estimate)	2008-09	2007-08	2006-07
0.2%	0.2%	0.4%	0.2%

Signature _____

Name in block letters JOHN S V CHAI

Post Title Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date 22.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and
Development Department

Subhead : 000 Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

- (a) Please provide information on the use of outsourced services (including property management, security, cleansing, telecommunication technology, statistics, etc. (excluding the outsourcing of construction works) -

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of outsourced service contracts	()	()	()	()
Total value of outsourced service contracts	()	()	()	()
Total number of employees under the outsourced service contracts	()	()	()	()
Number of employees under outsourced service contract replaced by civil servants	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

- (b) Please provide a projection on the number of posts under the outsourced service contracts which can be replaced by the government employing staff on a long-term basis in the next three years (i.e. 2010-11 to 2012-13).

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (a) Civil Engineering and Development Department uses a wide range of outsourced services, such as office cleansing, security, staff training, IT support, public relation services, etc. The requested information is provided below. As there is fluctuating need for the services concerned, information for 2010-11 cannot be projected.

	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of outsourced service contracts	55 (+20%)	46 (+5%)	44
Total value of outsourced service contracts (\$ million)	40.4 (+135%)	17.2 (+4%)	16.5
Total number of employees under the outsourced service contracts *	176 (+6%)	166 (+7%)	155
Number of employees under outsourced service contract replaced by civil servants	0	0	0

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

* Only those contracts with known number of staff to be provided are counted.

- (b) While the need for outsourced service varies from time to time and depends on the prevailing workload, we are unable to predict the number of posts under the outsourced service contracts which can be replaced by civil service posts in the next three years.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ JOHN S V CHAI _____

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development _____

Date _____ 22.3.2010 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)081

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Question Serial No.

2344

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead 000 Operational expenses
(No. & title) :

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

- (a) Please provide information on the employment and anticipated employment of temporary staff from 2007-08 to 2010-11 as follows -

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Numbers of temporary staff	()	()	()	()
Total expenditure on salary for the temporary staff	()	()	()	()
Percentage of temporary staff in the total number of staff of the Department	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

- (b) Please provide a breakdown of the length of employment of the temporary staff employed and planned to be employed from 2007-08 to 2010-11 as follows -

Period	Numbers of staff in 2010-11	Numbers of staff in 2009-10	Numbers of staff in 2008-09	Numbers of staff in 2007-08
Half year	()	()	()	()
1 year	()	()	()	()
2 years	()	()	()	()
3 years	()	()	()	()
3 years or above	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (a) & (b) We have not employed any temporary staff from 2007-08 to 2009-10 nor have any plan to do so in 2010-11.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ JOHN S V CHAI

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date _____ 19.3.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)083

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Question Serial No.

2494

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead :

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please provide details of the consultations on policy formulation and assessment under all programmes in the following format. Have resources been earmarked for holding consultations in 2010-11? If so, please provide the following details.

Name/ content of consultation	Expenditure (\$)	Progress of consultation (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Mode of consultation (e.g. by means of written submissions, consultation sessions, focus groups), number of consultation exercises, name of organisations and number of people consulted/to be consulted	For consultations scheduled for completion in the 2010-11 financial year, will the results be released to the public? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

The Civil Engineering and Development Department does not have any plan to hold any consultations on policy formulation and assessment.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **JOHN S V CHAI** _____

Post Title _____ **Director of Civil Engineering and Development** _____

Date _____ **18.3.2010** _____

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Subhead :
Development Department

Programme : (3) Provision of Land and Infrastructure

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Regarding the land formation works to be continued in Tai Po, what is the progress? Where are the works mainly carried out? How much land is expected to be provided after the formation works? What will be the uses?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

The land formation works under construction at the southern portion of Tai Po Area 39 are in satisfactory progress for completion by end 2010. About 7 hectares of land will be formed for the campus development of the Chinese University of Hong Kong as well as for other Government, Institution or Community and Education development.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **JOHN S V CHAI**

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date _____ 18.3.2010

- (c) The preparatory work will include consultation with the nine District Councils in the NT and drawing up the scope of the NT GMP studies and their tentative area coverage. In 2010-11, we will deploy six officers for the preparatory and consultation works. Apart from these staff resources, no other expenditure is anticipated in 2010-11.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ JOHN S V CHAI _____

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development _____

Date _____ 22.3.2010 _____

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Development Department Subhead
(No. & title) :

Programme : (3) Provision of Land and Infrastructure

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

According to Matters Requiring Special Attention in the coming year, the Department will commence the construction works for the cycle track network between Sheung Shui and Ma On Shan and continue the investigation and design of the comprehensive cycle tracks in the New Territories. In this connection, please advise:

- (a) The implementation programme, completion date and relevant expenditures of the concerned works in the coming year.
- (b) Has the Administration consulted the cyclist groups and local communities and made corresponding amendments in the course of examining the cycle track alignment and facilities, and conducting design? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

- (a) The construction works for the section of the cycle track network between Sheung Shui and Ma On Shan are expected to start in mid 2010 for completion in phases from mid 2012 to early 2013. The estimated expenditure of the project for 2010-11 is \$45 million. With regard to the remaining sections of the cycle track network, we plan to complete the investigation and preliminary design by early 2011. The estimated expenditure in 2010-11 is \$10 million.

- (b) In designing the alignment and supporting facilities of the cycle track network in the New Territories, we have consulted and secured support from the relevant District Councils and Rural Committees. We have also consulted the cyclist groups and local communities to collect their views on various aspects including cycle track alignment, supporting facilities and cycling safety. In response to their suggestions, we have made appropriate amendments to the alignment and the design to enhance the recreational value and safety of the cycle track network. We will continue to solicit views of relevant parties in fine-tuning the design where appropriate.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ JOHN S V CHAI

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date _____ 19.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 33 Civil Engineering and Subhead
Development Department (No. & title) :

Programme : (3) Provision of Land and Infrastructure

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

According to Matters Requiring Special Attention in the coming year, the Department will commence the construction works for the cycle track network between Sheung Shui and Ma On Shan and continue the investigation and design of the comprehensive cycle tracks in the New Territories. In this connection, please advise:

Regarding the overall development and planning work of cycle transport in Hong Kong, will the Administration in the coming year conduct a study and collect public views on taking cycle as a mode of transport and its development to form a basis for the provision of a comprehensive cycle track? If yes, what are the details and expenditures of the study? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply :

The Government has pledged in the 2007-08 Policy Agenda to develop comprehensive cycle tracks in the New Territories for improving the quality of living. We are implementing the network in phases so as to meet the public's demand for the cycle tracks for recreational purpose. To further improve the cycling facilities in existing new towns, the Transport Department will commission a study on cycle tracks and parking facilities in existing new towns in mid 2010. The study is now at tendering stage and its cost is not yet known.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ JOHN S V CHAI _____

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development _____

Date _____ 19.3.2010 _____

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

DEVB(W)088

Question Serial No.

0248

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (1) Stormwater Drainage

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question : The Administration will take forward the preliminary design of the improvement work for the Yuen Long Town centre nullah in 2010-11. What is the estimated expenditure? What is the scheduled completion date? When will the actual construction works commence?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply : We plan to start the investigation study and preliminary design of the improvement works for the Yuen Long Town centre nullah in late 2010 for completion by 2012 at an estimated cost of about \$13 million. After completion of the study and design, we will map out an implementation programme for the detailed design and construction of the improvement works.

Signature _____

Name in block letters K K LAU

Post Title Director of Drainage Services

Date 18 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

DEVB(W)089

Question Serial No.

0588

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (2) Stormwater Drainage

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question : Regarding the design and construction of the nullah decking and/or landscaping projects in stages, please advise:

- (a) the number, locations of, progress on, expenditure involved in and scheduled completion dates for nullah-decking projects under construction (please list out separately);
- (b) nullah decking projects scheduled for commencement of works in the coming 3 years (i.e. between 2010-11 and 2012-13) and their estimated expenditure (please list out separately).

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply : Decking and/or landscaping of six nullahs are currently being implemented under four projects. In addition, there is one nullah decking project under planning/design which is scheduled for commencement of works in the coming 3 years. The details of the projects are as follows:

Name of Nullah	Actual/Expected Works Start Date	Expected Works Completion Date	Approved Project Estimate/ Estimated Project Cost (\$ million)
Under Construction			
(a) Jordan Valley Nullah	Feb 2008	Late 2010	216
(b) Flower Market Road Nullah			
(c) Tonkin Street Nullah			
(d) Queen's College Nullah	Jun 2008	Mid 2012	50
(e) Rambler Crest Nullah	Apr 2009	Mid 2010	5
(f) Fuk Man Road Nullah	Aug 2009	Late 2011	96

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

DEVB(W)090

Question Serial No.

1059

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (3) Stormwater Drainage

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question : With regard to the construction of three drainage tunnels on Hong Kong Island, in Tsuen Wan and Lai Chi Kok, please advise the Committee of the progress of work and cost involved for last year (i.e. 2009), and their scheduled completion dates.

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply : The details are given below:

Hong Kong West Drainage Tunnel

Tunnelling works started in early 2009 with more than 25% of the 11 km tunnel excavated. The expenditure incurred in 2009 was about \$890 million and the project is expected to be completed in early 2012.

Tsuen Wan Drainage Tunnel

The preparatory works for tunnel excavation are near completion and excavation of the 5 km tunnel is planned to start in April 2010. The expenditure incurred in 2009 was about \$135 million and the project is expected to be completed in mid 2012.

Lai Chi Kok Drainage Tunnel

The preparatory works for tunnel excavation have just been completed and excavation of the 3.7 km tunnel is planned to start by end of March 2010. The expenditure incurred in 2009 was about \$255 million and the project is expected to be completed in mid 2012.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ K K LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Drainage Services

Date _____ 18 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

DEVB(W)091

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead:

Question Serial No.

0607

Programme : (1) Stormwater Drainage

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question : Regarding the construction of drainage channels at upper Lam Tsuen River, upper Tai Po River and She Shan River in Tai Po, please advise the Committee the work progress, expenditure in the past two years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2009-10), and scheduled completion date for the works.

Asked by : Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply : The construction of drainage channels at upper Lam Tsuen River, upper Tai Po River and She Shan River in Tai Po commenced in September 2007. Up to March 2010, about 1.6 kilometres of the total 4.4 kilometres drainage channels have been completed. The expenditure incurred/expected to be incurred in 2008-09 and 2009-10 is about \$53 million and \$70 million respectively, and the works are scheduled for completion by late 2011.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ K K LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Drainage Services

Date _____ 19 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

DEVB(W)092

Question Serial No.

1135

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (4) Stormwater Drainage

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question : How many stormwater drainage projects were under detailed design in 2009-10? How many of such projects were major flood prevention projects for flood prone areas of the New Territories? What are the details, completion dates and resources involved?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply : Nine stormwater drainage projects are under detailed design in 2009-10. Five of the nine projects aim at improving flood protection level in local flood prone areas in the New Territories. These projects include drainage improvement works at San Tin, Tsung Yuen, Ping Che, Shuen Wan and Regulation of Shenzhen River Stage 4. Construction works at Shuen Wan in Tai Po, with an approved project estimate of \$252.7 million in money-of-the-day prices, has just commenced for completion in 2013. The design of the other projects is still on-going and we expect to complete most of the design within the next few years.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **K K LAU**

Post Title _____ **Director of Drainage Services**

Date _____ **19 March 2010**

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (5) Stormwater Drainage

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question : With regard to Programme (1), please provide the following information:

- (a) please advise the distribution and effectiveness of the flood control installations in use, and whether they are value-for-money?
- (b) regarding the estimated expenditure for it in 2010-11, please advise if it is only for purchase and installation of the concerned facilities? If yes, please give the number of installations to be purchased and their locations. If not, please give the number of installations to be purchased, the locations and funding involved, as well as the use of the remaining balance, e.g. whether it will be used for maintenance of existing flood control installations.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply : (a) There are 121 flood control installations in use with details as follows:

Location	Hydrological Gauging Station	Flood Siren	Flood Pumping Station	Collapsible Dam	Flood Storage Tank	Total
HK Island & Kowloon	9		1		1	11
New Territories	67	4	29	10		110
Total	76	4	30	10	1	121

The flood pumping stations, flood storage tank and collapsible dams are essential for regulating floodwater flow to protect lowlying villages / areas. The flood sirens are set up to provide flood warnings to local villagers until completion of flood protection measures to address the flooding problems. The hydrological gauging stations provide necessary data for operating the other flood control installations. The installations are considered necessary and cost effective to achieve the respective flood control purposes.

- (b) The estimated expenditure for 2010-11 in this Programme only covers the recurrent expenditures for the operation and maintenance of the flood control installations. Two new flood pumping stations in Tai Po and one new gauging station in Yuen Long will be installed and put into operation in 2010-11. The total estimated capital cost of these three installations is \$23 million with funding sourced from the Capital Works Reserve Fund.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ K K LAU _____

Post Title _____ Director of Drainage Services _____

Date _____ 19 March 2010 _____

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

DEVB(W)094

Question Serial No.

1386

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (6) Stormwater Drainage

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question : With regard to Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11, please provide the following information:

- (a) Will the Administration explain in detail the work in continuing the planning and upgrading of the stormwater drainage system, and the timetable and funding required for implementing the proposed improvement works in stages?
- (b) Will the Administration explain in detail the construction work and funding involved in continuing the construction works of drainage channels at upper Lam Tsuen River, upper Tai Po River and She Shan River in Tai Po?
- (c) Will the Administration explain in detail the number of other major flood prevention projects in flood prone areas of the New Territories under design, construction and the funding required in one year?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

- Reply :
- (a) We are currently undertaking the planning and design of nine stormwater drainage projects in different parts of the territory. The total cost of the design works is about \$130 million. Whilst the planning and design of the advance works for the Kai Tak Nullah (from Po Kong Village Road to Tung Kwong Road) improvement works is planned to be completed in 2010-11, the planning and design for the other eight projects are expected to be completed in the subsequent years.
 - (b) The construction of drainage channels at upper Lam Tsuen River, upper Tai Po River and She Shan River in Tai Po commenced in September 2007. Up to March 2010, about 1.6 kilometres of the total 4.4 kilometres drainage channels have been completed. The approved project estimate of the project is \$426.3 million in money-of-the-day prices and about \$95 million is expected to be incurred in 2010-11.
 - (c) There are twelve stormwater drainage projects in the New Territories under construction for completion within the next three years, and the estimated expenditure in 2010-11 is about \$800 million. There are also four stormwater drainage projects in the New Territories under planning and design, and the estimated expenditure for the design is about \$1.4 million in 2010-11.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ K K LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Drainage Services

Date _____ 19 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

DEVB(W)095

Question Serial No.

1387

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (7) Stormwater Drainage

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question : Please explain the progress on the on-going review of the drainage master plans for the northern and northwestern New Territories, and the details of the various project items included in the plans, their timetable and the funding required.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply : Review of the drainage master plans for the northern and northwestern New Territories commenced in March 2008 for completion in 2011. Numerical river models have just been established and will be used to assess the performance of the existing drainage systems and different drainage improvement options. Drainage improvement proposals together with funding requirements and implementation programme will be prepared near the end of the review.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ K K LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Drainage Services

Date _____ 19 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

DEVB(W)096

Question Serial No.

1388

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (8) Stormwater Drainage

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question : Please advise the details of the progress on, work schedule of and the expenditure required for the preliminary design of the improvement work for the Yuen Long Town centre nullah.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply : We plan to start the investigation study and preliminary design of the improvement works for the Yuen Long Town centre nullah in late 2010 for completion by 2012 at an estimated cost of about \$13 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ K K LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Drainage Services

Date _____ 18 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

DEVB(W)097

Question Serial No.

1852

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (9) Stormwater Drainage

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question : Regarding the drainage master plans for the northern and northwestern New Territories, please advise the work progress, cost involved and scheduled completion date.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply : Review of the drainage master plans for the northern and northwestern New Territories commenced in March 2008 for completion in 2011. The total cost estimate for carrying out the review is \$27 million. Numerical river models have just been established and will be used to assess the performance of the existing drainage systems and different drainage improvement options. Drainage improvement proposals together with funding requirements and implementation programme will be prepared near the end of the review.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ K K LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Drainage Services

Date _____ 19 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

DEVB(W)098

Question Serial No.

2126

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (1) Stormwater Drainage

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question : With regard to Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11 under Programme (1), the Department will take forward the preliminary design of the improvement work for the Yuen Long Town centre nullah. Please advise:

- (a) Progress on the design work for 2010-11, especially details on consultation, cost and expenditure involved for the design work.
- (b) In view of the chronic pollution problem caused by illegal connections upstream, will the Administration implement improvement works first before commencement of the beautification works, e.g. works on minimizing illegal connections to the nullah, increasing the flow, deodourization and removal of pollutants? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

- Reply :
- (a) We plan to start the investigation study and preliminary design of the improvement works for the Yuen Long Town centre nullah in late 2010 for completion by 2012 at an estimated cost of about \$13 million. Consultation with the stakeholders would take place during the course of the study and design process.
 - (b) In order to improve water quality, we plan to intercept the polluted discharge at the nullah and convey treated wastewater from Yuen Long sewage treatment works to the nullah as alternative water source during dry seasons. These improvement measures would be further examined during the study and design stage of this project.

Signature _____

Name in block letters K K LAU

Post Title Director of Drainage Services

Date 18 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

DEVB(W)099

Head: 39 – Drainage Services Department

Subhead: 000 Operational Expenses

Question Serial No.

2333

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

- (a) Please provide information on the employment of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff as follows -

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of NCSC staff	()	()	()	()
Total expenditure on salary for NCSC staff	()	()	()	()
Number of NCSC staff appointed as civil servant	()	()	()	()
Number of NCSC staff who had the opportunity but failed to be appointed as civil servants	()	()	()	()
Percentage of NCSC staff in the total number of staff of the Department	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

- (b) Please provide a breakdown of the length of employment of the NCSC staff from 2007-08 to 2010-11 as follows -

Period (years)	Numbers of staff (2010-11)	Numbers of staff (2009-10)	Numbers of staff (2008-09)	Numbers of staff (2007-08)
0.5 to 1 year	()	()	()	()
1 to 3 years	()	()	()	()
3 to 5 years	()	()	()	()
5 to 10 years	()	()	()	()
10 to 15 years	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

- (c) Please advise the number of NCSC staff who would be appointed as civil servants on permanent terms in the next three years i.e. from 2010-11 to 2012-13.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

- (a) The information on the employment of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff is provided below. As the number of NCSC staff fluctuates with changing service needs and staff turnover, a projection for 2010-11 cannot be made.

	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of NCSC staff	80 (-34%) (projection as at 31.3.2010)	122 (-30%) (as at 31.3.2009)	174 (as at 31.3.2008)
Total expenditure on salary for NCSC staff (\$ million)	19.9 (-41%)	33.7 (-18%)	41.3
Number of NCSC staff appointed as civil servants	23 (-18%)	28 (+27%)	22
Number of NCSC staff who had the opportunity but failed to be appointed as civil servants	No record	No record	No record
Percentage of NCSC staff in the total number of staff of the Department	4.3% (-33%)	6.4% (-29%)	9.0%

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

- (b) Breakdown of the length of employment of the NCSC staff from 2007-08 to 2009-10 is provided below. As explained in (a) above, a projection for 2010-11 cannot be made.

Period (years)	Number of staff (2009-10) (projection as at 31.3.2010)	Number of staff (2008-09) (as at 31.3.2009)	Number. of staff (2007-08) (as at 31.3.2008)
0.5 to less than 1 year	34 (+127%)	15 (-6%)	16
1 to less than 3 years	10 (-41%)	17 (-65%)	48
3 to less than 5 years	11 (-56%)	25 (+32%)	19
5 to less than 10 years	24 (-63%)	65 (-29%)	91
10 to less than 15 years	1	0	0
Total number of staff	80	122	174

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

- (c) Civil service posts are filled through an open and competitive recruitment process. All NCSC staff would be subject to the same appointment procedures and arrangements as with all outside applicants. We are unable to predict the number of NCSC staff who would be appointed as civil servants in the next three years.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ K K LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Drainage Services

Date _____ 19 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 39 Drainage Services Department Subhead : 000 Operational Expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please provide the following information on the procurement of services of employment agencies (EAs) by the Department from 2006-07 to 2009-10 in the form of a table:

- (a) the number of contracts signed with EAs;
- (b) the contract sum and duration for each EAs;
- (c) the number and duties of workers supplied under each contract signed with EAs;
- (d) details of the pay of workers supplied under each contract signed with EAs, including monthly salaries and daily wages;
- (e) the percentage changes in the number of EAs, the number of contracts, the number of workers employed and the total expenditure in each year over the previous year;
- (f) if more than one EA was hired to supply workers in the year, please list the number and total value of contracts awarded to each EA, and the number of workers supplied under it;
- (g) the highest, median and lowest pay of workers supplied by each EA;
- (h) the proportion of workers supplied by EAs in the existing staff of the Department in the year; and
- (i) the proportion of expenditure on procuring the services of EAs in departmental expenditure.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply

The information in respect of procurement of employment agency services from 2006-07 to 2009-10 is appended below. This information excludes services provided under term contracts centrally administered by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer.

(a) The number of contracts signed with EAs

2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
3	16	15	10

(b) **Contract sums and duration of services**

<u>Contract sum</u>	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
	<u>Number of contracts</u>			
Less than \$0.5 million	3	15	15	10
\$0.5 million to \$1 million	0	1	0	0
Over \$1 million	0	0	0	0
Total:	3	16	15	10

<u>Duration of services</u>	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
	<u>Number of contracts</u>			
6 months or less	2	4	3	2
Over 6 months to 1 year	1	11	11	7
Over 1 year to 2 years	0	1	1	1
Total:	3	16	15	10

(c) **Number and duties of workers supplied**

Number of workers supplied	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
	<u>Number of contracts</u>			
5 or less	3	15	15	10
6 to 10	0	1	0	0
11 to 15	0	0	0	0
Total:	3	16	15	10

Duties of workers	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
	<u>Number of contracts</u>			
backend office support	3	9	8	5
technical support	0	7	7	5
Total:	3	16	15	10

(d) **Salaries of workers supplied**

The contracts we entered into with employment agencies specified only the service fee charged by the latter in providing agency workers. We do not specify the wages of agency workers as the workers we required in the contracts are not non-skilled workers.

^{Note} Hence we are unable to provide the information requested.

Note : As a measure to protect non-skilled workers, the Administration promulgated a mandatory requirement on wage rates for government service contracts in May 2004. Under this requirement, service providers are required to offer monthly wages to non-skilled workers which are no less than the average monthly wages for the relevant industry/occupation as published in the latest Census and Statistics Department's Quarterly Report of Wage and Payroll Statistics at the time when tenders are invited. This requirement applies to service contracts in respect of supply of non-skilled agency workers also.

(e) The numbers and corresponding percentages of change for each year in respect of the requested information are appended below:

	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
Number of EAs	3 (-63%)	8 (+33%)	6 (+20%)	5
Number of contracts	3 (-81%)	16 (+7%)	15 (+50%)	10
Total number of workers supplied by EAs	3 (-89%)	27 (+42%)	19 (+36%)	14
Total contract sum (\$ million)	0.2 (-94%)	3.3 (+57%)	2.1 (+31%)	1.6

() are the percentage increase/decrease over the preceding year

(f) More than one EA were hired to supply workers during the concerned periods. The numbers and total values of contracts awarded and the total number of workers supplied by each EA are as follows:

	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
<i>Number of contracts awarded</i>	<i>Number of EAs</i>			
5 or less	3	8	6	5
6 to 10	0	0	0	0
Over 10	0	0	0	0
<i>Total value of contracts awarded</i>	<i>Number of EAs</i>			
Less than \$1 million	3	7	6	5
\$1 million to \$2 million	0	1	0	0
Over \$2 million	0	0	0	0
<i>Total number of workers supplied</i>	<i>Number of EAs</i>			
10 or less	3	8	6	5
11 to 20	0	0	0	0
21 to 30	0	0	0	0
Over 30	0	0	0	0

(g) Salaries of the workers supplied by the EAs under the contracts (highest, median, lowest)

Please refer to item (d) above.

(h) The percentage of workers supplied by EAs against the total existing staff of the Department

2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
<i>0.2%</i>	<i>1.5%</i>	<i>1.1%</i>	<i>0.8%</i>

(i) The percentage of expenditure on procuring the services of EAs against the departmental expenditure of the Department

2009-10 (estimate)	2008-09	2007-08	2006-07
<i>0.01%</i>	<i>0.2%</i>	<i>0.1%</i>	<i>0.1%</i>

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ K K LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Drainage Services

Date _____ 19 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

DEVB(W)101

Head: 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead: 000 Operational Expenses

Question Serial No.

2335

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

- (a) Please provide information on the use of outsourced services [including property management, security, cleansing, telecommunication technology, statistics, etc. (excluding the outsourcing of construction works)] -

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of outsourced service contracts	()	()	()	()
Total value of outsourced service contracts	()	()	()	()
Total number of employees under the outsourced service contracts	()	()	()	()
Number of employees under outsourced service contract replaced by civil servants	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

- (b) Please provide a projection on the number of posts under the outsourced service contracts which can be replaced by the government employing staff on a long-term basis in the next 3 years (i.e. 2010-11 to 2012-13).

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

- (a) The information on the use of outsourced services [including property management, security, cleansing, telecommunication technology, statistics, etc. (excluding the outsourcing of construction works)] is as follows -

	2010-11 (projection)	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of outsourced service contracts	9	9 (+125%)	4 (-20%)	5
Total value of outsourced service	0.84 (+58%)	0.53 (-39%)	0.87 (+1%)	0.86

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)102

Question Serial No.

2336

Head: 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead: 000 Operational Expenses

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

- (a) Please provide information on the employment and anticipated employment of temporary staff from 2007-08 to 2010-11 as follows -

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Numbers of temporary staff	()	()	()	()
Total expenditure on salary for the temporary staff	()	()	()	()
Percentage of temporary staff in the total number of staff of the Department	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

- (b) Please provide a breakdown of the length of employment of the temporary staff employed and planned to be employed from 2007-08 to 2010-11 as follows -

Period	Numbers of staff in 2010-11	Numbers of staff in 2009-10	Numbers of staff in 2008-09	Numbers of staff in 2007-08
Half year	()	()	()	()
1 year	()	()	()	()
2 years	()	()	()	()
3 years	()	()	()	()
3 years or above	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (a) & (b) We have not employed any temporary staff from 2007-08 to 2009-10, nor have any plan to do so in 2010-11.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____
 K K LAU

Post Title _____
 Director of Drainage Services

Date _____
 19 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

DEVB(W)103

Question Serial No.

2535

Head : 39 – Drainage Services Department Subhead :

Programme : (2) Stormwater Drainage

Controlling Officer : Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question : With regard to Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010-11, the Department will continue with the design of the nullah decking and/or landscaping projects in stages. With regard to that, please advise:

- (a) Progress of the projects, number of nullahs involved, completion dates and estimated costs required; and
- (b) With regard to the revitalisation of the Kai Tak nullah, the progress and related expenditure for this year (i.e. 2010-11).

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply : (a) Decking and/or landscaping of six nullahs are currently being implemented under four projects. In addition, there is one nullah decking project under planning/design. The details of the projects are as follows:

Name of Nullah	Actual/Expected Works Start Date	Expected Works Completion Date	Approved Project Estimate/ Estimated Project Cost (\$ million)
Under Construction			
(h) Jordan Valley Nullah	Feb 2008	Late 2010	216
(i) Flower Market Road Nullah			
(j) Tonkin Street Nullah			
(k) Queen's College Nullah	Jun 2008	Mid 2012	50
(l) Rambler Crest Nullah	Apr 2009	Mid 2010	5
(m) Fuk Man Road Nullah	Aug 2009	Late 2011	96
Under Planning/Design			
(n) Kai Tak Nullah from Po Kong Village Road to Tung Kwong Road – advance works	Late 2010	2012	152

- (b) In 2010-11, we plan to commence the advance works for the Kai Tak Nullah from Po Kong Village Road to Tung Kwong Road, including constructing an additional box culvert under Prince Edward Road East. The estimated expenditure for the above works in 2010-11 is about \$15 million. We will also conduct public engagement exercise on the revitalization design of the nullah in 2010-11.

Signature _____

Name in block letters K K LAU

Post Title Director of Drainage Services

Date 19 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead:

Programme: (2) Mechanical Installations Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

In the section on “Matters requiring special attention in 2010-11”, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department will step up inspection and enforcement actions of lifts and escalators. What is the estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply:

To step up inspection and enforcement actions of lifts and escalators, we need to set up a team comprising an engineer and seven inspectors to conduct additional inspection and enforcement work. The estimated expenditure required for this in 2010-11 is about \$4.5 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____ Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____ 17 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead:
Department

Programme: (2) Mechanical Installations Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Please provide details of the consultations on policy formulation and assessment under all programmes in the following format. Using the table below, please provide information on the consultations for which funds had been allocated in 2009-10 :

Name/content of consultation	Revised estimate (\$)	Progress of consultation (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Mode of consultation (e.g. by means of written submissions, consultation sessions, focus groups), number of consultation exercises, name of organisations and number of people consulted/to be consulted	The Administration's follow-up actions on the consultation results and the progress made (if applicable)	For consultations already completed, have the results been released to the public? If yes, what are the channels? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply:

The relevant consultation items in 2009-10 include the following:

Name/content of consultation	Revised estimate (\$)	Progress of consultation (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Mode of consultation (e.g. by means of written submissions, consultation sessions, focus groups), number of consultation exercises, name of organisations and number of people consulted/to be consulted	The Administration's follow-up actions on the consultation results and the progress made (if applicable)	For consultations already completed, have the results been released to the public? If yes, what are the channels? If not, what are the reasons?

			consulted		
Public Consultation on the legislation amendment proposals to the Lifts and Escalators (Safety) Ordinance, Cap. 327	710,000	Completed	<p>i) 1 230 written submissions and 520 on-line submissions of views and comments were received from the public and stakeholders such as professional institutions, lift and escalator contractors, workers' union, and various government departments.</p> <p>ii) Two public consultation forums and six discussion forums with registered lift and escalator contractors, registered lift and escalator engineers, lift and escalator workers and building management companies were conducted. About 700 participants attended the forums.</p>	The views and comments collected during the consultation period are being analysed.	The views and comments collected from the consultation will be reviewed and the results will be reported to the Development Panel of the Legislative Council in around mid-2010.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____ Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____ 17 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)106

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Question Serial No.

2488

Head: 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead:
Department

Programme: (2) Mechanical Installations Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Please provide details of the consultations on policy formulation and assessment under all programmes in the following format. Have resources been earmarked for holding consultations in 2010-11? If so, please provide the following details :

Name/content of consultation	Expenditure (\$)	Progress of consultation (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Mode of consultation (e.g. by means of written submissions, consultation sessions, focus groups), number of consultation exercises, name of organisations and number of people consulted/to be consulted	For consultations scheduled for completion in the 2010-11 financial year, will the results be released to the public? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply:

There is no plan for consultation activities under all programmes in 2010-11.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date 17 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead:
Department

Programme: (2) Mechanical Installations Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

In the section on “Matters requiring special attention”, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) will step up inspection and enforcement actions, public education and publicity efforts to enhance the safety of lifts and escalators. In this connection, will the Administration advise:

- (a) regarding lifts and escalators safety, the number of inspections and enforcement work and the number of contractors/persons prosecuted and convicted in 2009-10, and
- (b) the details including the manpower arrangement and expenditure for stepping up inspection and enforcement actions, as well as public education and publicity efforts in 2010-11.

Asked by: Hon IP Wai-ming

Reply:

- (a) In 2009-10, EMSD conducted 9 888 inspections for lifts and escalators. One contractor was prosecuted in two cases and convicted in both cases. One other prosecution case involving another contractor was heard in court but the proceedings have not been concluded.
- (b) For stepping up inspection and enforcement actions to enhance safety of lifts and escalators, the target of 2010-11 is to maintain an one-out-of-seven inspection rate. The public education and publicity work plan in 2010-11 includes production of an API to enhance lift owners' awareness on safety requirements, conducting public seminars for lift and escalators owners and property management agents on managing lift and escalators maintenance contracts and arranging ambassador visits to schools on the safe use of lifts and escalators. To take forward these initiatives, one engineer and seven inspector posts will be created accordingly. The expenditure involved is about \$4.5 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____ Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____ 17 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead:
Department

Programme: (2) Mechanical Installations Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

In the section on “Matters requiring special attention”, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) proposes amendments to the Lifts and Escalators (Safety) Ordinance with a view to enhancing lift and escalator safety. In this connection, please advise details of the proposed amendments, consultation work, time schedule, manpower and expenditure in handling the work on the proposed amendments.

Asked by: Hon IP Wai-ming

Reply:

The proposed amendments to the Lifts and Escalators (Safety) Ordinance include the following four areas :

- (a) upgrading of the qualification requirements for registration as lift and escalator engineers;
- (b) introduction of a registration system for lift and escalator workers;
- (c) streamlining of existing regulatory processes; and
- (d) increase of the penalty level of offences under the Ordinance.

The 3-month public consultation on the proposed legislation amendments was completed on 28 February 2010. EMSD is studying the views and comments collected from the consultation and will duly consider them in formulating the proposed amendments. The Department plans to introduce the Bill to Legislative Council in early 2011 and will deploy internal resources to handle the related work on the proposed legislation amendments.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____ Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____ 17 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head: 42 – Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead:
Department

Programme: (2) Mechanical Installations Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

In matters requiring special attention in 2010-11 under the programme of Mechanical Installations Safety, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department will propose amendments to the Lift and Escalator (Safety) Ordinance. As the 3-month public consultation for the issue has just ended on 28 February 2010, what is the proposed timetable of the Administration to submit the relevant Bill to the Legislative Council ?

Asked by: Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply:

The Administration plans to introduce the relevant Bill to the Legislative Council in early 2011.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Chan Hung-cheung, Stephen

Post Title _____ Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date _____ 17 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

DEVB(W)110

Head: 60 - Highways Department

Subhead: 000 Operational
(No. & title): Expenses

Question Serial No.

0652

Programme: (2) District and Maintenance

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

The Highways Department has committed to meeting the target of 75% for issuing road excavation permits to public utilities within 8 days. Such a pledge has never been made by the Department before. Is this brought about by a streamlining of internal procedure or some other reasons? Why is the target percentage for issuing the permits in 10 days lower than the actual percentage of 2008 and 2009?

Asked by: Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply:

The target of 75% for issuing road excavation permits within eight days is a new pledge. It is put forward as an improvement of services provided by the Department through adoption of an updated and enhanced computerised processing system.

The target percentage of 95% for issuing road excavation permits within 10 days is lower than the actual percentage of 2008 and 2009 (i.e. 99.9% for both years). It is because some applications for road excavations involve more complex road opening arrangements and may require more time to process. We will however continue to monitor the performance for service enhancement.

Signature _____

Name in block letters WAI CHI SING

Post Title Director of Highways

Date 17 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

DEVB(W)111

Head: 60 - Highways Department

Subhead: 000 Operational
(No. & title): Expenses

Question Serial No.

2580

Programme: (4) Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

In paragraph 23, the Administration has indicated that it will provide design input for road lighting, highway structures, roadside slope upgrading and landscape features associated with capital projects and maintenance works. With regard to the above, please provide information on:

- (a) the estimated expenditure on the design input for roadside slope upgrading and landscape features; and
- (b) the number and distribution of roadside slopes planned for upgrading.

Asked by: Hon. IP Wai-ming

Reply:

- (a) In 2010-11, the estimated expenditure on the design input for roadside slope upgrading and landscape features is \$4 million.
- (b) There are 38 roadside slopes located on the Hong Kong Island and 17 roadside slopes located in Kowloon planned for improvement in 2010-11.

Signature _____

Name in block letters WAI CHI SING

Post Title Director of Highways

Date 19.3.2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)112

Question Serial No.

0050

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Customer Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please list out the number of reservoir fishing licences issued in the past three years (i.e. 2007-2009), and advise the current restrictions of reservoir fishing licences.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply :

The number of fishing licences issued in 2007, 2008 and 2009 are 3 661, 3 636 and 4 161 respectively. Fishing licences are non-transferable, valid for three years and will only be issued to persons over 13 years of age. Fishing in reservoirs is permitted during the non-spawning season from 1 September to 31 March of the ensuing year. A fishing licence is for the use of one rod and line only. Use of nets, explosives or toxic substances, boats, dinghies, rafts etc. is not allowed in reservoir fishing. The licence also stipulates restrictions on the catch in a day to no more than two for each type of fish of length over a specified minimum.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

L T MA

Post Title:

Director of Water Supplies

Date:

18 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Customer Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Does the Water Supplies Department have any plans to develop guided tour and fishing activities in impounding reservoirs in the coming year (i.e. 2010-11)? If yes, what is the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply :

The Water Supplies Department supports recreational activities in impounding reservoirs. The Department has been actively promoting fishing activities in reservoirs by:

- (a) production and distribution of promotional leaflets;
- (b) promotion through the Department's website and that of Hong Kong Tourism Board;
and
- (c) inviting applications for fishing licences before every fishing season.

The Department will step up the promotion through its customer newsletter, posters and promotional messages on water bills and provide additional facilities at impounding reservoirs for angling activities. In 2010-11, the Department will spend about \$1.2m for these purposes.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

L T MA

Post Title:

Director of Water Supplies

Date:

18 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)114

Question Serial No.

0098

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Water Supply: Planning and Distribution

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please list out the details of 'Pilot scheme for sensor leakage detection of in-service pressurised water mains.' When will the scheme commence? When will it be completed?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply :

The sensor leakage detection of in-service pressurised water mains is a new technology developed overseas. A CCTV camera or an acoustic sensor will be inserted via access points into water mains of not less than 300 mm in diameter to inspect their internal conditions or detect leakage points. The camera or sensor is tethered to a cable connected to the control equipment on the ground surface, providing real time results.

The pilot scheme is to explore the practicality and effectiveness of applying the technology in Hong Kong. It is scheduled to commence in the third quarter of 2010 for completion in the first quarter of 2011.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

L T MA

Post Title:

Director of Water Supplies

Date:

18 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)115

Question Serial No.

0358

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Water Supply: Planning and Distribution

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please tabulate the numbers of water main leakage cases in various districts of Hong Kong, the number of households affected by the leakage cases and the average time required for repairing the concerned water mains in the past year (i.e. 2009-10).

Asked by : Hon. HO Chung-tai, Raymond

Reply :

The number of fresh and salt water main leakage cases in various districts of Hong Kong in 2009-10 (up to 3 March 2010) is tabulated below -

District	Number of water main leakage cases in 2009-10
Central & Western	847
Eastern	456
Islands	327
Kowloon City	640
Kwai Tsing	316
Kwun Tong	404
North	1 329
Sai Kung	973
Sha Tin	476
Sham Shui Po	390
Southern	448

District	Number of water main leakage cases in 2009-10
Tai Po	427
Tsuen Wan	370
Tuen Mun	586
Wan Chai	529
Wong Tai Sin	133
Yau Tsim Mong	660
Yuen Long	2 612
Total	11 923

The average time of repair of water mains in 2009-10 is about 3.2 hours. We did not retrieve the number of households in the areas affected for record purpose, noting that any water stoppages were to be resumed soonest possible.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

L T MA

Post Title:

Director of Water Supplies

Date:

18 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)116

Question Serial No.

0585

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Water Supply: Planning and Distribution

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Regarding the fresh water supply in Hong Kong, please provide the following information:

- (a) In the annual fresh water supply for the past two years (i.e. 2008 and 2009), what were the percentages of Dongjiang water and the fresh water supplied from local reservoirs? What were the figures on the overflow of water from the reservoirs each year?
- (b) Regarding the raw water supply agreement signed with the Mainland, was there any occasion where the supply exceeded the demand last year (i.e. 2009)? If yes, what are the details? Is there any measure to improve the situation?

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

- (a) The proportions of our sources of water supply are tabulated below:

Year	2008	2009
Supply by Dongjiang water	68.3%	76.1%
Local supply	31.7%	23.9%

At the time of heavy downpours, overflow of rain-water collected at reservoirs may occur. The estimated quantities of overflow in million cubic meters (mcm) for 2008 and 2009 are as shown below:

Year	2008	2009
Estimated overflow from reservoirs (mcm)	92	15

- (b) The current agreement for supply of Dongjiang water allows flexibility in water supply to meet our needs. There was no occasion where the supply exceeded the demand in 2009.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

L T MA

Post Title:

Director of Water Supplies

Date:

18 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)117

Question Serial No.

0586

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Water Supply: Planning and Distribution

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Regarding the replacement and rehabilitation programme of water mains, please advise:

- (a) the number of projects completed and the length of water mains replaced in 2009-10; and the work scheduled for 2010-11 (e.g. number of contracts and length of water mains expected to be completed) together with the estimated expenditure;
- (b) the expected completion date of the entire replacement and rehabilitation programme of water mains and the total expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

- (a) The replacement and rehabilitation (R&R) programme of water mains is being implemented for completion in stages. In 2009-10, six contracts were completed and a total length of about 430 km of water mains was replaced/rehabilitated. In 2010-11, 11 contracts are expected to be completed, and a total length of about 400 km of water mains is expected to be replaced/rehabilitated. The estimated expenditure for the R&R work in 2010-11 is \$2.3 billion.
- (b) The entire R&R programme is planned to be completed by 2015 at a total estimated cost of \$21.8 billion in money-of-the-day prices.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

L T MA

Post Title:

Director of Water Supplies

Date:

19 March 2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Customer Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Regarding the accuracy of water meters, please advise the number of cases involving the inaccuracy of water meters in 2009-10 and the amount involved.

Asked by : Hon. KAM Nai-wai

Reply :

Out of the 6.8 million water bills issued by the Department for 2009-10 up to end February 2010, there were 686 cases of dispute over the accuracy of the water meters, whereby the registered customers requested for meter testing. After meter testing and follow up investigation, 640 cases were found not involving inaccuracy of the water meters which required bill adjustment. There were 43 cases of inaccuracy of the water meters which required downward adjustment of the bill amounts and the total amount of adjustment was \$135,791. Investigation on the remaining three cases is still on-going.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

L T MA

Post Title:

Director of Water Supplies

Date:

19 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)119

Question Serial No.

1472

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Customer Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Regarding the on-going meter replacement programme, please provide the details of the progress in the past 3 years (2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10), the number of meters to be replaced in future and the time schedule for enhancing the accuracy of the meters. Please also provide the expenditure and manpower deployed in the past 3 years (2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10) and the estimated expenditure and manpower in 2010-11.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

To enhance the accuracy of water meters, the Department has started a programme to replace 1.27 million 15-mm diameter water meters of age over 12 years from 2006-07 to 2010-11. In 2007-08, 2008-09, and 2009-10, we replaced respectively 370 000, 250 000 and 210 000 such water meters. The respective expenditure was \$40 million, \$48 million and \$41 million. We plan to replace the remaining 210 000 meters under the programme in 2010-11 at a budget of \$45 million. About 75% of the meter replacement works was carried out by contractors and the remaining part by our direct labour. In each of the past three years, about 50 staff were deployed on the task. Similar arrangement will continue in 2010-11.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

L T MA

Post Title:

Director of Water Supplies

Date:

19 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)120

Question Serial No.

2373

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department

Subhead :000 Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

- (a) Please provide information on the employment of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff as follows -

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of NCSC staff	()	()	()	()
Total expenditure on salary for NCSC staff	()	()	()	()
Number of NCSC staff appointed as civil servant	()	()	()	()
Number of NCSC staff who had the opportunity but failed to be appointed as civil servants	()	()	()	()
Percentage of NCSC staff in the total number of staff of the Department	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

- (b) Please provide a breakdown of the length of employment of the NCSC staff from 2007-08 to 2010-11 as follows -

Period (years)	Numbers of staff (2010-11)	Numbers of staff (2009-10)	Numbers of staff (2008-09)	Numbers of staff (2007-08)
0.5 to 1 year	()	()	()	()
1 to 3 years	()	()	()	()
3 to 5 years	()	()	()	()

5 to 10 years	()	()	()	()
10 to 15 years	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

- (c) Please advise the number of NCSC staff who would be appointed as civil servants on permanent terms in the next three years i.e. from 2010-11 to 2012-13.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (a) Information on the employment of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff is provided below. As the number of NCSC staff fluctuates with changing service needs and staff turnover, a projection for 2010-11 cannot be made.

	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of NCSC staff	102 (-10%) (projection as at 31.3.2010)	113 (-50%) (as at 31.3.2009)	224 (as at 31.3.2008)
Total expenditure on salary for NCSC staff (\$ million)	23.3 (-41%)	39.3 (-24%)	51.5
Number of NCSC staff appointed as civil servant	34 (-68%)	106 (+2,550%)	4
Number of NCSC staff who had the opportunity but failed to be appointed as civil servants	No record	No record	No record
Percentage of NCSC staff in the total number of staff of the Department	2.4% (-8%)	2.6% (-49%)	5.1%

Figures in () denote *year-on-year increase/decrease*

- (b) Breakdown of the length of employment of the NCSC staff from 2007-08 to 2009-10 is provided below. As explained in (a) above, a projection for 2010-11 cannot be made.

Period (years)	2009-10 (projection as at 31.3.2010)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.2009)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.2008)
0.5 to less than 1 year	29 (+107%)	14 (-22%)	18
1 to less than 3 years	10 (-50%)	20 (-72%)	72
3 to less than 5 years	23 (+5%)	22 (+16%)	19
5 to less than 10 years	38 (-33%)	57 (-50%)	115
10 to less than 15 years	2	0	0
Total number of staff	102	113	224

Figures in () denote *year-on-year increase/decrease*

- (c) Civil service posts are filled through an open and competitive recruitment process. All NCSC staff would be subject to the same appointment procedures and arrangements as with all outside applicants. We are unable to predict the number of NCSC staff who would be appointed as civil servants in the next three years.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

L T MA

Post Title:

Director of Water Supplies

Date:

19 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)121

Question Serial No.

2374

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department

Subhead: 000 Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please provide the following information on the procurement of services of employment agencies (EAs) by the department from 2006-07 to 2009-10 in the form of a table :

- (a) the number of contracts signed with EAs;
- (b) the contract sum and duration for each EA;
- (c) the number and duties of workers supplied under each contract signed with EAs;
- (d) details of the pay of workers supplied under each contract signed with EAs, including monthly salaries and daily wages;
- (e) the percentage changes in the number of EAs, the number of contracts, the number of workers employed and the total expenditure in each year over the previous year;
- (f) if more than one EA was hired to supply workers in the year, please list the number and total value of contracts awarded to each EA, and the number of workers supplied under it;
- (g) the highest, median and lowest pay of workers supplied by each EA;
- (h) the proportion of workers supplied by EAs in the existing staff of the department in the year; and
- (i) the proportion of expenditure on procuring the services of EAs in departmental expenditure.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

The information in respect of procurement of employment agency services from 2006-07 to 2009-10 is appended below. This information excludes services provided under term contracts centrally administered by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer.

(a) The number of contracts signed with EAs

2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
<i>12</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>6</i>

(b) Contract sums and duration of services

Contract sum	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
	Number of contracts			
Less than \$0.5 million	<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>
\$0.5 million to \$1 million	<i>4</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>0</i>
Over \$1 million	<i>5</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>4</i>
Total:	<i>12</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>6</i>

Duration of services	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
	Number of contracts			
6 months or less	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>2</i>
Over 6 months to 1 year	<i>8</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>3</i>
Over 1 year to 2 years	<i>3</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>
Total:	<i>12</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>6</i>

(c) Number and duties of workers supplied

Number of workers supplied	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
	Number of contracts			
10 or less	<i>6</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>1</i>
11 to 20	<i>4</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>4</i>
21 to 30	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>0</i>
31 to 50	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1</i>
Over 50 (part-time workers)	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Total:	<i>12</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>6</i>

Duties of workers	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
	Number of contracts			
General office support	3	2	2	2
Customer services	6	6	5	4
Publicity and Information services	2	2	1	0
Accounting services	1	1	0	0
Total:	12	11	8	6

(d) Salaries of workers supplied

Contracts entered into with EAs contained overall service fees charged by the EAs for supplying agency workers which included wages paid to them.

(e) The numbers and corresponding percentages of change for each year in respect of the requested information are appended below:

	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
Number of EAs	5	5 (+67%)	3	3
Number of contracts	12 (9%)	11 (+38%)	8 (+33%)	6
Total number of workers supplied by EAs (including part-time workers)	165 (+12%)	147 (+50%)	98 (+17%)	84
Total contract sum (\$ million)	11.9 (+10%)	10.8 (+44%)	7.5 (+39%)	5.4

() are the percentage increase/decrease over the preceding year

(f) More than one EA were hired to supply workers during the concerned periods. The numbers and total values of contracts awarded and the total number of workers supplied by each EA are as follows:

	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
Number of contracts awarded	Number of EAs			
5 or less	4	4	3	3
6 to 10	1	1	0	0

	2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
Total value of contracts awarded	Number of EAs			
Less than \$1 million	2	2	0	0
\$1 million to \$2 million	1	1	1	2
\$2 million to \$3 million	1	1	1	1
Over \$3 million	1	1	1	0
Total number of workers supplied	Number of EAs			
10 or less	2	2	0	0
11 to 30	1	1	1	1
31 to 50	1	0	1	2
Over 50 (including part-time workers)	1	2	1	0

(g) Salaries of the workers supplied by the EAs under the contracts (highest, median, lowest)

Please refer to item (d) above.

(h) The percentage of workers (full-time) supplied by EAs against the total existing staff of the Department

2009-10 (as at 30.9.09)	2008-09 (as at 31.3.09)	2007-08 (as at 31.3.08)	2006-07 (as at 31.3.07)
2.6%	2.4%	2.3%	1.2%

(i) The percentage of expenditure on procuring the services of EAs against the departmental operational expenditure of the Department

2009-10 (estimate)	2008-09	2007-08	2006-07
0.8%	0.8%	0.5%	0.4%

Signature:

Name in block letters:

L T MA

Post Title:

Director of Water Supplies

Date:

19 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)122

Question Serial No.

2375

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department

Subhead: 000 Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

- (a) Please provide information on the use of outsourced services (including property management, security, cleansing, telecommunication technology, statistics, etc. (excluding the outsourcing of construction works) -

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of outsourced service contracts	()	()	()	()
Total value of outsourced service contracts	()	()	()	()
Total number of employees under the outsourced service contracts	()	()	()	()
Number of employees under outsourced service contract replaced by civil servants	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

- (b) Please provide a projection on the number of posts under the outsourced service contracts which can be replaced by the government employing staff on a long-term basis in the next three years (i.e. 2010-11 to 2012-13).

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (a) The information on the use of outsourced services (including property management, security, cleansing, telecommunication technology, statistics, etc. (excluding the outsourcing of construction works) is as follows -

	2010-11 (projection)	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Number of outsourced service contracts*	46 (-14.8%)	54 (+17.4%)	46 (+9.5%)	42
Total value of outsourced service contracts (\$million)	52.6 (+0.2%)	52.5 (+6.7%)	49.2 (+6.5%)	46.2
Total number of employees under the outsourced service contracts [#]	239 (+1.7%)	235 (+10.8%)	212	212
Number of employees under outsourced service contract replaced by civil servants	0	0	0	0

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

Notes:

* Sequential service contracts in the same fiscal year for the same service are counted as one service contract.

Only those contracts with specified number of staff to be provided are counted.

- (b) While the need for outsourced service varies from time to time and depends on the prevailing workload, we are unable to predict the number of posts under the outsourced service contracts which can be replaced by civil service posts in the next three years.

Signature: _____

Name in block letters: L T MA

Post Title: Director of Water Supplies

Date: 19 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)123

Question Serial No.

2376

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department

Subhead :000 Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

- (a) Please provide information on the employment and anticipated employment of temporary staff from 2007-08 to 2010-11 as follows -

	2010-11	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08
Numbers of temporary staff	()	()	()	()
Total expenditure on salary for the temporary staff	()	()	()	()
Percentage of temporary staff in the total number of staff of the Department	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

- (b) Please provide a breakdown of the length of employment of the temporary staff employed and planned to be employed from 2007-08 to 2010-11 as follows -

Period	Numbers of staff in 2010-11	Numbers of staff in 2009-10	Numbers of staff in 2008-09	Numbers of staff in 2007-08
Half year	()	()	()	()
1 year	()	()	()	()
2 years	()	()	()	()
3 years	()	()	()	()
3 years or above	()	()	()	()

Figures in () denote year-on-year increase/decrease

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

(a) & (b) We have not employed any temporary staff from 2007-08 to 2009-10 nor have any plan to do so in 2010-11.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

L T MA

Post Title:

Director of Water Supplies

Date:

19 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)124

Question Serial No.

2489

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please provide details of the consultations on policy formulation and assessment under all programmes in the following format. Using the table below, please provide information on the consultations for which funds had been allocated in 2009-10 :

Name/content of consultation	Revised estimate (\$)	Progress of consultation (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Mode of consultation (e.g. by means of written submissions, consultation sessions, focus groups), number of consultation exercises, name of organisations and number of people consulted/to be consulted	The Administration's follow-up actions on the consultation results and the progress made (if applicable)	For consultations already completed, have the results been released to the public? If yes, what are the channels? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

No consultation on policy formulation and assessment on the programmes under Head 194 – Water Supplies Department has been conducted in 2009-10.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

L T MA

Post Title:

Director of Water Supplies

Date:

18 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)125

Question Serial No.

2490

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please provide details of the consultations on policy formulation and assessment under all programmes in the following format. Have resources been earmarked for holding consultations in 2010-11? If so, please provide the following details :

Name/content of consultation	Expenditure (\$)	Progress of consultation (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Mode of consultation (e.g. by means of written submissions, consultation sessions, focus groups), number of consultation exercises, name of organisations and number of people consulted/to be consulted	For consultations scheduled for completion in the 2010-11 financial year, will the results be released to the public? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

No consultation on policy formulation and assessment on the programmes under Head 194 – Water Supplies Department is planned in 2010-11 and no resources have been earmarked.

Signature: _____

Name in block letters: _____

L T MA

Post Title: _____

Director of Water Supplies

Date: _____

18 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)126

Question Serial No.

2517

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department Subhead :

Programme : (1) Water Supply: Planning and Distribution

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

The matters requiring special attention in 2010–11 include implementing in phases the Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme (WELS). Please provide the following information :

- (a) How many manufacturers, importers and relevant trade operators have joined the first phase of the WELS up to now? What is the total number of water efficient showers available in the market?
- (b) How would the recognition and acceptance of the first phase of the scheme by the public be assessed?
- (c) Which plumbing fixtures and water-consuming appliances will be included in the later phases of the scheme?
- (d) Have resources been reserved for the promotion of water conservation? If yes, what are the expenditure involved and the related manpower resources? What are the main points of the promotion?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

- (a) Up to 9 March 2010, five importers of showers have participated in the first phase of Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme (WELS) on showers for bathing with 14 showers registered under the Scheme.
- (b) We will carry out customer opinion survey to assess the recognition and acceptance of the first phase of the Scheme by the public.
- (c) We will include water taps and washing machines into the next phase of the Scheme in 2010-11.

- (d) Excluding staff cost, we have allocated \$1.5 million in 2010-11 for the promotion of water conservation, including WELS. As regards the manpower resources, we will deploy a senior engineer with five supporting staff to take forward the works of all related promotional activities. The focus of the work will be on promoting WELS and water-saving tips, and arousing public awareness of the importance of water conservation.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

L T MA

Post Title:

Director of Water Supplies

Date:

18 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)127

Question Serial No.

2518

Head : 194 Water Supplies Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Water Supply: Planning and Distribution

Controlling Officer : Director of Water Supplies

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please provide the following information concerning leakage of water mains:-

- (a) Why a leakage rate of of 20% in water mains is estimated for 2010? How much water would be wasted due to leakage of water mains?
- (b) In 2008 and 2009, how much water was wasted due to leakage of water mains?
- (c) To reduce leakage of water mains, what measures will be taken to strengthen the inspection and maintenance of water mains? How much expenditure and manpower will be involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply :

- (a) The leakage rate for 2010 is estimated with respect to leakage rates in the past years and the probable improvements brought about by various measures. Water mains in Hong Kong are operating under a relatively high water pressure to maintain a reliable water supply to all customers. The leakage of water mains is considered more an operational constraint rather than a loss.
- (b) The leakage rates of water mains in 2008 and 2009 were 21.8% and 21.0% respectively.
- (c) To reduce leakage of water mains, we will press ahead with the replacement and rehabilitation of water mains. We will also step up the water mains leakage detection work. In 2010-11, \$2.3 billion will be allocated to the Department for employment of consultants and contractors to carry out the works.

Signature:

Name in block letters:

L T MA

Post Title:

Director of Water Supplies

Date:

19 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)129

Question Serial No.

0699

Head : Capital Works Reserve Fund Subhead :
Heads 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708
(Capital Subventions), 709 and 711

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Please list out in terms of “man-years” the number of job opportunities for professional/technical staff and labourers provided in 2009-10 and 2010-11 under the Public Works Programme (Heads 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708 (Capital Subventions), 709 and 711).

Asked by : Hon. LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply :

The number of job opportunities in terms of man-years for professional/technical staff and labourers to be provided in 2009-10 and 2010-11 under the various Capital Works Programme are listed below –

Head	2009-10		Total for 2009-10	2010-11		Total for 2010-11
	Professional / technical staff	Labourer		Professional / technical staff	Labourer	
	(a)	(b)		(d)	(e)	
702*	-	-	(c) = (a)+(b) -	-	-	(f) = (d)+(e) -
703	1 100	12 345	13 445	1 470	15 915	17 385
704	580	5 705	6 285	845	8 320	9 165
705	200	2 830	3 030	240	3 270	3 510
706	1 215	4 925	6 140	2 295	10 180	12 475
707	315	3 255	3,570	370	3 615	3 985
708 (Capital Subventions)	740	7 835	8 575	810	8 710	9 520
709	395	4 255	4 650	450	4 740	5 190
711	135	1 270	1 405	120	1 150	1 270
Total	4 680	42 420	47 100	6 600	55 900	62 500

* - Works were completed and expenditure arises from settlement of accounts.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

C K Mak

Permanent Secretary for
Development (Works)

22 March 2010

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)130

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Question Serial No.

0638

Head : Capital Works Reserve Fund Subhead :
Head 702 - Port and Airport Development

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Secretary for Development
Bureau :

Question :

The revised estimate for the Public Works Programme (Head 702) for 2009-10 is \$68,960,000, as against the original estimate of \$1,167,000 for 2009-10. Please explain the significant difference between the original and the revised estimate.

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply :

The increase in expenditure under Head 702 for 2009-10 is mainly due to early settlement of accounts of completed works.

Signature _____

Name in block letters **JOHN S V CHAI**

Post Title Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date 22.3.2010

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : Capital Works Reserve Fund Subhead : 2386CL
Head - 702 Port and Airport Central Reclamation phase 1
Development - engineering works

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

The Administration stated that the approved project estimate for "Central Reclamation phase 1 - engineering works" is \$2,644 million. The actual expenditure up to 31 March 2009 is \$2,593.8 million. However, the estimated expenditure is \$3 million only for 2010-11. What is the programme of expenditures for the remaining reserve of some \$50.2 million? If the works have not been completed, how to expedite the progress?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply :

The works under the "Central Reclamation phase 1 – engineering works" project have been substantially completed with some minor outstanding drainage works to be completed in 2011. The estimated expenditures for the outstanding works are \$3 million and \$1 million in 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively. The project account will be finalized upon completion of the outstanding works.

Signature _____

Name in block letters **JOHN S V CHAI** _____

Post Title **Director of Civil Engineering and Development** _____

Date **22.3.2010** _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)132

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Question Serial No.

3142

Head : Capital Works Reserve Fund Subhead : 2354CL
Head 702 - Port and Airport West Kowloon Reclamation -
Development consultants' fees and site
investigation

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

The Administration stated that the approved project estimate for "West Kowloon Reclamation - consultants' fees and site investigation" is \$287 million. The actual expenditure up to 31 March 2009 is \$262.886 million. However, the estimated expenditure for 2010-11 is \$0.758 million only. What is the programme of expenditures for the remaining amount of some \$24.1 million? If the works have not been completed, how to expedite the progress?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply :

The remaining amount of \$24.1 million under the project "West Kowloon Reclamation - consultants' fees and site investigation" is mainly for the site investigation and consultant fees for the design of the remaining works which cover three major footbridge systems to be built at road junctions of Sham Mong Road with Hing Wah Street West, Tonkin Street West and Yen Chow Street West respectively. Construction of the footbridge systems will tie in with the construction of the rail tunnel of the Hong Kong section of Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link underneath Sham Mong Road and the residential developments in the adjacent areas.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **JOHN S V CHAI** _____

Post Title _____ Director of Civil Engineering and Development _____

Date _____ 19.3.2010 _____

**Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2010-11
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(W)133

Question Serial No.

0641

Head : Capital Works Reserve Fund
Head - 703 – Buildings

Subhead : 3004GX

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question : The 2010-11 estimate for 3004GX is \$2,225,000,000. Will the Administration provide details of the proposed works to be undertaken during 2010-11? Please also provide a rough estimate of the job opportunities for the construction sector to be created under this subhead, including the number of jobs for registered construction workers categorised into skilled worker, provisional skilled worker, semi-skilled worker, provisional semi-skilled worker and general worker?

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply : The proposed works to be undertaken under Subhead 3004GX in 2010-11 cover refurbishment works to buildings and building services installations. The list of proposed refurbishment projects has been deposited with the Legislative Council Secretariat library and is therefore not attached. It is estimated that the job opportunities for workers, including skilled / semi-skilled and general workers, in 2010-11 will amount to 3 550 man-years. We do not have a breakdown of the estimated job opportunities for the five categories of construction workers mentioned in the question.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs Marigold LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Architectural Services

Date _____ 19 March 2010