

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
PANEL ON DEVELOPMENT**

PWP Item No. 181WF

**In-situ Reprovisioning of Sha Tin water treatment works
Follow-up to meeting on 24 February 2015**

The Government provides the supplementary information required by the Panel as follows -

- (a) *Details about water demand forecast for the next decade, including the methodology adopted by the Census and Statistics Department for population projections and the water consumption amount per capita estimated by the Water Supplies Department taking into account the impact of tourism and the water conservation campaign;*

The water demand forecast is made by the Water Supplies Department (WSD) based on the population projection of the Planning Department (PlanD). PlanD adopts the standard method, i.e. the “component method”, in compiling population projections. Under this method, the base year population for each district is derived based on the results of the 2011 Population Census, supplemented with relevant information from various sources such as record of the Housing Department. The base year population is then brought forward by age under separate projections of fertility, mortality and movement year after year.

In forecasting the water demand, WSD will consider relevant factors including the types of consumers (such as domestic, service trades and industrial), proposed land use, business activities, water consumption per capita or per hectare, projected population and land development programme as well as the latest water consumption data, in which the impact of tourism and water conservation campaign is covered.

- (b) the number of population that Sha Tin Water Treatment Works could serve after the completion of the reprovioning works for both the South Works and the North Works;***

At present, WSD proposes to implement the reprovioning works for the South Works only. The need to reprovion the North Works will be reviewed at appropriate time taking into account the water demand forecast and the operation condition of the North Works.

The reprovioning of the South Works is scheduled for completion in 2023. It is expected that the Sha Tin Water Treatment Works (WTW) (including the reprovioned South Works and the North Works) will serve a population of about 2 million.

- (c) the Government department(s) responsible for managing the existing trees within the boundary of the project; and***

The majority of the existing trees within the project boundary are located on unallocated Government land and are maintained by the Lands Department. The remaining ones are within the boundary of Sha Tin WTW and WSD is responsible for their maintenance.

- (d) the details and number of prosecutions taken against the illegal felling of/damages to the trees on government land and the follow-up actions adopted to protect them.***

The Agricultural, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) closely cooperates with Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) in combating against illegal tree-felling activities. HKPF has stepped up patrols at relevant black-spots, as well as strengthened its communication with the villagers to collect intelligence on illegal tree-felling and suspicious persons nearby. The AFCD has also been conducting regular patrols in country parks and special areas, as well as joint operations with HKPF from time to time at black-spots of illegal tree felling.

Based on the information from HKPF, the number of illegal felling of *Aquilaria sinensis* cases and prosecutions in 2014 and January to February 2015 are as follows -

Year	No. of cases	No. of people arrested	No. of prosecution (case)
2014	134	65	30
January to February 2015	14	4	1