Legislative Council Finance Committee

Supplementary Information

As requested by the Finance Committee at the meeting on 17 July 2020, we provide the following information regarding the annual growth rate of number of people with respiratory and/or cardiovascular diseases caused by air pollution, and the relation between air pollution and respiratory and/or cardiovascular disease.

2. The adverse health effects caused by air pollution mainly include hospital admissions, clinic visits as well as premature deaths in relation to respiratory and cardiovascular diseases. The Government has implemented a number of air quality improvement measures to reduce the concentrations of major air pollutants by about 20% to 50% in the past five years. According to the method developed by the Chinese University of Hong Kong commissioned by the Environmental Protection Department and completed in 2016, based on the data of 2019, the projected number of annual premature deaths would be about 2 300, representing a decrease of about 63% as compared with the 6 300 cases in 2014. The continuous improvement of air quality will reduce the adverse health impacts caused by air pollution.

Environment Bureau/Environmental Protection Department August 2020