

Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2013-14

**Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment
Session No. : 7**

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<u>ENB017</u>	4484	KWOK Ka-ki	22	(2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks
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<u>ENB020</u>	1022	LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey	22	(2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks
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<u>ENB028</u>	0993	WONG Pik-wan, Helena	22	(2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks
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<u>ENB099</u>	3361	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	44	(1) Waste
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<u>ENB103</u>	3392	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB104</u>	3393	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB105</u>	3394	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB106</u>	3398	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	44	(2) Air
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<u>ENB140</u>	1870	CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB141</u>	1871	CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB142</u>	1872	CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB143</u>	1873	CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB144</u>	3483	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	44	-
<u>ENB145</u>	3484	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB146</u>	3485	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	44	-
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<u>ENB148</u>	3495	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	44	-
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<u>ENB154</u>	4943	FAN Kwok-wai, Gary	44	(6) Nature Conservation
<u>ENB155</u>	4945	FAN Kwok-wai, Gary	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB156</u>	4948	FAN Kwok-wai, Gary	44	-
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<u>ENB159</u>	3001	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB160</u>	4422	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB161</u>	4426	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB162</u>	4427	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	44	(1) Waste
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<u>ENB165</u>	1484	IP LAU Suk-yea, Regina	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB166</u>	1485	IP LAU Suk-yea, Regina	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB167</u>	4443	KWOK Ka-ki	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB168</u>	4444	KWOK Ka-ki	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB169</u>	4445	KWOK Ka-ki	44	(2) Air
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<u>ENB172</u>	4495	KWOK Ka-ki	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB173</u>	2729	KWOK Ka-ki	44	-
<u>ENB174</u>	1535	KWOK Wai-keung	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB175</u>	1544	KWOK Wai-keung	44	-
<u>ENB176</u>	1545	KWOK Wai-keung	44	(3) Noise
<u>ENB177</u>	1546	KWOK Wai-keung	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB178</u>	1547	KWOK Wai-keung	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB179</u>	1548	KWOK Wai-keung	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB180</u>	2124	KWOK Wai-keung	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB181</u>	2126	KWOK Wai-keung	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB182</u>	2127	KWOK Wai-keung	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB183</u>	4657	KWOK Wai-keung	44	(5) Environmental Assessment and Planning
<u>ENB184</u>	4658	KWOK Wai-keung	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB185</u>	4668	KWOK Wai-keung	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB186</u>	4669	KWOK Wai-keung	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB187</u>	1733	KWOK, Dennis	44	-
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<u>ENB190</u>	4636	KWOK, Dennis	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB191</u>	4637	KWOK, Dennis	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB192</u>	1031	LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB193</u>	1103	LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB194</u>	0733	LEE Cheuk-yan	44	-
<u>ENB195</u>	1201	LEE Kok-long, Joseph	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB196</u>	3538	LEE Wai-king, Starry	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB197</u>	0145	LEUNG Kwan-yuen, Andrew	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB198</u>	3956	LEUNG Kwok-hung	44	-
<u>ENB199</u>	5460	LEUNG Kwok-hung	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB200</u>	5461	LEUNG Kwok-hung	44	(3) Noise
<u>ENB201</u>	5462	LEUNG Kwok-hung	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB202</u>	0108	LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla	44	(4) Water
<u>ENB203</u>	1086	LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB204</u>	3883	LEUNG Yiu-chung	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB205</u>	3884	LEUNG Yiu-chung	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB206</u>	2492	LEUNG, Kenneth	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB207</u>	2493	LEUNG, Kenneth	44	-
<u>ENB208</u>	2495	LEUNG, Kenneth	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB209</u>	2498	LEUNG, Kenneth	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB210</u>	2500	LEUNG, Kenneth	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB211</u>	2502	LEUNG, Kenneth	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB212</u>	2503	LEUNG, Kenneth	44	(3) Noise
<u>ENB213</u>	2504	LEUNG, Kenneth	44	(5) Environmental Assessment and Planning
<u>ENB214</u>	3067	LEUNG, Kenneth	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB215</u>	3068	LEUNG, Kenneth	44	-
<u>ENB216</u>	3225	LEUNG, Kenneth	44	(1) Waste
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<u>ENB218</u>	3279	LEUNG, Kenneth	44	(2) Air

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<u>ENB220</u>	4514	LEUNG, Kenneth	44	(4) Water
<u>ENB221</u>	4515	LEUNG, Kenneth	44	(6) Nature Conservation
<u>ENB222</u>	5467	LEUNG, Kenneth	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB223</u>	1317	LO Wai-kwok	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB224</u>	1318	LO Wai-kwok	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB225</u>	2463	MA Fung-kwok	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB226</u>	2595	MA Fung-kwok	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB227</u>	2596	MA Fung-kwok	44	-
<u>ENB228</u>	4505	MAK Mei-kuen, Alice	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB229</u>	1750	MO, Claudia	44	(6) Nature Conservation
<u>ENB230</u>	1764	MO, Claudia	44	(6) Nature Conservation
<u>ENB231</u>	1775	MO, Claudia	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB232</u>	1776	MO, Claudia	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB233</u>	1777	MO, Claudia	44	(4) Water
<u>ENB234</u>	5012	MOK, Charles Peter	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB235</u>	5013	MOK, Charles Peter	44	-
<u>ENB236</u>	5027	MOK, Charles Peter	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB237</u>	4614	QUAT, Elizabeth	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB238</u>	3560	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB239</u>	3561	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB240</u>	3562	SHEK Lai-him, Abraham	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB241</u>	5069	TANG Ka-piu	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB242</u>	5070	TANG Ka-piu	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB243</u>	5076	TANG Ka-piu	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB244</u>	1812	TIEN Puk-sun, Michael	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB245</u>	3035	TIEN Puk-sun, Michael	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB246</u>	2302	TSE Wai-chuen, Tony	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB247</u>	2308	TSE Wai-chuen, Tony	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB248</u>	2309	TSE Wai-chuen, Tony	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB249</u>	1647	TSE Wai-chun, Paul	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB250</u>	1648	TSE Wai-chun, Paul	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB251</u>	0176	WONG Kwok-hing	44	-
<u>ENB252</u>	0177	WONG Kwok-hing	44	-
<u>ENB253</u>	0178	WONG Kwok-hing	44	-
<u>ENB254</u>	3935	WONG Kwok-kin	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB255</u>	3936	WONG Kwok-kin	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB256</u>	0983	WONG Pik-wan, Helena	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB257</u>	0984	WONG Pik-wan, Helena	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB258</u>	0986	WONG Pik-wan, Helena	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB259</u>	0988	WONG Pik-wan, Helena	44	(3) Noise
<u>ENB260</u>	0990	WONG Pik-wan, Helena	44	(2) Air (3) Noise
<u>ENB261</u>	2223	WU Chi-wai	44	(6) Nature Conservation
<u>ENB262</u>	2235	WU Chi-wai	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB263</u>	2236	WU Chi-wai	44	(2) Air

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<u>ENB264</u>	2238	WU Chi-wai	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB265</u>	2239	WU Chi-wai	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB266</u>	2240	WU Chi-wai	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB267</u>	3273	WU Chi-wai	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB268</u>	4594	WU Chi-wai	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB269</u>	4607	WU Chi-wai	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB270</u>	4611	WU Chi-wai	44	(3) Noise
<u>ENB271</u>	2091	YICK Chi-ming, Frankie	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB272</u>	2092	YICK Chi-ming, Frankie	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB273</u>	2093	YICK Chi-ming, Frankie	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB274</u>	2094	YICK Chi-ming, Frankie	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB275</u>	2095	YICK Chi-ming, Frankie	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB276</u>	2096	YICK Chi-ming, Frankie	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB277</u>	2097	YICK Chi-ming, Frankie	44	(2) Air
<u>ENB278</u>	2165	YIU Si-wing	44	(1) Waste
<u>ENB279</u>	4643	KWOK, Dennis	48	(2) Advisory and Investigative Services
<u>ENB280</u>	4644	KWOK, Dennis	48	(2) Advisory and Investigative Services
<u>ENB281</u>	0180	LAU Wong-fat	60	(1) Capital Projects
<u>ENB282</u>	3064	LEUNG Che-cheung	60	(1) Capital Projects
<u>ENB283</u>	2100	YICK Chi-ming, Frankie	100	(2) Port Services
<u>ENB284</u>	3218	CHAN Chi-chuen	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB285</u>	2818	CHAN Hak-kan	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB286</u>	3263	CHAN Hak-kan	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB287</u>	4231	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB288</u>	4690	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	137	(3) Sustainable Development
<u>ENB289</u>	4692	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	137	(3) Sustainable Development
<u>ENB290</u>	4721	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB291</u>	4898	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB292</u>	5485	CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB293</u>	0901	CHAN Kin-por	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB294</u>	4029	CHEUNG Kwok-che	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB295</u>	1281	CHUNG Kwok-pan	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB296</u>	3299	CHUNG Kwok-pan	137	-
<u>ENB297</u>	4950	FAN Kwok-wai, Gary	137	-
<u>ENB298</u>	0132	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	137	(1) Director of Bureau's Office
<u>ENB299</u>	0193	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	137	(2) Power

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<u>ENB300</u>	0194	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB301</u>	3820	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB302</u>	3821	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB303</u>	3822	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB304</u>	3829	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	137	(3) Sustainable Development
<u>ENB305</u>	3830	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	137	(3) Sustainable Development
<u>ENB306</u>	3831	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB307</u>	3106	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	137	-
<u>ENB308</u>	3678	HO Sau-lan, Cyd	137	(2) Power
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<u>ENB312</u>	1481	IP LAU Suk-yea, Regina	137	(2) Power
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<u>ENB314</u>	1505	IP LAU Suk-yea, Regina	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB315</u>	4492	KWOK Ka-ki	137	(1) Director of Bureau's Office
<u>ENB316</u>	4493	KWOK Ka-ki	137	-
<u>ENB317</u>	2121	KWOK Wai-keung	137	(3) Sustainable Development
<u>ENB318</u>	2125	KWOK Wai-keung	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB319</u>	4656	KWOK Wai-keung	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB320</u>	2607	KWOK, Dennis	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB321</u>	2611	KWOK, Dennis	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB322</u>	4630	KWOK, Dennis	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB323</u>	4631	KWOK, Dennis	137	(3) Sustainable Development
<u>ENB324</u>	0267	LEUNG Kwan-yuen, Andrew	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB325</u>	2486	LEUNG, Kenneth	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB326</u>	2494	LEUNG, Kenneth	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB327</u>	3066	LEUNG, Kenneth	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB328</u>	1319	LO Wai-kwok	137	(2) Power
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<u>ENB330</u>	1322	LO Wai-kwok	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB331</u>	2482	MA Fung-kwok	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB332</u>	2599	MA Fung-kwok	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB333</u>	1778	MO, Claudia	137	(1) Director of Bureau's Office
<u>ENB334</u>	1779	MO, Claudia	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB335</u>	0680	NG Leung-sing	137	-
<u>ENB336</u>	2103	QUAT, Elizabeth	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB337</u>	3304	QUAT, Elizabeth	137	-
<u>ENB338</u>	4615	QUAT, Elizabeth	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB339</u>	3293	SIN Chung-kai	137	-
<u>ENB340</u>	0440	TANG Ka-piu	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB341</u>	5066	TANG Ka-piu	137	(2) Power

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<u>ENB342</u>	5085	TANG Ka-piu	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB343</u>	2298	TSE Wai-chuen, Tony	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB344</u>	2300	TSE Wai-chuen, Tony	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB345</u>	4264	WONG Kwok-hing	137	-
<u>ENB346</u>	5483	WONG Kwok-hing	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB347</u>	0987	WONG Pik-wan, Helena	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB348</u>	2201	WU Chi-wai	137	(1) Director of Bureau's Office
<u>ENB349</u>	2222	WU Chi-wai	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB350</u>	2247	WU Chi-wai	137	(2) Power
<u>ENB351</u>	4927	FAN Kwok-wai, Gary	704	-
<u>ENB352</u>	3242	QUAT, Elizabeth	704	-
<u>ENB353</u>	2107	QUAT, Elizabeth	705	-
<u>ENB354</u>	4933	FAN Kwok-wai, Gary	706	-

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION****ENB001**

Question Serial No.

3320

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation DepartmentSubhead (No. & title):Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country ParksControlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and ConservationDirector of Bureau: Secretary for the EnvironmentQuestion:

1. In each of the past three years (2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13), how many complaints about illegal tree-felling in country parks did the Administration receive in total and what was the area of land involved? How many of the complaints were about the felling of Agarwood or other protected species? Please also advise on the numbers of prosecution cases, persons prosecuted and convictions, and the total amount of fines imposed;
2. Will the Department deploy resources and manpower to review the penalties for illegal tree-felling in country parks under the Country Parks Ordinance? If yes, what are the details of the work and the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, KennethReply:

1. Details of the information requested are tabulated below:

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Number of complaints on illegal tree felling in country parks	17	30	45
Number of complaints about felling of <i>Aquilaria sinensis</i> (Incense Tree, 土沉香) and other protected species	5	11	6
Number of prosecution cases against illegal tree felling	11	10	18*
Country Park involved	Tai Lam, Tai Mo Shan, Lantau North, Pat Sin Leng	Tai Lam, Lantau North, Pat Sin Leng, Sai Kung East	Tai Lam, Lantau North, Pat Sin Leng, Plover Cove, Sai Kung East
Number of persons prosecuted	11	10	8
Number of convictions	9	8	2
Total amount of fine (\$)	6,800	7,000	800

* Five cases are under investigation.

2. The Agriculture, Fisheries, Conservation Department regularly reviews the Country Parks Ordinance and the Forests and Countryside Ordinance, including its penalty level against illegal tree felling. As the resources required for legislation review was incorporated into routine law-enforcement duties, we therefore do not have separate estimate for legislation review work.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB002

Question Serial No.

3321

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

How many complaints about unlawful occupation and excavation of country park land did the Administration receive in each of the past three years? What was the area of land involved? Please advise on the numbers of prosecution cases, persons prosecuted and convictions, and the total amount of fines imposed.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

In the past three years (2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13), the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) received respectively eight, twelve and five complaints about unlawful occupation and excavation of country parks land. All the lands involved were unleased Government land in various country parks. The enforcement of unlawful occupation and excavation of lands on unleased Government land in country parks under the Lands (Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance, Cap. 28 is within the purview of the Lands Department. AFCD has therefore referred these cases to the Lands Department for follow-up action. We do not have the statistics on prosecution and conviction.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB003

Question Serial No.

3322

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

At present, how many hectares of enclaves remain within country park area? Will the Government allocate more resources to expedite the work to cover the enclaves by statutory plans of country parks? What are the details of the work plan in this regard, including the areas and locations of the enclaves expected to be incorporated into country parks and the timetable concerned, in the coming year?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

There are currently 77 country park enclaves, covering an approximate area of 2 070 hectares. 23 of the country park enclaves have already been covered by Outline Zoning Plans under the Town Planning Ordinance (TPO) (Cap. 131). 24 out of the 54 remaining enclaves have been covered by Development Permission Area Plans gazetted under TPO. Three sites, namely Tai Long Sai Wan (17 hectares), Yuen Tun (20 hectares) and Kam Shan (one hectare), have been considered suitable for inclusion in country parks and have been gazetted under the Country Parks Ordinance (CPO) for the public to comment. The statutory process under the CPO is going on for these three sites. We are reviewing the suitability of other country park enclaves for inclusion in the country parks.

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department has deployed \$0.9 million and two staff annually for the inclusion of selected country park enclaves into country parks in 2011-12 and 2012-13. The same level of resources has been earmarked for the work in 2013-14.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB004

Question Serial No.

3323

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Provision for Programme (2) is 3.9% higher. This is mainly due to the full-year provision for vacancies filled in 2012-13. There will be an increase of one post in 2013-14. Please advise on the establishment details of the vacancies and the additional post to be created as well as the professional qualifications required for the new post.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Provision for Programme (2) is 3.9% higher than 2012-13 Revised Estimates because of the inclusion of salary provision for 160 vacancies filled in 2012-13 and creation of one additional post in 2013-14. The establishment details of the 160 vacancies are set out below -

Rank	No. of Vacancy
Forestry Officer	6
Fisheries Officer	1
Field Officer II	6
Field Assistant	31
Works Supervisor II	2
Assistant Clerical Officer	1
Senior Artisan	2
Artisan	16
Motor Driver	1
Workman I	51
Workman II	43
Total	160

In 2013-14, an additional Field Assistant post will be created for undertaking management work and scientific studies related to the conservation of Site of Special Scientific Interest. Belonging to the technician, supervisory and related grades, a Field Assistant is required to have Level 2/Grade E or above in five subjects in the Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination or equivalent and at least two years' post-qualification experience in nature conservation field work or a disciplined service of the Government.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB005

Question Serial No.

3325

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

How many complaints about illegal feeding of wild animals, unauthorised entry of vehicles into country parks or special areas and unauthorised camping outside designated camping site in country parks or special areas, did the Administration receive in each of the past three years (2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13)? Please advise on the numbers of prosecution cases, persons prosecuted and convictions, and the total amount of fines imposed.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The number of complaints received and prosecution figures of illegal feeding of wild animals, unauthorised entry of vehicles into country parks or special areas and unauthorised camping outside designated camping site in country parks or special areas are set out in the table below:

Offence Items	Fiscal Year	Number of Complaints received	Number of Prosecuted Cases**	Number of Persons Prosecuted**	Number of Convicted Cases #	Total Amount of Fine Imposed (\$)
Illegal feeding of wild animals	2010-11	10	94	94	91	52,150
	2011-12	2	101	101	71	41,900
	2012-13*	5	107	107	67	38,450
Unauthorized entry of vehicles into country parks or special areas	2010-11	13	183	183	280	97,190
	2011-12	13	169	169	123	50,220
	2012-13*	8	156	156	100	38,700
Unauthorized camping outside designated camping site in country parks or special areas	2010-11	4	42	42	34	9,175
	2011-12	1	34	34	29	10,500
	2012-13*	4	95	95	29	9,600

* Up to 13 March 2013

** Counted by the date of prosecution

Counted by the date of conviction

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB006

Question Serial No.

3326

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

How many organisations were arranged by the Department to plant trees in country parks in the previous year (2012-13)? Please set out the planting locations, the number of seedlings planted and the expenditure involved, broken down by the names of the organisations concerned.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Owing to limited tree planting sites in country parks, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) arranged tree planting activity for two organisations only in 2012-13. Details are given below:

Date	Event Name / Organiser	Location	Country Park	Number of participants	Number of seedlings planted	AFCD resources involved
22.4.2012	Tree Planting Challenge / Friends of the Earth	Lin Fa Shan	Tai Lam Country Park	800	7 000	Nil as all the costs involved were borne by the organiser
23.3.2013	Hong Kong Tree Planting Day / Hong Kong Tree Planting Day Organizing Committee	High Island	Sai Kung East Country Park	1 000	10 000	\$80,000 for the supply of seedlings

In addition, AFCD arranged two public tree planting days for the general public in 2012-13 and the details are given below:

Date	Location	Country Park	Number of participants	Number of seedlings planted
15.4.2012	Fu Tei	Tai Lam Country Park	1 100	2 200
6.5.2012	Sheung Miu Tin	Plover Cove Country Park	2 200	3 800

The total expenditure involved in these two public tree planting days is \$80,000.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB007

Question Serial No.

0879

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

The Programme states that the Administration will manage and protect country parks, special areas, marine parks and marine reserves under the Country Parks Ordinance (Cap. 208) and the Marine Parks Ordinance (Cap. 476) for the purpose of nature conservation, recreation, nature based tourism and education. Regarding marine parks, what is the expenditure earmarked for each aspect in the coming year (i.e. 2013-14)? Since the establishment of the marine parks and marine reserves, how many visitors (please set out the respective numbers of local and overseas visitors) have visited them? Has the Department planned any new marine parks and marine reserves? Regarding the monitoring of the ecology of marine parks and marine reserves, what is the number of deaths of species since their establishment? Regarding the monitoring of ecology and water quality, and publicity and education, how will the Department strengthen the related work in the coming year (i.e. 2013-14)?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Kin-por

Reply:

A total of four marine parks and one marine reserve have been designated since the enactment of the Marine Parks Ordinance, Cap. 476 in 1995. In 2013-14, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will continue its efforts in managing and operating these marine protected areas through (a) carrying out law enforcement actions and other management measures to protect and conserve the marine resources and habitats; (b) implementation of various programmes to monitor the water quality and ecological resources such as hard and soft corals, marine mammals and fisheries resources; (c) provision and maintenance of recreational and visitor facilities to promote nature based ecotourism; and (d) organising a variety of education and publicity activities including guided tours, field studies, seminars and workshops for schools and the general public, coastal clean-up events, the Marine Parks Ambassador Scheme, etc. to raise public awareness of marine conservation and gain their support on marine park management work. Moreover, while there is no plan to designate new marine parks or marine reserve in 2013-14, the Department will continue to identify suitable areas for designation and conduct detail studies and consultation with stakeholders and parties concerned on those areas considered suitable.

Through the above efforts, the overall ecosystem and marine lives in the marine parks and marine reserve are found to be generally healthy and stable. It is revealed from the monitoring results that over 60 of the 84 hard coral species in Hong Kong waters are recorded in the marine parks, and the abundance and diversity of fish inside marine parks and marine reserve are generally higher than that outside the marine protected areas. However, we do not have the statistics on the number of deaths of species since the establishment of marine parks and marine reserve. As regards the number of visitors, a total of 2.9 million people have visited the marine parks since their establishment. As our visitor survey does not collect separate statistics on the number of local and overseas visitors, such data is not available.

The total expenditure earmarked for the management and operation of marine parks and marine reserve in 2013-14 is \$30 million, of which \$22 million will be allocated for law enforcement and management, \$2 million for ecological monitoring, \$2 million for the provision and maintenance of recreational and visitor facilities, and \$4 million for organising education and publicity activities.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB008

Question Serial No.

1692

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Under this Programme, it is estimated by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department that 700 000 seedlings will be planted in 2013. Please provide the estimated number of seedlings of native species to be planted in 2013 and the expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply:

It is estimated that 616 000 seedlings of native species will be planted in 2013 and the estimated expenditure involved is \$10.2 million.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB009

Question Serial No.

1693

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Please inform the Committee of the respective numbers of plastic refuse bags used by the Administration and contractors in managing country parks and the related expenditure in 2012-13, as well as the estimated figures in 2013-14. What were the quantities of leaf and tree litter collected within country parks and disposed of at landfills in the last year (2012-13)?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply:

The number of plastic refuse bags used in 2012-13 and to be used in 2013-14 by the Administration in managing country parks is 231 000 per year. Estimated expenditure is set out below:

Financial Year	Estimated Expenditure
2012-13	\$0.18 million
2013-14	\$0.21 million

Following the trial use of biodegradable plastic bags to collect litter in country parks in the past two years, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department has planned to further expand the trial to cover a wider area in 2013-14. Since more biodegradable bags will be used and they are generally more expensive, the estimated expenditure for 2013-14 is slightly increased accordingly.

The estimated number of plastic refuse bags used/to be used by the contractors is 314 000 per year during the same period. Since the contractors are responsible for provision of plastic refuse bags when carrying out litter collection work, the cost of the refuse bags provided by them is unknown to the Administration.

Most of the green waste (e.g. branches, leaves) generated from our daily operation will be stock-piled to a nearby natural habitat to provide niches for wildlife and for the wood to decompose, thus returning nutrients back to nature. For those tree logs suitable for reuse, they will be used to make country park recreational facilities (such as animated features, waymarks, benches, etc.). Therefore, no green waste from country parks was disposed of at landfills.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB010

Question Serial No.

5332

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

In view of the frequent illegal felling of Agarwood (Incense tree) in Hong Kong in recent years, does the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department have plans to compile statistics on Agarwood (Incense tree) throughout the territory? What measures will be taken to prevent the problem of illegal tree-felling from deteriorating? What is the estimated expenditure on the work in 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

Incense Tree is a native tree species commonly found in lowland areas of countryside, particularly in fung shui woods behind rural villages. The plant is also found in country parks. Given that it has a wide distribution and may also grow in densely vegetated areas, a specific territory-wide survey for the species is neither practicable nor useful. Nonetheless, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has been and will continue keeping records of Incense Trees encountered in our routine vegetation surveys. Continuous efforts will also be made to combat illegal tree felling of Incense Trees. Such measures include: (a) stepping up patrols in country parks, special areas and at hotspots of illegal Incense Tree felling cases; (b) collaborating with the Police to conduct joint enforcement operations; (c) incorporating Incense Trees into AFCD's tree planting programme and planting more seedlings in various country parks to compensate the loss; and (d) enhancing publicity on tree protection in AFCD's conservation education and publicity programmes. The resources involved in this area of work will be absorbed in the allocation for recurrent expenditure on nature conservation education and country park management work.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB011

Question Serial No.

1294

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

In 2013-14, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department will strengthen publicity and education of the Hong Kong Global Geopark of China for the promotion of geo-conservation. What are the details? What is the estimated expenditure involved? How effective was the related work in 2012-13? What were the numbers of local and overseas visitors to the Geopark? Will there be any interdepartmental cooperation to further promote the Hong Kong Geopark as a tourist destination?

Asked by: Hon. CHUNG Kwok-pan

Reply:

In 2013-14, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will continue its on-going efforts in promoting our Global Geopark and geo-conservation through a variety of education and publicity activities. Major activities include (a) production of multilingual promotion materials and electronic books for local and overseas tourists; (b) overseas promotion through the international platform of the Global Geoparks Network; (c) upgrading the skills of the geopark guides through the Accredited Geopark Guide System in conjunction with non-governmental organisations (NGOs); (d) training of tour operators and fishermen interested in geo-tours; (e) science popularisation programme for students through the Geopark School Programme; and (f) collaboration with NGOs and private sectors in setting up and operation of education and visitor centres. \$8 million has been earmarked for these activities in 2013-14.

In 2012-13, the number of visitors to the Global Geopark was around 1.4 million. As our visitor survey does not collect separate statistics on the number of local and overseas visitors, such data is not available.

To further promote Hong Kong Global Geopark as a tourist destination, AFCD has been working closely with the relevant government departments such as Tourism Commission, Leisure and Cultural Services Department and Home Affairs Department as well as Hong Kong Tourism Board, Travel Industry Council of Hong Kong, District Councils, environmental groups and the private sectors.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB012

Question Serial No.

3825

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Regarding "the management and operation of the Hong Kong Global Geopark of China" under Brief Description, please inform the Committee of the details of the distribution of manpower, provision and expenditure for the Hong Kong Global Geopark of China, including the organisation of promotional, educational and publicity activities as well as the conduct of geological scientific researches etc., in the past two years (i.e. 2011-12 to 2012-13) and the coming two years (i.e. starting from 2013-14).

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

In 2011-12 and 2012-13, a team of 21 staff was deployed for the management and operation of the Hong Kong Global Geopark of China (HKGGP). Major tasks include patrol and enforcement, provision of visitor facilities, education and publicity, promotion on local community's participation in geo-conservation and tourism activities, arranging cleansing and litter collection services, and research on geological science. The total expenditure involved in 2011-12 and 2012-13 were \$29.2 million each year, including \$10 million for organising promotional, educational and publicity activities as well as conducting geological scientific researches for the HKGGP. The same level of resources will be deployed for this area of work in 2013-14 and 2014-15.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB013

Question Serial No.

3826

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

“The inclusion of selected country park enclaves into country parks” is mentioned under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14. Please inform the Committee of the latest progress of the above work. How many of the 77 country park enclaves (enclaves) have been or are proposed to be incorporated into Development Permission Area plans under the Town Planning Ordinance or incorporated into country parks respectively? Please provide information on the locations and areas of these enclaves. What are the criteria for determining which way of incorporation to be adopted? What were the expenditure and manpower involved in the above work in the past two years (i.e. 2011-12 to 2012-13) and what are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved in 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. Fung Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

There are currently 77 country park enclaves, of which 23 have already been covered by Outline Zoning Plans under the Town Planning Ordinance (TPO) (Cap. 131). 24 out of the 54 remaining enclaves have been covered by Development Permission Area (DPA) plans gazetted under TPO. The locations by country parks and areas of these 47 enclaves are shown in the **Annex**. Three enclaves, namely Tai Long Sai Wan (17 hectares), Yuen Tun (20 hectares) and Kam Shan (one hectare), have been considered suitable for inclusion in country parks and have been gazetted under the Country Parks Ordinance (CPO) for the public to comment. The statutory process under the CPO is going on for these three sites. We are reviewing the suitability of other country park enclaves for inclusion in the country parks.

To determine which enclaves are to be protected through designation as part of a country park under the CPO or brought under control of the TPO, relevant factors such as conservation value, landscape and aesthetic value, geographical location, and scale of human settlement will be taken into consideration.

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department has deployed \$0.9 million and two staff annually for this area of work in 2011-12 and 2012-13. The same level of resources has been earmarked for the work in 2013-14.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

**Country Park Enclaves already covered by
Outline Zoning Plan**

No.	Name of Country Park Enclave	Approximate Area in hectare
Lion Rock Country Park		
1	Shap Yi Wat	3
Ma On Shan Country Park		
2	Ngau Liu and Kwun Yam Shan	72
3	Wong Chuk Yeung	37
Pat Sin Leng Country Park		
4	Sha Lo Tung	56
Plover Cove Country Park		
5	Kai Kuk Shue Ha, Ho Lek Pui and Ham Hang Mei	8
6	Ho Pui, Tin Sam, Sam Ka Tsuen, San Uk Tsuen, San Uk Ha, Lo Wai, Leng Pui and Kau Tam Tso	98
Sai Kung East and West Country Parks		
7	Wong Yi Chau and Hei Tsz Wan	9
8	Pak Tam Chung	2
9	Tsak Yue Wu	15
10	Tai Long, Lam Uk Wai, Lung Mei Tau, Tai Wan and Ham Tin	46
11	Pak Tam	5
12	Shek Hang	3
13	Tai Mong Tsai, She Tau, Ping Tun, Tit Kim Hang, Tam Wat, Tai Po Tsai, San Tin Hang, Tso Wo Hang, Wong Chuk Wan and Wong Mo Ying	126
14	Wong Keng Tei and Tsam Chuk Wan	36
15	Sham Chung	32

Lantau South, North and North (Extension) Country Parks		
16	Fan Lau Tsuen	24
17	Pak Fu Tin	3
18	Lung Mei and Tai Long	28
19	Ngong Ping	103
20	Lai Chi Yuen	5
21	Shui Tseng Wan	2
22	Yi Long	7
23	Shui Hau Wan	1

**Country Park Enclaves covered by
Development Permission Area Plan**

No.	Name of Country Park Enclave	Approximate Area in hectare
Ma On Shan Country Park		
1	Mau Ping, Mau Ping Lo Uk, Mau Ping San Uk, and Wong Chuk Shan	45
Tai Lam Country Park		
2	Tin Fu Tsai	53
Plover Cove Country Park		
3	Sam A Tsuen	23
4	Siu Tan	20
5	Kop Tong, Mui Tsz Lam and Lai Chi Wo	91
6	So Lo Pun	29
7	Kuk Po San Uk Ha, Kuk Po Lo Wai, Yi To, Sam To, Sze To and Ng To	64
8	Fung Hang	9
9	Yung Shue Au	18
Sai Kung East and West Country Parks		
10	Pak A	11
11	Tung A	10
12	Pak Lap	6
13	Pak Tam Au	14

14	To Kwa Peng	9
15	Chek Keng	31
16	Ko Lau Wan, Mo Uk, Lam Uk, Lau Uk and Tse Uk	33
17	Sai Wan*	17
18	Hoi Ha	8
19	Pak Sha O, Pak Sha O Ha Yeung	29
20	Yung Shue O	32
Lantau South, North and North (Extension) Country Parks		
21	Luk Wu, Upper Keung Shan, Lower Keung Shan, Cheung Ting and Hang Pui	155
22	Ngau Kwo Tin	7
23	Yi O	23
Ma Shi Chau Special Area		
24	Shui Mong Tin	2

* While the enclave of Tai Long Sai Wan (Sai Wan) was covered by the Tai Long Sai Wan DPA plan in August 2010, it has also been proposed for inclusion into Sai Kung East Country Park. The statutory process for designation under the CPO is expected to be completed in late 2013.

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

ENB014

Question Serial No.

3827

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Regarding the actual and estimated numbers of hill fires attended to as set out in the Indicators, please inform the Committee of the details of the hill fires affecting country parks in 2011 and 2012, including the dates of the hill fires, areas affected and the number of trees destroyed. Regarding hill fire prevention, what were the expenditure and manpower involved in the past two years (i.e. 2011-12 to 2012-13) and what are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved in 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

- (1) The particulars of hill fires affecting country parks (CP) and special areas (SA) in 2011 and 2012 are shown in the **Annex**.
- (2) The expenditure and manpower involved in prevention and fighting of hill fires in country parks and special areas are tabulated as follows:

Financial Year	Expenditure (HK\$ Million)	Manpower (Number of Staff)
2011-12	33	223
2012-13	34	200
2013-14	34	211

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

Particulars of hill fires affecting CP & SA in 2011

Serial No.	Date	CP/SA	Area Affected (Hectares)	Trees Destroyed (No.)
1	7/1/2011	Ma On Shan CP	5	0
2	18/1/2011	Sai Kung West CP	0.5	10
3	20/1/2011	Lion Rock CP	2	600
4	23/1/2011	Ma On Shan CP	2	0
5	23/1/2011 to 24/1/2011	Tai Mo Shan CP	15	0
6	3/2/2011	Tai Lam CP	0.5	0
7	5/2/2011	Tai Lam CP	6	0
8	6/2/2011	Pat Sin Leng CP	2	600
9	6/2/2011 to 8/2/2011	Pat Sin Leng CP	130	0
10	8/2/2011	Pat Sin Leng CP	75	0
11	10/2/2011	Ma On Shan CP	1	0
12	24/2/2011	Pat Sin Leng CP	0.7	0
13	25/2/2011	Tai Mo Shan CP	1	0
14	26/2/2011	Lion Rock CP	2	85
15	26/2/2011	Lam Tsuen CP	0.3	0
16	28/2/2011	Tai Lam CP	1.2	450
17	1/3/2011	Lion Rock CP	0.2	50
18	4/3/2011	Pat Sin Leng CP	0.2	0
19	4/3/2011	Tai Lam CP	2	40
20	5/3/2011	Tai Po Kau SA	19	500
21	7/3/2011	Sai Kung East CP	15	5 600
22	12/3/2011	Lion Rock CP	1	70
23	30/3/2011	Lantau South CP	3	1 800
24	30/3/2011	Tai Lam CP	4	0
25	30/3/2011	Lantau South CP	2	500
26	2/4/2011	Ma On Shan CP	25	300
27	3/4/2011	Lantau North CP	12	0
28	9/4/2011	Pat Sin Leng CP	5	1 100
29	19/4/2011	Ma On Shan CP	1	0
30	22/4/2011	Pat Sin Leng CP	0.5	80
31	22/4/2011	Shing Mun CP	2	1 000
32	14/9/2011	Pat Sin Leng CP	3	0
33	18/9/2011	Tai Mo Shan CP	0.2	0
34	18/9/2011	Lam Tsuen CP	5	0
35	17/10/2011	Sai Kung East CP	3.8	144
36	17/10/2011	Sai Kung East	0.3	60
37	2/12/2011	Lion Rock CP	1	0
38	5/12/2011	Ma On Shan CP	1	0
39	9/12/2011	Lantau North CP	0.1	0
40	25/12/2011	Tai Lam CP	1.5	65
41	26/12/2011	Tai Lam CP	3	120
42	27/12/2011	Lion Rock CP	1	0
Total:			356	13 174

Particulars of hill fires affecting CP & SA in 2012

Serial No.	Date	CP/SA	Area Affected (Hectares)	Trees Destroyed (No.)
1	4/1/2012	Tai Po Kau SA	2.5	0
2	26/3/2012	Tai Lam CP	3	200
3	28/3/2012	Tai Lam CP	0.7	0
4	1/4/2012	Tai Lam CP	0.25	0
5	4/4/2012	Lantau North CP	1	0
6	13/10/2012	Tai Po Kau SA	3	0
7	21/10/2012	Tai Mo Shan CP	3	200
8	23/10/2012	Plover Clove CP	7	500
9	23/10/2012	Lantau North CP	3	0
10	23/10/2012 to 24/10/2012	Tai Lam CP	18	2 500
11	28/10/2012	Tai Lam CP	3.5	0
12	4/11/2012	Ma On Shan CP	10	2 000
13	8/11/2012	Tai Lam CP	1.5	0
14	12/12/2012	Tai Lam CP	0.25	0
15	25/12/2012	Lam Tsuen CP	3	0
Total:			59.7	5 400

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

ENB015

Question Serial No.

3828

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

“To conserve flora, fauna and natural habitats; to designate and manage country parks, special areas, marine parks and marine reserves” is mentioned under the Aim. Please inform the Committee of the details of illegal tree-felling cases detected within country parks in the past three years (i.e. 2010-11 to 2012-13), including the numbers of cases detected, cases where offenders could not be located or arrested, and prosecutions made. What were the expenditure and manpower involved in the related patrol and enforcement work in the past three years and what are the estimated expenditure and manpower involved in 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

Number of illegal tree felling cases detected within country parks in the past three years and the related prosecution and conviction records are tabulated below:

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Number of illegal tree felling cases detected in country parks	17	30	45
Number of illegal tree felling cases detected but unable to apprehend or identify suspected defendant	6	20	26
Number of illegal tree felling cases under investigation	0	0	1
Number of prosecution cases against illegal tree felling	11	10	18*
Number of persons prosecuted	11	10	8
Number of convictions	9	8	2
Total amount of fine (\$)	6,800	7,000	800

* Five cases are under investigation.

A team of 120 staff was deployed to patrol and protect country parks and special areas, including enforcement action to combat illegal tree felling. The expenditure involved in the past three years and the resources earmarked for 2013-14 are given below:

Year	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Expenditure (\$ million)	33.3	42.0	56.5	53.1

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB016

Question Serial No.

4483

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Please advise on the details of the provision for the Hong Kong Biodiversity Education Centre in 2013-14.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

In 2013-14, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department has earmarked \$4.5 million for the management and operation of the Woodside Biodiversity Education Centre. This includes the expenditure on educational programmes, cleansing, utilities, building maintenance and security as well as staff costs.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB017

Question Serial No.

4484

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

700 000 seedlings were produced in 2012 whereas an estimated number of 680 000 seedlings will be produced in 2013. Please advise on the expenditure on fertilisers for producing seedlings under the estimate for 2013-14 and the amount involved in organic fertilisers.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

The estimated expenditure on fertilisers for seedlings production is \$40,000 in 2013-14, of which \$30,000 will be used for purchasing organic fertilisers.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB018

Question Serial No.

4485

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Please specify the expenditure of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department on the promotion of public education and publicity on nature conservation in the past five years (i.e. 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13). Please advise on the Department's estimated expenditure on the same aspects in 2013-14.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

The expenditure of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department on the promotion of public education and publicity on nature conservation in the past five years (2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13) and the estimated expenditure in 2013-14 are given in the following table:

Year	Expenditure (\$ million)
2008-09	15.6
2009-10	25.3
2010-11	27.8
2011-12	34.1
2012-13	36.0
2013-14	36.0

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB019

Question Serial No.

4486

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Please specify the expenditure of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department on the management, maintenance and improvement of facilities in country parks, special areas, marine parks and marine reserves in the past five years (i.e. 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13). Please advise on the Department's estimated expenditure on the same aspects in 2013-14.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

The expenditure of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department on the management, maintenance and improvement of facilities in country parks, special areas, marine parks and marine reserves in the past five years (2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13) and the estimated expenditure in 2013-14 are given in the following table:

Expenditure on the management, maintenance and improvement of facilities in country parks, special areas, marine parks and marine reserves (\$ million)					
2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 (revised estimate)	2013-14 (estimate)
134.4	126.8	125.8	133.1	163.5	163.5

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB020

Question Serial No.

1022

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14, the Administration has mentioned "the inclusion of selected country park enclaves into country parks". Will the Administration inform the Committee if provisions for research will be earmarked to conduct timely review on the coverage of country parks, so that areas that have been included in country parks can be released to make available more land resources if their conservation value or quality has dropped? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. Lam Kim-fung, Jeffrey

Reply:

Country Parks are designated under the Country Parks Ordinance (Cap. 208) for conservation and recreational purposes. They cover important habitats for over 98% of the terrestrial plant and animal species of Hong Kong. They are also our natural heritage that the public treasures and attaches great importance. Apart from playing an indispensable and vital role in maintaining biodiversity in the territory, our country parks are also important and irreplaceable venues for the public to escape from the hustle and bustle of urban life and enjoy the wilderness of our quiet countryside. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department would continue to manage and protect country parks for the purpose of nature conservation, recreation, nature based tourism and education. We have no plans in hand to reduce the coverage of the country parks and release the land for development.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB021

Question Serial No.

0181

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

The Administration has planned to manage 44 276 hectares of country parks and special areas in 2013, an increase of 37 hectares compared with 2012. What are the additional manpower and expenditure involved in the plan?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply:

The country park enclaves of Kam Shan, Tai Long Sai Wan (Sai Wan) and Yuen Tun, which comprise a total of 37 hectares, are proposed to be incorporated into the existing country parks in late 2013. The incorporation will increase the total area of country parks and special areas to 44 276 hectares.

Manpower and expenditure involved in the management of the additional country park areas will be provided for through redeployment of existing resources. Management work mainly includes cleansing, provision of recreational facilities and information boards, weeding of Mikania and tree planting.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB022

Question Serial No.

0182

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Regarding the matter on strengthening publicity and education of the Hong Kong Global Geopark of China for the promotion of geo-conservation, will the Administration advise on the designated provision in 2013-14? Will provision be increased in view of the vandalism of visitors in the Geopark?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply:

In 2013-14, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) will continue its on-going efforts in promoting our Global Geopark and geo-conservation through a variety of education and publicity activities. A sum of \$8 million has been earmarked for these activities in 2013-14.

AFCD will continue to raise public awareness on the importance of geo-conservation and the protection of the Global Geopark. Regular patrols are conducted to ensure that the visitors comply with the code of conduct for visiting geosites. No additional provision is required in 2013-14.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB023

Question Serial No.

2505

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Agriculture, Fisheries and Fresh Food Wholesale Markets
(2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

On nature conservation, please advise on the following:

- (a) What is the specific work and manpower involved in maintaining biodiversity in Hong Kong in the last year (2012-13) and the coming year (2013-14)?
- (b) Will consideration be given to banning commercial fishing in all marine parks in Hong Kong? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
- (c) Does the Department have any plans to step up its work on educating fishermen to use "environmentally friendly" fishing methods so as to support the sustainable development of the fishing industry? If yes, what are the specific work, estimated expenditure and manpower involved? If not, what are the reasons?
- (d) Will consideration be given to allocating more resources to foster the awareness of marine conservation among members of the community and our next generation? If yes, what are the specific work, estimated expenditure and manpower involved? If not, what are the reasons?
- (e) Has consideration been given to drawing up legislation pertaining to the protection of endangered fish, including banning the sale of shark fins in restaurants and their trading by members of the community, as well as banning the import of raw shark fins? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) In 2012-13, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has continued its efforts in conserving the local biodiversity. Major work include (i) carrying out a territory-wide biodiversity survey programme which includes collection of data on the status and species composition of about 100 plant and wetland communities as well as the distribution and abundance of over 1 200 animal species; (ii) implementing conservation action plans for species of conservation concern, e.g. Three-lined Box Turtle, Green Turtle, Romer's Tree Frog and Black-faced Spoonbills; (iii) promoting public awareness of conservation of biodiversity through production and distribution of education and publicity materials, organizing talks, guided tours, outreach programmes, exhibitions and thematic activities on animals and plants; and (iv) formulating a biodiversity strategy and action plan for Hong Kong to set out the

strategies and priority actions to conserve the local biodiversity. A total of 38 staff are involved in this area of work.

In 2013-14, AFCD will continue to carry out the above biodiversity conservation work with the same manpower resources.

- (b) At present, fishing is prohibited in the marine reserve while limited commercial fishing is allowed for bona fide fishermen in marine parks through a permit system. For improving ecosystems in marine parks and offering better protection for marine organisms, in consultation with stakeholders, the Government would take forward the proposal to ban commercial fishing in marine parks. We would consult stakeholders on the package of proposals to implement the ban.
- (c) To support the sustainable development of the fisheries industry, AFCD has been providing free training courses to fishermen to help them develop or switch to sustainable operations including recreational fishing and aquaculture since 2010. Demonstrations of non-trawl fishing operations have also been arranged for trawler fishermen affected by the trawl ban. In addition, the Department has implemented a pilot scheme since 2010, in which fishermen groups and non-governmental organisations are invited to plan and operate ecotours that focus on local fishermen culture. The scheme has been well received and has been extended from Sai Kung and the northeastern waters of Hong Kong to Lamma Island and Tuen Mun. AFCD will continue to provide suitable training courses and programmes on sustainable fisheries and fisheries-related operations in the coming year. \$9 million and four staff have been earmarked for the work in 2013-14.
- (d) In 2013-14, AFCD will continue its efforts to raise public awareness of marine conservation and gain their support on marine conservation work through a variety of education and publicity activities including (i) production and distribution of education and publicity materials; (ii) conducting marine-based guided tours, field studies, seminars and workshops for schools and the general public; (iii) organising special events such as coastal clean-up days, drawing competition, underwater photo competition, etc.; and (iv) implementation of the Marine Parks Ambassador Scheme. \$5.5 million and 8 staff have been earmarked for this work in 2013-14.
- (e) The Government strictly regulates the trade in endangered species through the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (the Ordinance) which gives effect to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in Hong Kong. Certain marine endangered species such as humphead wrasse, sturgeon, seahorse and a few shark species are listed under CITES, and their import, export, re-export or possession in Hong Kong is regulated under the Ordinance. Conference of the Parties to CITES is conducted every two to three years to consider the need to put additional marine species under CITES control.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB024

Question Serial No.

1454

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14, it is stated that the Administration will enhance the biodiversity in country parks and special areas. However, recently the proliferation of *Mikania micrantha* has damaged and invaded part of the countryside. Please advise on the following:

- (a) The districts where *Mikania micrantha* has proliferated over the last year and the total areas of the land involved;
- (b) The country parks affected by the proliferation of *Mikania micrantha*, and the loss resulted from its proliferation;
- (c) The resources allocated for removing *Mikania micrantha* in 2012-13, and the estimated resources allocated in 2013-14; and
- (d) Whether proactive measures have been formulated to curb the proliferation of *Mikania micrantha*? If yes, how effective are they? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-kwok

Reply:

- (a) *Mikania micrantha* is a common weed mainly found on derelict fields, on the roadside and the hillside, and woodland fringes where there is ample sunlight. Government departments conduct regular vegetation maintenance work including weeding on government land under their management respectively to prevent the proliferation of *Mikania*. Statistics on the total area of land affected by *Mikania* are not available.
- (b) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) conducts regular patrols and inspections in country parks and special areas. Once *Mikania* is found, immediate weeding will be carried out to prevent its proliferation. According to our records, only small areas on the fringes or on the roadside of country parks, such as Pat Sin Leng Country Park, Tai Lam Country Park and Kam Shan Country Park have been affected by *Mikania*. Proliferation of the weed in these areas is under control and no ecological damage has been occurred.
- (c) The clearance of *Mikania* is part of the Department's regular vegetation management work and breakdown on the resources allocated specifically for this aspect of work is not feasible.

- (d) Government departments carry out regular inspections and maintenance work on the plants within the facilities and the slopes under their management. Mikania is removed promptly once it is found. This arrangement is considered the most effective measure to control proliferation of Mikania.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB025

Question Serial No.

1763

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

700 000 seedlings were produced in 2012, whereas an estimated number of 680 000 seedlings will be produced in 2013. Please advise on the expenditure on fertilisers for producing seedlings under the estimate for 2013-14 and the amount involved in organic fertilisers.

Asked by: Hon. MO Claudia

Reply:

The estimated expenditure on fertilizers for seedlings production is \$40,000 in 2013-14, of which \$30,000 will be used for purchasing organic fertilizers.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB026

Question Serial No.

0673

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Under the Programme "Nature Conservation and Country Parks", the 2013-14 estimate represents a slight increase of 3.9% over the 2012-13 revised estimate. However, the 2013 estimates for the indicators "seedlings produced" and "seedlings planted" under the Programme are lower than the actual numbers in 2012 and 2011 and are showing a decreasing trend. What are the reasons for that?

Asked by: Hon. NG Leung-sing

Reply:

The numbers of seedlings to be produced and planted are estimated in accordance with the need and availability of suitable sites for large scale tree planting programmes. As the majority of country park areas are now well wooded or covered with good vegetation, opportunities for large scale tree planting activities are not readily available. The numbers of seedlings to be produced and planted in 2013 are thus estimated to be 680 000 and 700 000 respectively, i.e. slightly lower than the actual numbers in 2012 and 2011. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department will focus more on enhancing the quality of planting instead of quantity. Apart from planting for rehabilitation of areas damaged by hill fires and controlling soil erosion, more attention will be paid to enriching the existing exotic plantations through inter-planting with native tree species.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB027

Question Serial No.

3037

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

It is stated on Page 40 of the Estimates that “(the Government will) enhance biodiversity in country parks and special areas”. Regarding this, please advise on the following:

- (a) What sites do these “special areas” cover?
- (b) How is the biodiversity in country parks and special areas assessed? According to the assessment criteria concerned, what was the degree of biodiversity during 2008 to 2012?
- (c) What are the Government’s expenditure and estimates involved in maintaining biodiversity during 2008 to 2013?

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Puk-sun, Michael

Reply:

- (a) A total of 22 special areas covering an area of 1 997 hectares have been designated under the Country Parks Ordinance, Cap. 208. They are mainly designated for the purpose of nature conservation. A full list of the special areas is set out below:

Special Area	Designation Date	Area (hectares)
Shing Mun Fung Shui Woodland	13.05.1977	6
Tai Mo Shan Montane Scrub Forest	12.08.1977	130
Kat O Chau	12.08.1977	24
Lantau Peak	22.06.1979	116
Pat Sin Range	28.09.1979	128
Pak Tai To Yan	04.01.1980	32
Sunset Peak	04.01.1980	370
Pok Fu Lam	04.01.1980	155
Ma On Shan	04.01.1980	55
Chiu Keng Tam	07.03.1980	8
Ng Tung Chai	07.03.1980	128
Tai Po Kau Nature Reserve	07.03.1980	460
Tung Lung Fort	07.03.1980	3
Tsiu Hang	18.12.1987	24
Ma Shi Chau	09.04.1999	61
Lai Chi Wo	15.03.2005	1

Hong Kong Wetland Park	01.10.2005	61
Double Haven	01.01.2011	0.8
High Island	01.01.2011	3.9
Sharp Island	01.01.2011	0.06
Ung Kong Group	01.01.2011	176.8
Ninepin Group	01.01.2011	53.1
Total		1 997

- (b) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has been carrying out regular territory-wide biodiversity surveys which also cover country parks and special areas since 2002. Results showed that country parks and special areas are rich in biodiversity. In Hong Kong, there are currently over 3 100 species of vascular plants, of which about 2 100 of them are native species, over 230 species of butterflies, some 50 species of mammals, 500 species of birds, 80 species of reptiles, 20 species of amphibians, 180 species of freshwater fish, and 110 species of dragonflies. Among them, over 98% of the native terrestrial species are represented in country parks and special areas, suggesting that conservation management measures are effective in conserving the biodiversity of these areas.
- (c) In 2013-14, an estimated expenditure of \$19.1 million has been earmarked for implementing various conservation programmes and activities to maintain biodiversity in the territory including country parks and special areas. Besides, an estimated expenditure of \$11.6 million has been earmarked to plant 700 000 tree seedlings for preventing soil erosion and enhancing landscape and amenity value of country parks and special areas. Out of the 700 000 seedlings, about 616 000 are native species which could effectively enhance the biodiversity of the country parks and special areas. Actual expenditure involved in maintaining biodiversity during 2008-09 to 2011-12 and estimated expenditure for the same in 2012-13 and 2013-14 are as follows:

Financial Year	Expenditure for maintaining local biodiversity (\$ million)	Expenditure for tree planting (\$ million)
2008-09	10.0	8.9
2009-10	10.1	7.4
2010-11	14.1	12.8
2011-12	17.0	13.4
2012-13	18.2	12.0
2013-14	19.1	11.6

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB028

Question Serial No.

0993

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title): 700 General non-recurrent

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Please provide the following information:

- (a) Regarding Item 807, what measures have been taken by the Administration in the previous year for “additional cleansing of country park facilities and enhancing hygiene of government wholesale food markets”?
- (b) A balance of merely \$555,000 is left from the \$6 million approved commitment for this item. Upon the exhaustion of this balance, what measures will be adopted by the Administration for “additional cleansing of country park facilities and enhancing hygiene of government wholesale food markets”?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Pik-wan, Helena

Reply:

- (a) The Finance Committee of the Legislative Council (FC) approved a one-off commitment for different departments to launch a series of environmental hygiene improvement initiatives to tackle human swine influenza (HSI) in 2009. A funding of \$6 million has been allocated to the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) to (i) strengthen cleansing work especially at refuse accumulation sites near recreational facilities, provide more mobile toilets near popular recreation sites, and upgrade automatic cleansing facilities (including water taps, soap dispensers, hand dryers and disinfectant dispensers) for flushing toilets in country parks; and (ii) enhance cleansing and disinfection of toilets, arrange enhanced refuses collection and increase cleansing of drains, roads and lifts in government wholesale food markets. All the work has been satisfactorily completed in 2012. The funding provided under item 807 in 2012 was mainly used for final payment of the project of upgrading automatic cleansing facilities and maintenance costs of these cleansing facilities in country parks.
- (b) Whilst the one-off funding has been exhausted, we will continue to closely monitor the environmental hygiene of country parks and government wholesale markets. In case signs of decline in environmental hygiene are detected in these premises, we will deploy internal resources to step up hygiene measures, such as increasing the frequency of cleansing, provision of more mobile toilets, arranging additional cleansing and disinfection campaign, etc.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB029

Question Serial No.

2244

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Regarding the management of country parks and marine parks, please inform the Committee of the following:

- (1) The number of enforcement actions and prosecutions against unauthorised camping within country parks in each of the past two years (2011-12 and 2012-13);
- (2) Does the Administration regularly compile statistics on the number of users at various camp sites (particularly on public holidays) and assess if the facilities at camp sites are inadequate? If yes, please provide the details of the assessment;
- (3) The criteria for setting up the camp sites. Are there any plans to review and increase the number of camp sites in view of public demand? If yes, what are the details?
- (4) The number of illegal tree-felling cases, patrols performed by the Department and enforcement actions taken within country parks and marine parks in the past two years (2011-12 and 2012-13);
- (5) The quantities and species of trees that were illegally felled within country parks and marine parks in the past two years (2011-12 and 2012-13).

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

- (1) The number of prosecution cases against illegal camping in country parks was 34 cases in 2011-12 and 95 cases in 2012-13.
- (2) We do not have any statistics on camping site users in country parks.
- (3) When designating a campsite, we will take into account factors such as terrain, accessibility, water supply, scenic value and potential of fire hazard of the location, as well as the impact of the camping activity on the natural environment and neighbouring villages. The provision of campsites is regularly reviewed to meet the needs of country park visitors. There are currently 40 designated campsites in country parks throughout Hong Kong. Over the past five years, three new campsites in Pat Sin Leng Country Park and Lantau South Country Park had been designated, of which two were converted from under-used barbecue sites.

(4) Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department staff patrol various country parks regularly and carry out enforcement action, where necessary, against illegal activities, including unauthorised tree felling. The number of prosecution case against unauthorised tree felling was 10 cases in 2011-12 and 18 cases in 2012-13.

(5) Tree species involved in the prosecution cases provided in (4) include:

Chinese Name	Scientific Name	Quantity (numbers)
八角楓	<i>Alangium chinense</i>	1
箬欖花椒	<i>Zanthoxylum aricennae</i>	2
山油柑	<i>Acronychia pedunculata</i>	1
小果柿	<i>Diospyros vacciniodes</i>	10
土茯苓	<i>Smilax glabra</i>	1
橄欖	<i>Canarium album</i>	3
馬纓丹	<i>Lantana camara</i>	1
金櫻子	<i>Rosa laevigata</i>	1
白箬	<i>Elentherococcus trifoliatus</i>	1
水銀竹	<i>Indocalamus sinicus</i>	8
山芝麻	<i>Helicteres angustifolia</i>	1
方骨草	<i>Hedyotis acutangula</i>	1
扇葉鐵線蕨	<i>Adiantum flabellulatum</i>	1
苧麻	<i>Boehmeria nivea</i>	2

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB030

Question Serial No.

2245

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

- (a) Regarding the inclusion of selected country park enclaves into country parks, please provide the related information in the table below:

(A) Name of country park	(B) Total area of country park enclaves (hectare)	(C) Area of land selected or planned to be included in country parks (hectare)	(D) Area of land included or will be included in 2013-14 (hectare)	(E) Reasons for not including the land under (B) into country parks (if applicable)
1. Shing Mun Country Park				
...				

- (b) The respective numbers of cases, enforcement actions and convictions concerning the fly-tipping of construction waste in country park areas or the unlawful occupation of country park land over the past two years (2011-12 and 2012-13) (with a breakdown by the country parks involved).

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

(a) Details of the information are as follows:

(A) Name of Country Park	(B) Total area of country park enclaves (hectare)*	(C) Area of land selected or planned to be included in country parks (hectare)	(D) Area of land included or will be included in 2013-14 (hectare)**	(E) Reasons for not including the land under (B) into country parks (if applicable)
Kam Shan Country Park	1	All enclaves will be assessed to determine their suitability for incorporation into country parks.	1	Consideration is being given to protect the remaining enclaves either by incorporating them as part of Country Parks under the Country Parks Ordinance or to put them under statutory control under the Town Planning Ordinance.
Lantau South Country Park	501		0	
Ma On Shan Country Park	45		0	
Ma Shi Chau Special Area	2		0	
Pat Sin Leng Country Park	15		0	
Plover Cove Country Park	307		0	
Sai Kung East Country Park	138		17	
Sai Kung West Country Park	182		0	
Tai Lam Country Park	135		20	
Tai Mo Shan Country Park	19		0	
Tai Po Kau Special Area	11		0	

* Excluding those enclaves covered by Outline Zoning Plans under the Town Planning Ordinance before the Sai Wan incident in June 2010.

** The country park enclaves of Kam Shan (1 ha), Tai Long Sai Wan (17 ha) and Yuen Tun (20 ha) are proposed to be incorporated into the Kam Shan Country Park, Sai Kung East Country Park and Tai Lam Country Park respectively.

- (b) The numbers of illegal dumping cases detected in country parks and special areas are given in the following table. Due to lack of sufficient evidence, no prosecution case could be concluded.

Country Park / Special Area	2011-12	2012-13
Sai Kung East	2	1
Sai Kung West	3	2
Kiu Tsui	0	1
Tai Mo Shan	2	1
Pat Sin Leng	3	0
Plover Cove	2	2
Tai Lam	2	2
Shing Mun	4	10
Ma On Shan	1	0
Kam Shan	1	0
Clear Water Bay	2	3
Aberdeen	0	1
Lantau South	1	1
Tai Po Kau Nature Reserve	0	1
Grand Total:	23	25

In the past two years (2011-12 and 2012-13), the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) received respectively twelve and five complaints about unlawful occupation of country parks land. All the lands involved were unleased Government land in various country parks.

Country Park / Special Area	2011 - 12	2012 - 13
Sai Kung East	3	1
Clear Water Bay	4	1
Plover Cove	2	1
Tai Lam	0	1
Lantau South	3	1
Grand Total:	12	5

The enforcement of unlawful occupation on unleased Government land in country parks under the Lands (Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance, Cap. 28 is within the purview of the Lands Department. AFCD has therefore referred these cases to the Lands Department for follow-up action. We do not have the statistics on prosecution and conviction.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB031

Question Serial No.

2246

Head: 22 Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Nature Conservation and Country Parks

Controlling Officer: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Regarding the management of marine parks and marine reserves, please advise the Committee of the following:

- (a) The reason why the marine parks and marine reserves were reduced in size from 2 788 hectares as originally proposed to 2 430 hectares.
- (b) Please list the area affected by the above proposed reduction in each of the marine parks and marine reserves involved and the location.
- (c) Has any public consultation been conducted on the proposed revision? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

- (a) The target has been revised from 2 788 hectares in 2012 to 2 430 hectares in 2013 due to the change of plan for the proposed designation of five marine parks in north-eastern region in the Geopark areas. The five marine parks were previously proposed for the protection of geological and marine ecological resources at the five geo-sites (details set out in (b) below). These geosites were subsequently designated as special areas under the Country Parks Ordinance in 2011 and have since been regularly patrolled by staff of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD). Results of AFCD's on-going monitoring show that most geopark visitors are self-disciplined and the marine ecosystem including the coral communities at these five geosites remain stable and healthy. As such, we consider that there is no imminent need to designate these geosites as marine parks. AFCD will continue to patrol these geosites and monitor the geological and marine ecological resources.
- (b) The size and location of the areas previously proposed for designation as marine parks are shown in the table below:

Areas	Size (in hectares)
Sharp Island	49
Ung Kong Groups of Islands	151
Shelter Island	37
Ninepins	89
Port Island	32
Total	358

- (c) The change in the proposed designation of the five marine parks was made after a review of the latest situation of the areas concerned. Formal designation procedures have not been commenced. We would continue to monitor the situation and public consultation will be undertaken should there be a need to designate these areas as marine parks in future.

Name in block letters: Alan WONG

Post Title: Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB032

Question Serial No.

0081

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

Programme: (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer: Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

As the government plans to construct a large amount of domestic premises and implement several infrastructural projects in the coming years, please advise:

- a) what were the quantities and categories of fill received by the fill banks at Tuen Mun and Tseung Kwan O respectively in the past three years (2010 to 2012)? When will the above fill banks be used up? Are there any funds set aside for expanding the existing fill banks or constructing new fill banks?
- b) what were the quantities and categories of fill delivered to the Mainland respectively in the past three years (2010 to 2012)? During the period, what was the expenditure for delivering each tonne of fill? What are the reasons of the increased estimated quantities of fill delivering to the Mainland this year? Does the government know when the Mainland will cease receiving the fill from Hong Kong?
- c) what are the specific measures to reduce the generation of construction wastes? Will the government stipulate the ratio of the recycled against disposed inert materials for government works?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

- a) The quantities of fill received by the two fill banks at Tseung Kwan O (TKO) Area 137 and Tuen Mun (TM) Area 38 in the past three years are as follows:

Fill received at:	2010	2011	2012
TKO Area 137 Fill Bank (million tonnes)	5.8	6.2	7.5
TM Area 38 Fill Bank (million tonnes)	4.7	5.2	5.6

Fill basically comprises inert construction and demolition (C&D) materials, such as soil, rock, concrete, asphalt, brick, tile, etc.

The quantity of fill received at the fill banks in any given year is subject to the implementation programme of individual works projects and other related factors. It also depends on the extent to which such fill can be reused and recycled locally. Notwithstanding, we expect that the stockpiling capacities of the existing fill banks can cope with the anticipated demand in 2013. The Environment Bureau (ENB) and the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) are maintaining regular liaison with the relevant Mainland authorities to continue the arrangement of cross-boundary delivery of the surplus fill in the coming years. CEDD will also continue to study other options to tackle the surplus fill problem.

- b) The actual quantities of fill, which has a similar composition as explained in (a), delivered to the Mainland for beneficial reuse in 2010, 2011 and 2012 were 9.4, 11.2 and 9.5 million tonnes respectively. The actual expenditures in the financial years of 2010-11 and 2011-12 and the estimated expenditure in 2012-13 are \$673.9 million, \$759.8 million and \$721.9 million respectively. They included costs of delivery, operation and maintenance of the public fill reception facilities and associated staff costs and administrative overheads. The actual quantity delivered each year is subject to a number of factors including the amount of surplus fill generated and reused by individual projects, stockpiled quantities in the fill banks and weather conditions. ENB and CEDD discuss and agree annually with the relevant Mainland authorities on the estimated fill quantity to be delivered each year.

- c) The Government has introduced the Construction Waste Disposal Charging Scheme to provide incentive for the trade to reduce generation of construction wastes. At present, over 90% of inert materials generated from construction works are reused/recycled rather than disposed. In practice, the recovery rate of inert materials may vary from one project to another, it may not be practical to set any particular target for government works.

Name in block letters: C K HON

Post Title: Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date: 2 April 2013

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

ENB033

Question Serial No.

3446

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

Programme: (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer: Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

1. How much construction and demolition (C & D) materials in total were handled by the barging point at Chai Wan last year? What is its operational expenditure?
2. Last year, what were the expenditures on delivering public fill for beneficial reuse in the Mainland? What is the average expenditure for delivering each tonne of materials? At present, what are the receiving locations of the fill in the Mainland? How many hectares of land in the Mainland were provided by such fill?
3. According to paragraph 49, the government will identify alternative outlets for handling the surplus public fill; what is the action plan?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

1. The Chai Wan Public Fill Barging Point handled about 2.2 million tonnes of fill in 2012 at an operating expenditure of about \$38 million.
2. Through the public fill delivery scheme, we delivered about 9.5 million tonnes of surplus fill to the Mainland for beneficial reuse in 2012. The estimated expenditure for the delivery in 2012-13 is \$721.9 million. It includes the costs of delivery, operation and maintenance of the public fill reception facilities, associated staff costs and administrative overheads. At present, the designated site at Taishan as agreed with the Mainland authority is the only receiving location under the delivery scheme. Since the commencement of the scheme and up to the end of 2012, about 450 hectares of land has been formed.
3. The Civil Engineering and Development Department is looking into the long term strategy for handling surplus fill. The various options being studied include reusing surplus fill through suitable reclamation projects outside Victoria Harbour.

Name in block letters: C K HON

Post Title: Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB034

Question Serial No.

3819

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

Programme: (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer: Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Regarding the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14, it mentions "continue the cross-boundary delivery of surplus public fill for beneficial reuse in the Mainland and review the scheme in the light of the experience gained". Will the Government inform this Committee: in the past three years (i.e. 2010-11 to 2012-13), the actual quantity of fill delivered for beneficial reuse in the Mainland; and the required expenditures? Please specify the breakdown of expenditures on the local facilities, delivery, staff, etc., and the charges paid to the Mainland authorities.

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

The actual quantities of surplus fill delivered to the Mainland for beneficial reuse in 2010, 2011 and 2012 are 9.4, 11.2 and 9.5 million tonnes respectively. The expenditures in the financial years of 2010-11 and 2011-12 and the estimated expenditure in 2012-13 are \$673.9 million, \$759.8 million and \$721.9 million respectively. They included costs of delivery, operation and maintenance of the public fill reception facilities, associated staff costs and administrative overheads. The costs of delivery also covered permit fees and supervision fees payable to the relevant Mainland authorities. As the delivery of surplus public fill to the Mainland and the supply to local projects for reuse are undertaken by one contractor, we do not have separate breakdown of the expenditures involved.

Name in block letters: C K HON

Post Title: Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date: 2 April 2013

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

ENB035

Question Serial No.

3789

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

Programme: (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer: Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Under Programme (7), provision for 2013-14 is \$159.3 million (22.1%) higher than the revised estimate for 2012-13. This is mainly due to the increased provision for (a) handling additional quantity of surplus public fill from major infrastructure projects under the cross-boundary delivery scheme and (b) additional delivery to local projects. In this connection, please inform this Committee what will be the total quantity of the additional quantity of surplus public fill to be handled? What are the expenditures involved in (a) and (b) respectively?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Tai-fai

Reply:

The forecast increases in surplus public fill to be delivered to the Mainland and supplied to local projects in 2013 is 7.5 million tonnes in total. We estimate that \$881.2 million will be incurred in 2013-14 to cover the costs of delivery, operation and maintenance of the public fill reception facilities, associated staff costs and administrative overheads. Since the delivery of surplus public fill to the Mainland and the supply to local projects are undertaken by one contractor, we do not have cost breakdown of individual operations.

Name in block letters: C K HON

Post Title: Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date: 2 April 2013

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

ENB036

Question Serial No.

1451

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

Programme: (7) Management of Construction and Demolition Materials

Controlling Officer: Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

In regard to the handling of public fill, please provide the following information:

1. During the past three years (i.e. 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13), how much inert construction and demolition (C & D) material was used in reclamation/earthfill works, and how much non-inert C & D material was disposed in landfill respectively? What were the manpower resources allocated in handling public fill? What will be the expected manpower resources allocated in 2013-14?
2. Apart from delivering public fill to the Mainland for reuse, does the government have any new option to handle surplus public fill?

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-ki

Reply:

1. The quantities of inert construction and demolition (C&D) materials reused in reclamation/earth filling projects and non-inert C&D materials disposed of at landfills in the past 3 years are as follows:

	2010	2011	2012
Inert C&D materials reused directly in various projects (million tonnes)	1.0	6.2	10.2
Non-inert C&D materials disposed of at landfills (million tonnes)	1.3	1.2	1.3

At present, the Civil Engineering and Development Department engages about 85 staff in the management of public fill and its related facilities. Similar staff resources will be engaged in 2013-14.

2. The Civil Engineering and Development Department is looking into the long term strategy for handling surplus fill. The various options being studied include reusing surplus fill through suitable reclamation projects outside Victoria Harbour.

Name in block letters: C K HON

Post Title: Director of Civil Engineering and Development

Date: 2 April 2013

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

ENB037

Question Serial No.

3449

Head: 39 - Drainage Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

How many complaints were received in respect of odour from the Stonecutters Island sewage treatment works by the Administration last year? What is/are the source(s) of odour according to the investigation conducted by the Administration? What measures and resources had been adopted and allocated by the Department to monitor and improve the air quality or odour in the vicinity of that area?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

In 2012, the Drainage Services Department (DSD) received one odour complaint in respect of the Stonecutters Island sewage treatment works (SCISTW). Five odour complaints were also received by the Environmental Protection Department. After investigation, none of the above cases was found traceable to the odour emission from SCISTW and the deodourisation equipment at SCISTW was operating satisfactorily.

An odour monitoring system has been implemented at SCISTW involving daily odour patrols within the treatment works and biweekly odour measurements at strategic locations of the treatment works.

DSD has adopted various measures to reduce odour nuisance from SCISTW. To effectively control the odour from the treatment works, the locations which are likely to emit odour are enclosed. In particular, DSD awarded a works contract valued \$189 million in 2009 to install covers for all the sewage treatment tanks at SCISTW. The contract also includes the provision of air extraction and deodourisation system to extract and treat the odourous air from the covered areas before discharge. The covers for all the existing sewage treatment tanks, associated air extraction and deodourisation system were installed and put in operation since July 2012. The Sham Shui Po District Council members were satisfied with the new system after their visit in December 2012. Besides covering up odour sources and associated odour treatment, chemicals are dosed to control odour generation from sewage and sludge. In 2012, the annual recurrent expenditure involved in controlling odour at SCISTW was about \$13 million.

Name in block letters: CHAN Chi-chiu

Post Title: Director of Drainage Services

Date: 3.4.2013

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

ENB038

Question Serial No.

3480

Head: 39- Drainage Services Department Subhead:

Programme: (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: How many appeal cases of sewage charge and trade effluent surcharge were there in 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13? Of which, how many were from the restaurant trade? How many appeal cases were approved? Of which, how many were from the restaurant trade? What is the average time needed to complete the processing of an appeal case?

Asked by: Hon.CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The number of applications and approved cases for reassessment of (i) trade effluent surcharge (TES) rate and (ii) discharge factor (DF) for sewage charge and TES in 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 are as follows:

		2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 (for 11 months only)
Reassessment of TES rate	Number of applications received			
	- All trades	275	191	194
	- Restaurant trade	259	137	183
	Number of applications approved ⁽¹⁾			
	- All trades	279 ⁽²⁾	229	77 ⁽³⁾
	- Restaurant trade	259 ⁽²⁾	172	73 ⁽³⁾
Reassessment of DF	Number of applications received			
	- All trades	1 ⁽⁴⁾	25	11
	- Restaurant trade	0	0	0
	Number of applications approved ⁽¹⁾			
	- All trades	16	8	16
	- Restaurant trade	0	0	0

Notes:

- As there is a time lag for processing the applications, the number of applications approved does not correspond to the number of applications received within the same financial year.
- The validity period of TES rate reassessments had been extended from two to three years with effect from 1 August 2008. The extension was applicable to all reassessments which were still valid on 1 August 2008. As a result, we received the majority of TES rate reassessment applications (many of which are deferred renewal applications) in the last few months of 2009-10 and many of them were approved in 2010-11. The number of TES rate reassessment applications approved was therefore particularly high in 2010-11 due to the special circumstances as explained above.
- We have processed a total of 126 TES rate reassessment applications in the first 11 months of 2012-13, including those that were carried forward from 2011-12. Other than the 77 applications approved, 48 applications were withdrawn and one application rejected in 2012-13.
- Since end 2008, a three-year validity period (instead of two years as in 2007-08) has been granted to all successful DF reassessment applications, thus leading to a lack of renewal applications in 2010-2011. The number of applications received within 2010-11 was therefore particularly low as a result.

It normally takes three to four months to process a case.

Name in block letters: CHAN Chi-chiu

Post Title: Director of Drainage Services

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB039

Question Serial No.

3481

Head: 39 - Drainage Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Over the past 3 years (from 2010-11 to 2012-13), what are the annual expenditures involved and manpower required for the maintenance of sewage treatment facilities? What are the annual expenditures on the maintenance of sewerage systems over the same periods?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The expenditure involved and number of staff required for the repair and maintenance of sewage treatment facilities in 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 are listed below:

	2010-11 (Actual)	2011-12 (Actual)	2012-13 (Revised Estimate)
(a) Expenditure for repair and maintenance works (\$ million)	598	601	612
(i) Sewage treatment works (\$ million)	419	422	430
(ii) Sewers (\$ million)	179	179	182
(b) Number of staff ^{Note}	604	605	602

Note:

The manpower involved has included the number of staff for the repair and maintenance of sewage treatment works and sewers.

Name in block letters: CHAN Chi-chiu

Post Title: Director of Drainage Services

Date: 3.4.2013

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

ENB040

Question Serial No.

3823

Head: 39 - Drainage Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

It is mentioned that the *Aim* is 'to investigate, plan, design and construct sewer systems and sewage treatment and disposal facilities; to set and ensure compliance with sewerage standards; to undertake effective operation and maintenance of sewer systems and sewage treatment works and to implement effectively the sewage services charging scheme in accordance with the Sewage Services Ordinance (Cap. 463).' In this connection, will the Administration provide this Committee with a breakdown by districts of the volume of sewage collected and treated, the overall expenditure and manpower involved, as well as the unit cost each year, over the past 5 years (i.e. from 2008-09 to 2012-13) and as estimated for the coming 2 years (i.e. from 2013-14 onwards) in Hong Kong.

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

The annual volume of sewage collected and treated by Drainage Services Department over the past 5 years and estimation for the coming 2 years are summarized below:

Year \ Region	Hong Kong and Outlying Islands (million m³)	Kowloon (million m³)	New Territories (million m³)	Total (million m³)
2008	248	466	276	990
2009	254	456	268	978
2010	260	454	264	978
2011	266	451	262	979
2012	276	460	271	1,007
2013 Estimate	282	470	278	1,030
2014 Estimate	288	479	284	1,051

The overall annual operation and maintenance expenditure and manpower involved in sewage collected and treated over the past 5 financial years and estimation for the coming 2 years are summarized below:

Year	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 Estimate	2013-14 Estimate	2014-15 Estimate
Operation and Maintenance Expenditure (\$ million)	1,035.1	1,109.4	1,172.4	1,203.5	1,250.2	1,292.7	1,336.7
Manpower (number of staff)	926	941	919	936	944	951	957
Unit Cost (\$ per m ³)	1.04	1.13	1.20	1.23	1.23	1.25	1.26

Name in block letters: CHAN Chi-chiu

Post Title: Director of Drainage Services

Date: 3.4.2013

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

Reply Serial No.

ENB041

Question Serial No.

3824

Head: 39 - Drainage Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

It is mentioned under *Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14* that '(the Department will) continue with the construction of the sewage conveyance system and the sewage treatment plant upgrading works under the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme Stage 2A.' In this connection, will the Administration inform this Committee of the latest progress of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme Stage 2A (HATS Stage 2A); and whether HATS Stage 2A will commence operation in late 2014 as scheduled to improve the water quality of Victoria Harbour?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

Construction of the sewage conveyance system under HATS Stage 2A commenced in July 2009 and is now in full swing. The production shafts have been completed and the main tunnel construction has been progressing well since May 2011. As for upgrading of the 8 Preliminary Treatment Works on Hong Kong Island and that of treatment facilities at Stonecutters Island Sewage Treatment Works (SCISTW), all main contracts have been awarded and are progressing satisfactorily. The advance disinfection facilities have been in operation since March 2010 to remove 99% of E. Coli. from the effluent before discharging into Victoria Harbour. The covers and deodourisation facilities for all the existing sewage treatment tanks at SCISTW to abate odour nuisance were installed and put into operation since July 2012. Our programme is to complete the main construction works for commissioning HATS Stage 2A by end 2014, bringing further improvements to the water quality of Victoria Harbour.

Name in block letters: _____ CHAN Chi-chiu

Post Title: _____ Director of Drainage Services

Date: _____ 3.4.2013

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

ENB042

Question Serial No.

1168

Head: 39 - Drainage Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Sewage Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Please provide the following information:

- (1) A list of public village sewerage works being carried out or completed by the Administration for villages in the New Territories, as well as the number of village houses and the expenditure involved over the past two years (2011-12 and 2012-13);
- (2) A list in tabular form, by District Council districts, of village houses not yet provided with public sewerage in the New Territories and the number of single blocks involved; and
- (3) A list of village houses and the number of single blocks in the New Territories that the Administration plans to commence public sewerage works in 2013-14, the estimated expenditure for each project, as well as the environment impact assessments before and after such sewerage works.

Asked by: Hon. MAK Mei-kuen, Alice

Reply:

- (1) During the past two years (2011-12 and 2012-13), we have completed the sewerage works for 28 villages in the New Territories serving about 2 700 village houses at an estimated cost of about \$300 million. A list of the villages is as follows:

District	Village names
North (11 nos.)	Lo Wai, Tsz Tong Tsuen, Tung Kok Wai, Ma Wat Wai, Wing Ning Wai, Kan Lung Tsuen, Wing Ning Tsuen, San Wai, San Uk Tsuen, Ma Mei Ha and Ma Mei Ha Leng Tsui
Sai Kung (11 nos.)	Wo Tong Kong (Mang Kung Uk), Yu Uk Village (part), O Pui Village (part), Hung Uk, Wai Sum Village, O Mun Village, Heng Mei Deng Tsuen, Chan Uk Tsuen, Mau Ping New Village (part), Wong Chuk Shan San Tsuen (part) and Pak Kong Au (part)
Tolo Harbour (Sha Tin / Tai Po) (6 nos.)	Wong Chuk Tsuen, Wu Kai Sha, Tai Mei Tuk, Lo Tsz Tin, Lung Mei and Tai Lam Liu (part)

Sewerage works for 87 villages serving about 12 000 village houses are being carried out at an estimated cost of about \$3,300 million. A list of the villages is as follows:

District	Village names
Islands (4 nos.)	Wang Tong, Yue Kwong Chuen, Tai Tei Tong and Pak Ngan Heung
North (17 nos)	Tai Tong Wu, Leng Tsai, Fu Tei Pai, Ping Kong, Tai Wo, Sheung Tam Shui Hang, Ha Tam Shui Hang, Muk Min Tau, Tsiu Hang, Nga Yiu Tau, San Tsuen, Wu Shek Kok, Yim Tso Ha, Shan Tsui, Tai Hang, Kau Lung Hang San Wai and Kau Lung Hang Lo Wai
Sai Kung (13 nos)	Kap Pin Long, Nam Shan, Mau Ping New Village (remainder), Wong Chuk Shan San Tsuen (remainder), Pak Kong Au (remainder), Sha Kok Mei (remainder), Pak Kong, San Uk, Tai Ping Village, Fei Ngo Shan Road, Lung Wo Tsuen (part), Pik Shui Sun Tsuen and Wo Tong Kong
Tolo Harbour (Sha Tin / Tai Po) (34 nos)	She Shan Tsuen, San Tong, Tai Mong Che, Ma Po Mei, Shui Wo, Pak Ngau Shek Ha Tsuen, Pak Ngau Shek Sheung Tsuen, Ng Tung Chai, Chai Kek, Wo Liu, Ping Long, Tai Om, Sha Pa, Po Sam Pai, San Tau Kok, Lai Pek Shan San Tsuen, Ting Kok, Shan Liu, Kau Liu Ha, Hang Ha Po, San Uk Pai, Fong Ma Po, San Uk Tsai, Chung Uk Tsuen, Tong Min Tsuen, Lung A Pai, Ko Tin Hom, Tin Liu Ha, Chuen Shui Tseng, Wo Tong Pui, Lam Tsuen San Tsuen, Pak Tin Kong, Wai Ha and Sheung Wo Che (Part)
Tuen Mun (4 nos)	Tsing Shan Tsuen (Part), Tseng Tau Sheung Tsuen (Part), Tuen Tze Wai (Part) and Tsing Chuen Wai (Part)
Yuen Long (15 nos)	Chung Sam Wai, Fuk Hing Tsuen, Lam Uk Tsuen, Sai Tau Wai, Ting Fook Villas, Tung Tau Wai, Tung Tau Wai San Tsuen, Yeung Uk Tsuen (North of Yuen Long), Yuk Yat Garden, Nam Pin Wai, Sai Pin Wai, Tai Tong Tsuen, Tsoi Uk Tsuen, Wong Uk Tsuen and Ying Lung Wai

- (2) The Drainage Services Department has information on unsewered areas in the New Territories in terms of number of villages only (not village houses), which are listed as follows:

District	No. of unsewered villages
Islands	96
North	163
Sai Kung	123
Tolo Harbour (Sha Tin / Tai Po)	128
Tseung Kwan O	11
Tsuen Wan, Kwai Chung and Tsing Yi	33
Tuen Mun	42
Yuen Long	176

Total	772
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The above table includes the 87 villages in which sewerage works are being carried out as mentioned in the reply for part (1) above.

- (3) In 2013-14, we plan to commence the following three village sewerage projects subject to funding approval by the Finance Committee:
- 4395DS - Tolo Harbour sewerage of unsewered areas, stage 2 – phase 1: for serving about 1 000 village houses with an estimated cost of about \$360 million at nine villages in Sha Tin, namely Siu Lek Yuen, Ngau Pei Sha, Tsok Pok Hang, Sha Tin Heights, Fui Yiu Ha, Kwai Tei New Village and Sha Tin Fishermen’s New Village, Kau To and Tin Liu, as well as two villages in Tai Po, namely Ha Wun Yiu and Shan Tong.
 - 4396DS - Sewerage in Nam Wa Po and Wai Tau: for serving about 700 village houses with an estimated cost of about \$320 million at two villages in Tai Po, namely Nam Wa Po and Wai Tau Tsuen.
 - 4397DS - Outlying Islands sewerage, stage 2 – Lamma village sewerage phase 2, package 1: for serving about 500 village houses with an estimated cost of about \$330 million at 13 villages in Yung Shue Wan of Lamma Island, namely Sha Po New Village, Sha Po Old Village, Yung Shue Wan Back Street, Tai Shan West, Tai Shan East, Tai Shan Central, Ko Long, Tai Yuen Village, O Tsai, Po Wah Yuen, Yung Shue Long New Village, Yung Shue Long Old Village and Tai Peng.

We have carried out necessary environmental impact assessments and will implement appropriate mitigation measures to ensure that the works would not give rise to unacceptable environmental impacts. The completion of these projects will minimise the release of pollutants into the environment and bring sustainable improvement to the hygiene and water quality of the nearby environment.

Name in block letters: CHAN Chi-chiu

Post Title: Director of Drainage Services

Date: 3.4.2013

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

ENB043

Question Serial No.

3450

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

1. Has the Administration collected any statistics on the utilisation rate of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) filling stations? Please provide the average waiting time for receiving services during peak (shift changing hours) and non-peak periods at the dedicated and non-dedicated LPG filling stations on Hong Kong Island;
2. Has the Administration received any complaints on waiting time for receiving services at LPG filling stations last year? Please provide the number of complaints according to the locations of LPG filling stations concerned;
3. The Administration plans to approve two LPG filling stations next year (2013), what are the details these stations including the location? When will the Administration expect these filling stations to commence operation?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

1. Based on the operational records provided by the operators, on average about 1 400 to 4 400 vehicles per station were refilled daily at the 12 dedicated LPG filling stations in 2012. LPG vehicles usually queue up for filling during shift-changing periods, in particular at those dedicated LPG filling stations at popular locations. Outside shift-changing periods, taxis and PLBs do not normally require much waiting time for refilling even at dedicated LPG filling stations. As for non-dedicated LPG filling stations, LPG vehicles usually do not need to queue up for much time for filling. We do not have statistics on the operation of non-dedicated LPG filling stations.
2. The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department received 19 complaints relating to waiting time for services at LPG filling stations in 2012. The breakdown of these complaints with respect to the LPG filling stations concerned is shown in the following table:

Location of LPG filling station	Ma On Shan	Tuen Mun	Chai Wan	West Kowloon	Sheung Wan	Wan Chai	Not Specified
No. of Complaints	2	1	1	10	2	1	2

3. The two new LPG filling stations to be approved in 2013 are located at Repulse Bay and Tsing Yi. They are expected to commence operation by September 2013 and March 2014 respectively according to the land lease conditions.

Name in block letters: CHAN Fan

Post Title: Director of Electrical and
 Mechanical Services

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB044

Question Serial No.

3451

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Did the Government conduct sample check for auto-liquefied petroleum gas (auto-LPG) quality in 2012-13? Please provide the work details, including associated expenditures, number of samples taken and number of cases with non-compliant quality identified, etc.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department regularly conducts sample check for auto-LPG quality by taking samples from auto-LPG filling stations and LPG terminals. In 2012-13, a total of 230 LPG samples were collected from 62 auto-LPG filling stations and five LPG terminals. All samples were found in compliance with the specifications. The associated expenditure for the sample check in 2012-13 is about \$2.5 million.

Name in block letters: CHAN Fan

Post Title: Director of Electrical and
Mechanical Services

Date: 2.4.2013

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

ENB045

Question Serial No.

4712

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Regarding the examinations and inspections related to gas safety, please advise the frequency of inspections, areas inspected and the associated manpower establishment in 2012-13? Besides, what is the expenditure in 2012-2013 and the estimated expenditure in 2013-2014 related to such inspections?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

In 2012-2013, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) conducted about 4,900 gas safety related inspections at residential buildings, commercial premises, LPG filling stations, gas storage facilities and gas production plants. As gas safety inspections are carried out by a team of engineers and inspectors whose responsibilities cover a wide range of duties, including inspection, investigation, public education and publicity, we do not have separate breakdown of manpower or expenditure involved in inspections alone.

Name in block letters: CHAN Fan

Post Title: Director of Electrical and
Mechanical Services

Date: 2.4.2013

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

ENB046

Question Serial No.

4714

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Regarding the approval and revalidation of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) fuel tanks used in vehicles, please advise why there is a decrease in the estimated figure in 2013-14 as compared to the actual figure in 2012-13, and the estimated expenditures involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The LPG taxi incentive scheme which encouraged taxi owners to switch from diesel vehicles to LPG ones was launched in 2000. The number of LPG vehicle fuel tanks requiring the second five-year revalidation peaked in 2011 and started to decrease in 2012. The downward trend is expected to continue in 2013.

The approval and revalidation processes of LPG vehicle fuel tanks are handled by a team of engineers and inspectors in the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department whose responsibilities cover a wide range of duties, including inspection, investigation, public education and publicity. We do not have a breakdown of the estimated expenditure involved in the approval and revalidation processes.

Name in block letters: CHAN Fan

Post Title: Director of Electrical and
Mechanical Services

Date: 2.4.2013

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

ENB047

Question Serial No.

4716

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme: (5) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

On inspections on electrical products, please advise where were the inspections conducted, what is the frequency of inspections and manpower resource assigned during 2012-13? Besides, what are the inspection expenditures incurred for 2012-13 and estimate for 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

In 2012, we have conducted a total of about 3 900 inspections to various supply outlets of electrical products including retailer shops, market stalls etc. at shopping mall, housing estates etc. throughout the territory. On average, our team inspected about 325 shops each month. As the officers involved have to undertake various duties related to ensuring electrical products safety in Hong Kong, such as product inspections, accident investigations, product complaint investigations, answering enquiries etc., there is no breakdown on the expenditure on inspections alone.

Name in block letters: CHAN Fan

Post Title: Director of Electrical and
Mechanical Services

Date: 2.4.2013

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

ENB048

Question Serial No.

4790

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services
Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Regarding the research study on the application of innovative energy efficiency technologies, the number of studies for 2012-13 and the number of planned studies for 2013-14 remain the same. Why not consider conducting more studies so as to promote energy efficiency and environmental protection? Please provide topics and expenditures of the studies completed in 2012-13.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The technologies identified with good potential for promoting energy efficiency and conservation in Hong Kong will be put forward for trial studies and demonstration of their energy saving potential. Three studies will be conducted in 2013-14 and these studies are identified through the searching and identification process of potential technologies completed in 2012-13. The number of trial studies in pilot installation depends on the availability of technologies with good energy saving potential and suitable sites identified for trial studies. We are keeping abreast of latest development of innovative energy efficiency technologies suitable for local application.

In 2012-13, three research and development studies have been completed, covering concentrated photovoltaic system, application of heat pipes in air-conditioning system and intelligent lighting control. The estimated expenditure is \$0.86 million.

Name in block letters: CHAN Fan

Post Title: Director of Electrical and
Mechanical Services

Date: 2.4.2013

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

ENB049

Question Serial No.

4791

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Regarding the promotion of public awareness on energy efficiency and conservation, please provide information about the organisations to which promotional activities were conducted in 2012-13, and whether any organisation have installed energy saving equipment subsequently? Besides, what are the expenditures of the promotional activities in 2012-13 and the estimate in 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

In 2012-13, promotional activities were organised for school students, members of the trades (e.g. property management companies, electrical product suppliers, contractors, consultants, etc), non-government organisations and general public for promoting public awareness of energy efficiency and conservation. These activities included school exhibitions and outreach programmes, trade seminars, public seminars, guided tours to the Education Path of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) Headquarters, promotion of Energy Efficiency (Labelling of Products) Ordinance and Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance, distribution of promotional leaflets and newsletters, dissemination of energy saving information through the Internet, etc. The effectiveness of these activities was measured by the participation rate and feedback from participants. In general, these activities were over-subscribed with positive feedback. We do not have specific information about subsequent responses of the concerned organisations in installing energy saving equipment. The expenditure for the promotional activities in 2012-13 is about \$2 million. We will continue our work in 2013-14 and the estimated expenditure is about \$2 million.

Name in block letters: CHAN Fan

Post Title: Director of Electrical and
Mechanical Services

Date: 2.4.2013

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

ENB050

Question Serial No.

4792

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Please provide information about the organizations the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has contacted in 2012-13 on energy-related issues, as well as the related activities and expenditures involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has been keeping abreast of the worldwide development in energy efficiency and conservation and has established contacts with various overseas and local organizations. The major ones include member economies of the Energy Working Group (EWG) of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) in Mainland China, and over 30 local organizations covering relevant professional institutions, trade associations, contractors/consultants associations, tertiary institutions and non-government organizations. In 2012-13, EMSD maintained close liaison with these organizations and participated in the regular meetings under the EWG of APEC and the AQSIQ for exchange of information on the development of energy efficiency issues and sharing of experiences. The expenditure involved in EMSD's overseas duties for participation in relevant conferences in 2012-13 was about \$0.2 million.

Name in block letters: CHAN Fan

Post Title: Director of Electrical and
 Mechanical Services

Date: 2.4.2013

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

ENB051

Question Serial No.

4793

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (6) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

There was no item of Mandatory Building Energy Code (BEC) Scheme in the past two financial years. What are the building types to be selected, the selection criteria and the content for sampling inspection? Moreover, what is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance, which was fully implemented in September 2012, requires mandatory implementation of the Building Energy Code (BEC). It applies to public and private buildings prescribed under Schedule 1 of the Ordinance, including commercial buildings, composite buildings, hotels and guesthouses, hospitals, educational buildings, municipal buildings, institutional buildings and common areas of residential buildings and industrial buildings, etc.

The Ordinance mainly requires developers of the prescribed buildings at different stages of the building development to declare that the building services installations in the buildings comply with the energy efficiency requirements under the BEC. Similar requirement is also imposed for major retrofitting works in existing buildings. Such declarations should be certified by Registered Energy Assessors to confirm the compliance with the BEC before submission to the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) for consideration. As the Ordinance is still at the initial stage of implementation, EMSD will, by random sampling, conduct on-site inspections to verify if the BEC requirements are met by inspecting the building services installations actually completed against the information declared in the submitted documents. EMSD will monitor the implementation progress and review the sampling method, taking into account the experience gained in the implementation of the Ordinance.

The inspections are conducted by a team of EMSD's engineers and inspectors whose responsibilities cover a wide range of duties, including vetting and processing the submissions, inspection, investigation, prosecution, public education and publicity, handling enquiries/complaints, etc. for enforcement of the Ordinance. We do not have a breakdown of the estimated expenditures involved in inspections alone.

Name in block letters: CHAN Fan

Post Title: Director of Electrical and
Mechanical Services

Date: 2.4.2013

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

ENB052

Question Serial No.

4488

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (7) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

For the renewable energy projects undertaken for the Government and public bodies, please provide information in accordance with the format below

	Government Department/ Public Body	Buildings/ Facilities Involved	Electricity and cost saving	Reduction in carbon emission
2011				
2012				
2013				

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

The renewable energy installation funded by the resources allocated to the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) in 2011 is shown in the table below.

Year	Government Department/ Public Body	Buildings/ Facilities Involved	Electricity generated and cost saving #	Reduction in carbon emission
2011	Education Bureau	South Yuen Long Government Primary School	1 500 kWh and about \$1,500 per annum	About 1 000 kg per annum

Apart from the above projects, there are also renewable energy installations funded by resources allocated to other departments for individual capital projects. Examples of these installations are photovoltaic system at the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre in Tsing Yi, solar water heating system at Castle Peak Hospital, and photovoltaic system and small scale wind turbine system at Sing Yin Secondary School. Separate resources under EMSD for implementation of such renewable energy projects are not required in 2012 and 2013.

For calculation of the cost saving, it is assumed that the average electricity tariff is \$1 per kWh.

Name in block letters: CHAN Fan

Post Title: Director of Electrical and
Mechanical Services

Date: 2.4.2013

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

ENB053

Question Serial No.

4489

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (8) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

For the energy-saving projects undertaken for the Government and public bodies, please provide information in accordance with the format below:

	Government Department/ Public Body	Buildings/ Facilities Involved	Electricity and cost saving	Reduction in carbon emission
2011				
2012				
2013				

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

During the period between 2011 and 2013, Electrical and Mechanical Services Department has handled / will handle a total of 180 energy-saving projects for various government departments and public bodies. These projects involve retrofitting of energy efficient lighting and control systems, light emitting diode (LED) exit signs, and energy efficient air-conditioning and control systems, etc. The estimated total annual energy saving is 12 million kWh, or equivalent to an annual reduction of about 8 400 tonnes of carbon dioxide emission. The breakdown is given in the table below.

Year	Government Department/ Public Body	Buildings/ Facilities Involved	Electricity and cost saving # per annum	Reduction in carbon emission per annum
2011	Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department; Architectural Services Department; Civil Aviation Department; Census and Statistics Department; Correctional Services Department; Customs and Excise Department; Department of Health; Drainage Services Department; Education Bureau;	art and cultural venues: carpark buildings; court buildings; cooked food centres; dockyards; clinics; community centres; departmental headquarters; fire stations; government offices; government quarters; hospitals;	5 million kWh and about \$5 million	3 500 tonnes
2012	Environmental Protection Department; Fire Services Department; Food and Environmental Hygiene Department; Government Property Agency; Government Records Service; Home Affairs Department; Hong Kong Police Force; Hospital Authority; Immigration Department; Independent Commission Against Corruption;	libraries; markets; museums; parks and playgrounds; police stations; prisons; public toilets; recreational centres; regional depots; schools;	4 million kWh and about \$4 million	2 800 tonnes
2013	Judiciary; Leisure and Cultural Services Department; Marine Department; Transport Department; and Water Suppliers Department.	sewage treatment plants; sports centres; stadiums; swimming pools; town halls; workshop etc.	3 million kWh and about \$3 million	2 100 tonnes

For calculation of the cost saving, it is assumed that the average electricity tariff is \$1 per kWh.

Apart from the above projects, there are other minor works and capital works projects adopting energy efficient features which are funded by resources allocated to other departments or project votes for individual capital projects.

Name in block letters: CHAN Fan

Post Title: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date: 2.4.2013

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

ENB054

Question Serial No.

1447

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme: (6) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

The indicator under the programme of Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety about electrical workers / contractors / competent persons registration applications processed is projected as 40 000 in 2013, substantially increased from 18 094 in 2012. The Administration indicated that 2013 is the cyclical peak in the registration renewal. As such, please inform this Committee the amount of manpower and resources that the Administration anticipates to deploy for handling this peak; whether there will be adequate manpower to handle, and if not, whether the Administration will recruit additional staff or outsource the service.

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-kwok

Reply:

In preparation for the peak of the registration renewal in 2013, we have already planned to redeploy existing manpower through re-prioritisation of work to ensure smooth handling of the increase in registration renewal. As the officers involved in the registration renewal applications also handle other enforcement duties at the same time, there is no separate breakdown on the manpower involved in handling the registration and renewal applications. We have also planned to outsource clerical support service to assist in the processing of these applications. The estimated expenditure of the outsourcing work is \$0.5 million.

Name in block letters: CHAN Fan

Post Title: Director of Electrical and
Mechanical Services

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB055

Question Serial No.

1462

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (7) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

In 2013-14, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) will continue to conduct studies on the long-term market structure for the electricity market. Please advise:

1. Will the Government conduct the review of generation fuel mix together with the above studies?
2. When will the studies be completed?
3. What will be the follow up actions after completion of the studies?

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-kwok

Reply:

EMSD will provide technical support to the Environment Bureau in 2013-14 to conduct the fuel mix review as well as studies on the long-term electricity market structure for Hong Kong. According to the Scheme of Control Agreements, the Government will discuss with the power companies market readiness, potential future changes to the electricity supply regulatory framework and transitional issues before 2016.

Name in block letters: CHAN Fan

Post Title: Director of Electrical and
Mechanical Services

Date: 2.4.2013

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

ENB056

Question Serial No.

1773

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme: (9) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

For the renewable energy projects undertaken for the Government and public bodies, please provide information in accordance with the format below

	Government Department/ Public Body	Buildings/ Facilities Involved	Electricity and cost saving	Reduction in carbon emission
2010				
2011				
2012				

Asked by: Hon. MO, Claudia

Reply:

The renewable energy installations funded by the resources allocated to the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) in 2010 and 2011 are shown in the table below.

Year	Government Department/ Public Body	Buildings/ Facilities Involved	Electricity generated and cost saving [#] per annum	Reduction in carbon emission per annum
2010	Education Bureau	Shau Kei Wan Government Secondary School; Chiu Lut Sau Memorial Secondary School; and Yuen Long Government Primary School	9 700 kWh and about \$9,700	About 6 800 kg
	Leisure and Cultural Services Department	Lai Chi Kok Park; Middle Road Children's Playground; Tsuen Wan Jockey Club Tak Wah Park; and Tai Po Yuen Chau Tsai Park		
2011	Education Bureau	South Yuen Long Government Primary School	1 500 kWh and about \$1,500	About 1 000 kg

Apart from the above projects, there are also renewable energy installations funded by resources allocated to other departments for individual capital projects. Examples of these installations are photovoltaic system at the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre in Tsing Yi, solar water heating system at Castle Peak Hospital, and photovoltaic system and small scale wind turbine system at Sing Yin Secondary School. Separate resources under EMSD for implementation of such renewable energy projects are not required in 2012.

[#] For calculation of the cost saving, it is assumed that the average electricity tariff is \$1 per kWh.

Name in block letters: CHAN Fan

Post Title: Director of Electrical and
 Mechanical Services

Date: 2.4.2013

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

ENB057

Question Serial No.

1774

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (10) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

For the energy-saving projects undertaken for the Government and public bodies, please provide information in accordance with the format below:

	Government Department/ Public Body	Buildings/ Facilities Involved	Electricity and cost saving	Reduction in carbon emission
2010				
2011				
2012				

Asked by: Hon. MO, Claudia

Reply:

During the period between 2010 and 2012, Electrical and Mechanical Services Department has handled a total of 305 energy-saving projects for various government departments and public bodies. These projects involve retrofitting of energy efficient lighting and control systems, light emitting diode (LED) exit signs, and energy efficient air-conditioning and control systems, etc. The estimated total annual energy saving is 27 million kWh, or equivalent to an annual reduction of about 18 900 tonnes of carbon dioxide emission. The breakdown is given in the table below.

Year	Government Department/ Public Body	Buildings/ Facilities Involved	Electricity and cost saving # per annum	Reduction in carbon emission per annum
2010	Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department; Architectural Services Department; Civil Aviation Department; Civil Engineering and Development Department; Census and Statistics Department; Correctional Services Department; Customs and Excise Department; Department of Health; Drainage Services Department;	art and cultural venues: carpark buildings; court buildings; cooked food centres; dockyards; clinics; community centres; departmental headquarters; fire stations; government offices; government quarters; hospitals;	18 million kWh and about \$18 million	12 600 tonnes
2011	Education Bureau; Environmental Protection Department; Fire Services Department; Food and Environmental Hygiene Department; Government Property Agency; Home Affairs Department; Hong Kong Police Force; Hospital Authority; Immigration Department;	libraries; markets; museums; parks and playgrounds; police stations; prisons; public toilets; recreational centres; regional depots; schools;	5 million kWh and about \$5 million	3 500 tonnes
2012	Independent Commission Against Corruption; Judiciary; Leisure and Cultural Services Department; Marine Department; and Transport Department.	sewage treatment plants; sports centres; stadiums; swimming pools; town halls etc.	4 million kWh and about \$4 million	2 800 tonnes

For calculation of the cost saving, it is assumed that the average electricity tariff is \$1 per kWh.

Apart from the above projects, there are other minor works and capital works projects adopting energy efficient features which are funded by resources allocated to other departments or project votes for individual capital projects.

Name in block letters: CHAN Fan

Post Title: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Date: 2.4.2013

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

ENB058

Question Serial No.

5033

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (8) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Regarding the handling of competent persons' enlistment applications under the indicator for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicle safety, would the Administration please provide the following information:

- (a) the number of enlisted competent persons (by age range and year of enlistment) in each of the past five years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2012-13);
- (b) the requirements or conditions to obtain the relevant qualifications, e.g. the examination or work experience required; the recognised scope of works of related competent persons; and the average processing time by the Administration for each application;
- (c) whether the Administration has evaluated the adequacy of the number of enlisted persons in meeting the current demand of LPG vehicles? If yes, what is the evaluation result? If no, what are the reasons?;
- (d) whether the Administration has considered allocating more resources to provide more training programmes, so as to attract more people to join the industry. If yes, what is the plan? If no, what are the reasons?
- (e) whether the Administration has provided support to the competent persons in enhancing their skills through continuing education? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

- (a) A total of 101 persons were enlisted as competent persons for the maintenance of fuel system of LPG vehicles in the past five years (i.e. 2008 to 2012). The breakdowns of the age profile of these competent persons and the year of enlistment are shown in the following table:

Age range	Number of competent persons enlisted					Sub-total
	Year 2008	Year 2009	Year 2010	Year 2011	Year 2012	
21 to 30	9	8	6	5	1	29

31 to 40	4	4	19	8	4	39
41 to 50	6	2	7	4	8	27
51 to 60	0	0	0	5	1	6
Above 60	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sub-total	19	14	32	22	14	

- (b) A motor vehicle mechanic who has at least three years of relevant working experience and has completed a relevant LPG vehicle servicing course conducted by the Vocational Training Council (VTC) or equivalent is qualified to be enlisted as a competent person for the maintenance of LPG vehicles. A competent person is responsible for carrying out works on dismantling, assembling, testing, commissioning, decommissioning, connecting, disconnecting, maintaining, repairing or replacing any parts of the LPG vehicle fuel system. The average processing time for such applications in 2012 was 15 days.
- (c) The number of LPG vehicles increased at a rate comparable to that of competent persons in the past five years. The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has not received feedback from regular trade meetings about insufficient competent persons in the trade.
- (d) The VTC will organise more training courses on LPG vehicles should there be an increasing demand.
- (e) EMSD has been providing support to competent persons on the maintenance of LPG vehicle fuel system through:
- disseminating technical information leaflets;
 - conducting briefing sessions;
 - publishing codes of practice; and
 - producing video films.

Name in block letters: CHAN Fan

Post Title: Director of Electrical and
 Mechanical Services

Date: 2.4.2013

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

ENB059

Question Serial No.

5034

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (9) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Regarding the inspection of filling stations for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicles, would the Administration please advise:

- (a) the current number of dedicated and non-dedicated LPG filling stations (according to district distribution);
- (b) the average monthly utilisation rate in table form for each dedicated and non-dedicated filling station in the past three years (i.e. year 2010-11 to year 2012-13);
- (c) the current number of filling nozzles in table form for each dedicated and non-dedicated filling station;
- (d) the details of inspection by the Administration and the average inspection frequency for each LPG filling station;
- (e) whether the Administration has conducted any evaluation and comparison of the efficiency (such as average refilling time per vehicle, the ratio between the numbers of vehicles served and dispenser operators) for dedicated and non-dedicated LPG filling stations in the same district. If yes, what are the results of evaluation and comparison? If no, what are the reasons?;
- (f) whether the Administration has any measures to improve the efficiency of LPG filling stations, and the expenditures of related measures?

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

- (a) At present, there are 12 dedicated LPG filling stations and 49 non-dedicated LPG filling stations. Their geographical distribution is shown in the following table:

District	Hong Kong	Kowloon	New Territories and Islands
No. of dedicated LPG filling stations	3	4	5
No. of non-dedicated LPG filling stations	7	9	33

- (b) Based on the operational records provided by the operators, the monthly utilisation rates for the 12 dedicated LPG filling stations in the past three years are shown in the following table. Since the monthly utilisation rate of each dedicated LPG filling station is commercial information of each operator, the required information is presented in ranges. The Administration does not have monthly utilization rates of non-dedicated LPG filling stations.

Year	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13 (up to February 2013)
Monthly utilisation rate for dedicated LPG filling station (vehicles/month)	1,100 to 3,100	1,300 to 4,100	1,200 to 4,200

- (c) The number of nozzles for each dedicated and non-dedicated LPG filling station is shown in Annex.
- (d) The inspection by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) mainly involves checking the safety of LPG storage and dispensing facilities, LPG replenishing arrangements and operation of LPG filling facilities. Such inspection is usually conducted twice for each LPG filling station a year.
- (e) Evaluation and comparison of the efficiency of LPG filling stations is not feasible as the efficiency would be affected by a number of factors such as patronage preference, which include shift-changing period, popularity of the location, retail price of LPG at station, refilling pattern and brand preference, etc.
- (f) LPG vehicles usually queue up for refilling during shift-changing periods, in particular at those dedicated LPG filling stations at popular locations. Outside shift-changing periods, the waiting time is not long even at dedicated LPG filling stations. EMSD will continue to encourage LPG vehicle users to go for refilling during off-peak hours. This is part and parcel of EMSD's on-going publicity activities and the workload has been absorbed under the existing provision.

Name in block letters: CHAN Fan

Post Title: Director of Electrical and
Mechanical Services

Date: 2.4.2013

Number of Nozzles of LPG Filling Stations in 2013

	Company	Location	No. of Nozzles
		Hong Kong	
1*	Sinopec	Fung Mat Road, Sheung Wan	12
2*	ECO	9 Fung Yip Street, Chai Wan	24
3*	ECO	Marsh Road, Wan Chai	10
4	Caltex	Pokfulam Road	4
5	ExxonMobil	66 Wong Chuk Hang Road, Aberdeen	4
6	Feoso	23 Fung Yip Street, Chai Wan	4
7	Feoso	Java Road, North Point	16
8	ExxonMobil	34 Stanley Village Road, Stanley	2
9	Sinopec	Chong Fu Road, Chai Wan	4
10	ExxonMobil	Sheung Mau Road, Chai Wan	8
		Kowloon	
11*	ECO	Ngo Cheung Street, West Kowloon	24
12*	ECO	111 Sham Mong Road, Mei Foo	14
13	Caltex	5 Fung Shing Street, Po Kong Village	8
14	ExxonMobil	7 Kai Fuk Road, Kowloon Bay (East Bound)	4
15	ExxonMobil	4 Kai Fuk Road, Kowloon Bay (West Bound)	4
16	Shell	5 Kai Fuk Road, Kowloon Bay (East Bound)	4
17	Shell	8 Kai Fuk Road, Kowloon Bay (West Bound)	4
18	Feoso	332 Tai Po Road, Sham Shui Po	4
19*	Sinopec	Wai Lok Street, Kwun Tong	24
20*	Sinopec	Cheung Yip Street, Kowloon Bay	10
21	ExxonMobil	Princess Margaret Road, Ho Man Tin	4

22	Sinopec	Cornwall Street, Kowloon Tong	4
23	Sinopec	Wang Chin Street, Kowloon Bay	4
		New Territories & Islands	
24*	Sinopec	Tak Yip Street, Yuen Long	12
25*	Sinopec	1 Kwong Chun Street, Yuen Chau Tsai, Tai Po	24
26*	Sinopec	J/O Kwai Chung Road & Kwai On Road, Kwai Chung	14
27*	Sinopec	Hang Yiu Street, Ma On Shan	12
28*	ECO	7 Yip Wong Road, Tuen Mun	10
29	Caltex	Clear Water Bay Road, Sai Kung (near TV City entrance)	4
30	Caltex	Sha Tau Kok Road, Fanling (near Lung Yeuk Tau)	6
31	Sinopec	53-67 Tsing Yi Road, Tsing Yi	4
32	Sinopec	12 Yuen On Street, Siu Lek Yuen, Shatin	8
33	Sinopec	Kam Tin Road, Yuen Long (near Shek Kong)	4
34	Sinopec	J/O Pak Wo Road & Yat Ming Road, Fanling	8
35	ExxonMobil	99 Castle Peak Road, Kwai Chung	4
36	ExxonMobil	739 Castle Peak Road, Tsuen Wan	4
37	ExxonMobil	698 Castle Peak Road, Kwai Chung	4
38	ExxonMobil	4 Tong Yan Shan Road, Ping Shan, Yuen Long	4
39	ExxonMobil	Hiram's Highway, Sai Kung (near Sai Kung Tuk)	2
40	ExxonMobil	11 On Ping Street, Shek Mun, Shatin	6
41	ExxonMobil	21 Po Lam Road, Tseung Kwan O	6
42	Shell	100 Po Hong Road, Tseung Kwan O	6
43	Shell	6 Cheong Lin Road, Chek Lap Kok	4
44	Shell	21 On Shan Lane, Ma On Shan	4

45	Shell	682-688 Castle Peak Road, Kwai Chung	4
46	Sinopec	9 Tong Yan Shan Road, Ping Shan, Yuen Long	4
47	Sinopec	Fuk Hang Tsuen Road, Lam Tei, Tuen Mun	4
48	ExxonMobil	38 Hoi Wah Road, Tuen Mun	6
49	ExxonMobil	183 Tsing Yi Road West, Tsing Yi	8
50	Sinopec	123 Ping Ha Road, Tin Shui Wai	4
51	ChinaOil	J/O Yu Tung Road & Chung Yan Road, Tung Chung	6
52	Sinopec	9 Hei Tung Street , Tung Chung	6
53	Sinopec	Tai Po Road, Tai Po (near Tai Po Kau)	8
54	Sinopec	23 Hei Tung Street, Tung Chung	4
55	Sinopec	Kam Tin Road, Yuen Long (near Au Tau)	12
56	ChinaOil	Kam Tin Road, Yuen Long (near Shek Kong)	4
57	ExxonMobil	339 Jockey Club Road, Fanling	4
58	Shell	J/O Kam Sheung Road & Pat Heung Road, Yuen Long	4
59	Sinopec	Castle Peak Road, Yuen Long (near Fu Sha Wai)	6
60	Sinopec	690 Castle Peak Road, Tsuen Wan	4
61	Sinopec	HK International Airport Airside Filling Station No. 2 (for airport internal vehicles)	2
		Total:	440

Note: Dedicated LPG filling stations are marked with an asterisk (*).

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

ENB060

Question Serial No.

5035

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (10) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

With regard to Registered Electrical Worker (REW), please provide the following information:

- (a) the number of REWs, their age profile and the number of years holding the registration listed out in table format in accordance with the grades of registration;
- (b) details of the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) scheme for REW; and since its implementation, the number of applications received, the number of REWs completed training, and the related expenditure; whether the Administration has assessed the effectiveness of the scheme, if yes, what is the result?; if no, why?

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

- (a) In accordance with the Electricity (Registration) Regulations (Cap. 406D), Registered Electrical Workers (REWs) are classified in the following grades:

Classifications	Relevant electrical work
Grade A	Low voltage fixed electrical installation that has a maximum demand not exceeding 400 A, single or three phase.
Grade B	Low voltage fixed electrical installation that has a maximum demand not exceeding 2500 A, single or three phase.
Grade C	Low voltage fixed electrical installation of any capacity.
Grade H	High voltage fixed electrical installation.
Grade R	Specific types of electrical installations including neon sign, air-conditioning installation, generating facility installation, etc.

As at 15 March 2013, there are a total of 74 753 REWs in Hong Kong. Their age profile and number of years holding the registration are summarised in the following tables.

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

ENB061

Question Serial No.

5036

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (11) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

For the energy-saving projects undertaken by the Administration for the Government and public bodies, please advise:

- (a) the no. of energy-saving projects completed in the past 5 years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2012-13) by bureaux/ government departments/ public bodies, the total energy saving and associated expenditure;
- (b) the criteria of setting a maximum payback period of not more than 12 years for the projects. Would the payback period be extended, enabling more Government departments and public bodies to fulfill the requirement for implementation of energy saving projects? If yes, please advise the details. If no, please advise the reason.
- (c) the energy saving measures commonly adopted in these projects and the respective average energy saving; and
- (d) whether the Administration has undertaken similar energy saving projects in public housing estates. If yes, please provide the details. If no, please advise the reason.

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

- (a) The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has completed around 420 energy saving projects between 2008-09 and 2012-13 in a wide range of existing government and public bodies' buildings and venues. The total expenditure and estimated annual energy saving of these projects are about \$405 million and 38 million kWh respectively. Apart from these projects, all minor works and capital works projects adopt appropriate energy efficient features funded by resources allocated to project votes for individual capital projects.
- (b) In general, most electrical and mechanical services equipment such as electrical motors has an operating life of about 12 years or more. Hence, a target to achieve a payback period of not more than 12 years has been set for energy efficiency projects in existing government buildings on the grounds of engineering considerations and cost effectiveness of the projects. Notwithstanding this, it is an acceptable practice to consider a longer payback period on individual project basis if it can be justified (e.g. the concerned energy efficient equipment is found to have a longer operating life or the installations are for educational purposes).

- (c) Most of the energy-saving projects which are carried out by EMSD as mentioned above involve replacement of traditional exit signs with LED signs, retrofit for T8 fluorescent lightings / incandescent lamps with T5 fluorescent lighting or LED lighting, replacement of air-cooled air-conditioning systems with water-cooled air-conditioning systems, and adoption of energy efficient chillers, etc. As each project may have a different mix of energy efficient features, we are unable to provide separate breakdown for the energy savings of these commonly adopted features.
- (d) Housing Authority has carried out energy-saving projects in public housing estates, such as retrofitting of traditional exit signs by T5 fluorescent tubes and electronic ballasts, replacement of bulkhead light fittings with electronic ballasts at common corridors and staircases, and replacement of aged lifts, etc.

Name in block letters: _____ CHAN Fan _____

Post Title: _____ Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services _____

Date: _____ 2.4.2013 _____

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

ENB062

Question Serial No.

5041

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (12) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Regarding the voluntary energy efficiency labelling scheme (VEELS) and the mandatory energy efficiency labelling scheme (MEELS), would the Administration provide the following information:

- (a) In the past five years (from 2008-09 to 2012-13), by types of products, what are the numbers of products covered under the above two schemes?
- (b) What are the details of the promotional work on the VEELS and the expenditure involved? Will the scheme be expanded to cover more products? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (c) Does the Administration have any plan to include some of the products under the VEELS into the MEELS? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (d) Does the Administration have any plan to formulate a comparison table for comparing the energy consumption and fuel expenditure of electrical appliance and gas appliance of the same product type? If yes, what are the details and the expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

- (a) In the past five years (from 2008-09 to 2012-13), the cumulative numbers of product types under the VEELS and the MEELS are tabulated as follows:

Year	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Cumulative number of product types under VEELS	19	19	19	20	21
Cumulative number of product types under MEELS	3	5	5	5	5

- (b) The promotional work on the VEELS includes trade seminars, distribution of promotional leaflets and dissemination of information through the internet. The estimated expenditure in 2012-13 was about \$40,000. In 2013-14, we plan to expand the VEELS to cover domestic gas cookers.
- (c) The Administration has commissioned a consultancy study to review the scope of product coverage and energy efficiency grading structure of the MEELS. Some of the household electrical products currently covered under the VEELS will also be included in the study. The study is expected to complete in the second half of 2013. On the basis of the outcome of the consultancy study, we will formulate further proposals for consultation with the trade.
- (d) Electrical appliance and gas appliance are different in terms of design, technology employed and testing methodology for energy efficiency performance. We do not have plans to compare the energy consumption and fuel expenditure of electrical and gas appliances from the energy efficiency perspective.

Name in block letters: CHAN Fan

Post Title: Director of Electrical and
 Mechanical Services

Date: 2.4.2013

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

ENB063

Question Serial No.

5062

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme: (11) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

For monitoring on power companies, please advise this committee on the following:

- (a) Under the Scheme of Control Agreements, has the Government provided to the power companies any forms of premium or subsidy. If yes, please advise the details and amount;
- (b) In the interests of all citizens, what are the measures taken and resources allocated by the Government for stringent monitoring of the power companies on their excess reserve generating capacity, while increasing the tariff incessantly;
- (c) For the assessment of the development plans (DP) regularly submitted by electricity utilities, please advise the details of the work and the manpower and expenditure involved. Please also advise the principle and form of assessing the DP as well as what is done to avoid high capital cost which will lead to the problems of tariff increase and inefficiency.

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

- (a) The returns of the power companies are strictly governed by the terms in the Scheme of Control Agreements (SCAs). There is no premium or subsidy provided under the Agreements.
- (b) The SCAs provide for a mechanism for treatment of excess generating capacity of the power companies. Accordingly, each additional generating unit shall be subject to tests for excess capacity. If it fails the tests, a relevant portion of the capital cost of the generating unit will be excluded from earning the permitted return. The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) will provide technical support to the Environment Bureau (ENB) in this respect.
- (c) EMSD will provide technical support to ENB to conduct assessment of DP submitted by the power companies with a team of engineers within the existing resources. Their responsibilities cover a wide range of areas in addition to vetting and processing the DP submissions. We do not have a breakdown of the expenditures involved only in the work of DP assessment. The DP will be scrutinised and amended as appropriate with due consideration on the need, timing and cost of the project proposals to ensure that the capital expenditure of the power companies is in line with the development needs of Hong Kong.

Name in block letters: CHAN Fan

Post Title: Director of Electrical and
 Mechanical Services

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB064

Question Serial No.

3043

Head: 42 Electrical and Mechanical Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (12) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

The Administration plans to approve two liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) filling stations in 2013. Please advise the details of these filling stations (including their locations and dates of commencement of operation) and the estimated expenditures involved?

Asked by: Hon. YICK Chi-ming, Frankie

Reply:

The two LPG filling stations to be approved in 2013 are located at Repulse Bay and Tsing Yi, which are expected to commence operation by September 2013 and March 2014 respectively according to the land lease conditions.

The approval process of LPG filling stations is handled by a team of engineers and inspectors in the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department whose responsibilities cover a wide range of duties, including inspection, investigation, public education and publicity. We do not have a breakdown of the estimated expenditures involved in the approval process.

Name in block letters: CHAN Fan

Post Title: Director of Electrical and
 Mechanical Services

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB065

Question Serial No.

0053

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: With regard to the operation of strategic landfills, please provide the following information:

- a) Please tabulate as follows the quantity of waste received by various landfills in the past three years (i.e. 2010-2012).

	Overall Waste						Food waste					
	2010		2011		2012		2010		2011		2012	
	domestic	industrial commercial	domestic	Industrial commercial	domestic	Industrial commercial	domestic	Industrial commercial	domestic	Industrial commercial	domestic	Industrial commercial
SENT Landfill												
NENT Landfill												
WNT Landfill												
Total												

- b) What is the remaining capacity of individual landfills? When are they expected to be filled up? What is the latest progress of the extension of various landfills?
- c) What were the operational expenses and operating hours of various landfills in the past three years (i.e. 2010-11 to 2012-13)?
- d) In the past three years (i.e. 2010-11 to 2012-13), how many complaints about the operation of the landfills did the Environmental Protection Department receive? How many of them involved the odour problem? During the period, what measures were introduced by the Administration to mitigate the odour and other environmental nuisances caused by the landfills? What were the relevant expenses?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

- (a) The quantities of waste received at the three strategic landfills over the past 3 years (2010, 2011 and 2012) are summarized below:

Landfill	Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)					
	2010		2011		2012	
	Domestic Waste [Food Waste]	Commercial and Industrial Waste [Food Waste]	Domestic Waste [Food Waste]	Commercial and Industrial Waste [Food Waste]	Domestic Waste [Food Waste]	Commercial and Industrial Waste [Food Waste]
West New Territories Landfill	3 989 [1 559]	1 104 [311]	3 844 [1,627]	1 238 [432]	3 919 [N.A.]	1 338 [N.A.]
South East New Territories Landfill	753 [294]	1 413 [398]	770 [326]	1 315 [459]	924 [N.A.]	1 156 [N.A.]
North East New Territories Landfill	1 394 [545]	462 [130]	1 358 [575]	470 [164]	1 444 [N.A.]	499 [N.A.]
Total	6 135 [2 397]	2 979 [840]	5 973 [2 528]	3 023 [1 056]	6 286 [N.A.]	2 992 [N.A.]

Remarks:

- The compilation of the 2012 figures on food waste is in progress and not yet available.
 - All figures shown are in tonnes per day and may not add up to total due to rounding off.
 - The quantity of food waste in square brackets is included in the figure quoted. For example, for the disposal of domestic waste at the West New Territories Landfill in 2010, out of the 3 989 tonnes landfilled, 1 559 tonnes were food waste.
 - The quantity of MSW disposal per capita is estimated to be 1.30 kg/day in 2010, 1.27 kg/day in 2011 and 1.30 kg/day in 2012.
- (b) The total design capacity of the three strategic landfills in Hong Kong (i.e. the South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill, the North East New Territories (NENT) Landfill and the West New Territories (WENT) Landfill) is 139 million cubic metres (Mm³) and the remaining capacities by end of 2011 are 8, 19 and 33 Mm³ in respect of SENT, NENT and WENT landfills. It is estimated that the three landfills will be fully exhausted one by one in the years to come and likely to be exhausted before 2020.

We plan to seek funding approval from the Legislative Council Finance Committee later this year with a view to commissioning the landfill extensions before they are exhausted.

- (c) The operation costs and the operation hours of the SENT, NENT and WENT landfills for 2010, 2011 and 2012 are shown in the tables below.

Financial Year	Operation Cost (\$ Million)			
	SENT Landfill	NENT Landfill	WENT Landfill	Total
2010-11 (Actual)	166	125	131	422
2011-12 (Actual)	191	137	161	489
2012-13 (Estimate)	218	150	223	591

Calendar Year	Operation Hours (hours)			
	SENT Landfill	NENT Landfill	WENT Landfill	Total
2010	5 479	4 393	4 391	14 263
2011	5 470	4 387	4 390	14 247
2012	5 487	4 399	4 402	14 288

- (d) The complaints received about the operation of the three landfills in 2010, 2011 and 2012 are 764, 1 147 and 1 989 respectively out of which 759, 1 140 and 1 974 complaints are related to odour problem in 2010, 2011 and 2012 respectively.

The three strategic landfills are designed and operated to meet various environmental standards which include measures to prevent odour and other environmental nuisances. In order to further mitigate any potential odour impact to the surrounding areas, a number of additional measures have been implemented at the landfills, including minimizing the size of tipping areas as far as practicable; covering the tipping areas with a layer of soil and/or Posi-Shell Cover (a cement-based cover material) at the end of the daily waste reception process; covering the non-active tipping areas with temporary impermeable liners or Posi-Shell Cover; setting up deodorizers; installing extra landfill gas extraction wells and mobile flares; upgrading wheel washing facility to full-body vehicle washing facility etc. We have spent \$21 million, \$34 million and \$5 million in 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 respectively for the associated installation costs and the recurrent costs have been absorbed in the operation costs.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 2 April 2013

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

ENB066

Question Serial No.

0054

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please inform the Committee of the latest progress of the following waste management facilities and the relevant expenditure earmarked in this year (i.e. 2013-14) for the study, exploration, initial design and construction of these facilities:

- a) Organic Waste Treatment Facilities Phase 1;
- b) Organic Waste Treatment Facilities Phase 2;
- c) Integrated Waste Management Facilities Phase 1;
- d) Community Green Stations; and
- e) Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Treatment Facility.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

- a) Organic Waste Treatment Facilities (OWTF) Phase 1

Tender for the design, build and operation of this facility was invited on 8 February 2013. We plan to complete the tendering work and seek funding approval from the Public Works Subcommittee and Finance Committee of Legislative Council in the fourth quarter of 2013. Subject to funding approval, we aim to commission the facility in 2016.

The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for the study of the OWTF Phase 1 is \$1.3 million.

- b) Organic Waste Treatment Facilities Phase 2

The engineering investigation and environmental impact assessment (EIA) studies for this facility commenced in December 2011. We plan to complete the EIA study in 2013 with a view to commissioning the facility in 2017.

The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for the study of the OWTF Phase 2 is \$2.1 million.

- c) Integrated Waste Management Facilities (IWMF) Phase 1

We are awaiting the outcome of the judicial review against the IWMF Phase 1 project.

The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for possible preparatory work on the IWMF Phase 1 is \$900,000.

d) Community Green Stations

The design of the stations is in progress and we aim to commission the stations in phases starting from late 2013.

The estimated expenditure of the capital works and operation services in 2013 and 2014 are \$44 million and \$21 million respectively.

e) Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Treatment Facility

The prequalification exercise for the potential tenderers of this facility is in progress. We aim to invite tender by mid-2013 and seek funding approval from the Public Works Subcommittee and Finance Committee of Legislative Council as soon as practicable afterwards. Subject to funding approval, we aim to commission the facility in 2016.

The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for the study of the WEEE Treatment Facility is \$2.9 million.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB067

Question Serial No.

0055

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Administration has earmarked \$10 billion to subsidise owners of diesel commercial vehicles to replace their old vehicles. What is the estimated cash flow for that in the next three years (i.e. 2013-14 and 2015-16)? What is the estimated number of vehicles applying for the grant during the period? What are the types of the vehicles involved? What will be the reduction in emission as a result of this?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

To improve the roadside air quality and protect public health, the Administration has proposed to phase out the 86 000 pre-Euro IV (i.e. pre-Euro, Euro I, Euro II and Euro III) diesel commercial vehicles (including goods vehicles, light buses and non-franchised buses) through an incentive-cum-regulatory approach and \$10 billion has been set aside as subsidies to the eligible owners. We are consulting the relevant transport trades and other stakeholders about the proposal before submitting a final proposal to Legislative Council for approval. We will work out the cash flow of the scheme when the proposal is finalized.

In 2010, these pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles emitted about 88% of respirable suspended particulates (RSP) and 46% of nitrogen oxides (NO_x) from all vehicles. Should they be replaced by Euro V model or better, the emissions of RSP and NO_x from vehicles will be reduced by some 80% and 30% respectively.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 19 March 2013

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

ENB068

Question Serial No.

0056

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Administration has indicated that it will work with franchised companies to reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides and conduct trials of hybrid buses and electric buses. In this connection, please provide the following information:

- (a) Please provide the distribution of bus models for each franchised bus company according to the table below.

	Euro II or before	Euro III	Euro II or III retrofitted with selective catalytic reduction devices	Euro IV	Euro V
KMB					
CTB					
NWFB					
LWB					
NLB					

- (b) Has the Administration reserved any funds for introducing measures to encourage franchised bus companies to expedite the replacement of more polluting Euro II buses or older models?
- (c) How many hybrid buses or electric buses does each franchised bus company currently own respectively? When is the trial scheme expected to be launched? What are the details of the trial?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

- (a) The number of buses owned by each franchised bus company as at 31 December 2012, classified by emission standards, is shown in the following table.

	Euro II or before	Euro III	Euro II or III retrofitted with selective catalytic reduction (SCR) devices	Euro IV	Euro V
KMB	2 186	1 097	3	106	429
CTB	673	10	2	28	237
NWFB	534	75	1	38	57
LWB	84	17	0	32	32
NLB	6	67	0	17	18

The six buses retrofitted with SCRs are under a trial programme jointly conducted by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) and the relevant franchised bus companies.

- (b) We have not reserved funding for expediting the replacement of pre-Euro III franchised buses. As it is, all pre-Euro buses have been phased out. According to the bus replacement programme, all Euro I buses will be phased out by 2015. We are now collaborating with the franchised bus companies to try out the feasibility of retrofitting Euro II and III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction (SCR) devices to reduce their nitrogen oxides emissions. Subject to satisfactory trial results and agreement with the franchised bus companies on the arrangements, the Government will fully fund the retrofit of Euro II and III franchised buses with SCR devices. The Government has earmarked \$550 million for this purpose.
- (c) EPD has provided funds for franchised bus companies on the trial of hybrid buses and electric buses. The franchised bus companies have already placed orders for six hybrid buses and are making preparations to procure 36 electric buses. The trial is expected to commence from 2014 onwards for testing out their operational efficiency and performance under local conditions. The trials will last for two years with a mid-term review to be conducted about one year after its commencement. Separately, The Kowloon Motor Bus Co. (1933) Ltd. (KMB) has one electric bus in its franchised bus fleet for trial.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB069

Question Serial No.

2796

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the operation of the EcoPark, please advise:

- a) Please provide information on the tenants of Phases 1 and 2 in the following table:

Names of the Enterprises or Organisations	Amount of Capital Invested	Amount and Types of Waste Recycled	Quantities and Types of Products	Numbers of Staff Employed

- b) What are the major sales channels of the products recycled through the above enterprises or organizations? Will the government departments give procurement priority to such products so as to support the environmental protection industry?
- c) Has the Administration reserved any funds or land for the further expansion of the EcoPark or identified other sites for the construction of a new phase of EcoPark to promote the development of environmental business?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

- a) The information requested is summarized below.

Phase 1 Tenants

Tenants	Capital Investment (\$ million)*	Waste Types	Recycled Materials/ Products	Throughput 2012 (tonnes)	No. of Staff
Champway Technology Ltd	65.0	Waste cooking oil	Biodiesel	9 700	25
Shiu Wing Metal Ltd	25.0	Waste metals	Sorted & sheared scrap metals	32 700	10
Hong Kong Hung Wai Wooden Board Company	35.0	Waste wood	Wood fuel	0**	5

Tenants	Capital Investment (\$ million)*	Waste Types	Recycled Materials/ Products	Throughput 2012 (tonnes)	No. of Staff
Li Tong Group	19.2	Waste computer equipment	Dismantled electronic components	860	15
Hong Kong Telford Envirotech Group Ltd	11.5	Waste plastics	Plastic flakes and chips	2 350	3
Cosmos Star Holdings Company Ltd	13.0	Waste batteries	Dismantled battery components	Under testing and commissioning	

* Capital investment reported by tenants

** Operation has been suspended since October 2011 to adjust the business model and the tenant advised that the operation would be resumed in mid 2013

Phase 2 Tenants (managed by non-profit making organizations*)

Tenants	Waste Types	Recycled Materials/ Products	Throughput 2012 (tonnes)	No. of Staff
Yan Oi Tong EcoPark Plastic Resources Recycling Centre	Waste plastics	Plastic flakes, plastic pellets and baled plastics	1 850	36
St James' Settlement "WEEE GO GREEN"	Waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE)	Refurbished electrical and electronic equipment, and dismantled components	300	28

* With funding support from the Environment and Conservation Fund

Phase 2 Tenants (recycling plants are still under planning or construction)

Tenants	Capital Investment (\$ million)*	Waste Types	Recycled Materials. Products
Chung Yue Steel Group Company Limited**	31.3	Waste metals	Sorted & sheared scrap metals
SSK Metal Limited**	35.1	Waste batteries	Dismantled battery components
K. Wah Construction Products Ltd**	32.0	Construction & demolition materials and waste glass	Recycled glass concrete blocks
E. Tech Management (HK) Ltd**	15.0	WEEE	Metals, plastic & other recyclable materials
On Fat Lung Electrical & Metal Co., Ltd**	17.1	Waste rubber tyres	Recycled playground mat
South China Reborn Resources (Zhongshan) Company Limited***	57.0	Food waste	Animal feed

- * Pledged capital investment stated in the lease agreements
- ** Lease agreements commenced on 1 January 2012
- *** Lease agreements commenced on 1 January 2013

- b) The EcoPark tenants that have commenced operation are engaged in processing waste materials recovered in Hong Kong into recycled materials. The recycled materials are either sold to local buyers or exported to Mainland China and other places.

The Government has been taking the lead to adopt a green procurement policy for promoting waste reduction and recycling. We have encouraged government departments to purchase green products as far as possible and where economically rational. We have extended the Government's procurement list with green specifications. We have also encouraged wider use of recycled and other green materials in public works projects whenever the technical performance of the green products is proved to be satisfactory, subject to adequate market supply.

- c) As of January 2013, all available lots in the EcoPark have been let and the tenants are at different stages of planning, constructing or commissioning of their plants and operations. The Administration will continue to monitor the operation of the EcoPark and provide assistance to the tenants to help them develop their business. We would keep in review the need for expansion of the EcoPark in the light of the experience of these operations.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB070

Question Serial No.

2797

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In respect of air quality monitoring and provision of air quality information to the public, will the Administration provide the following information:

- (a) In each of the past three years (2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13), what were the expenditures on daily operation and maintenance of air quality monitoring stations (general and roadside)?
- (b) Since the Administration proposes to update the current Air Quality Objectives (AQOs), is it necessary to earmark resources to upgrade the specifications and accuracy of air quality monitoring stations?
- (c) Have any resources been set aside to increase the number of air quality monitoring stations (general and roadside)? If yes, what are the details?
- (d) What is the additional expenditure required for introducing a "new health-based system" to replace the existing air pollution index system? Does the Administration have any publicity plan to help the public adapt to the new system?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

- (a) Our expenditures on the operation and maintenance of the 14 air quality monitoring stations (AQMSs) (general and roadside) in the past three years were:

Year	Expenditure (\$)
2010-11	19,000,000
2011-12	20,000,000
2012-13	22,000,000

- (b) The air quality monitoring network (network) is fully equipped to monitor air quality under the proposed new AQOs. We have been upgrading the network in line with technological developments and international practices as an on-going exercise. The associated expenditure will be absorbed by the existing provision of the Air Programme of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD).

- (c) We are establishing a new general AQMS in Tuen Mun, which will come into operation in the latter part of 2013. The associated expenditure will be covered by the existing provision of the EPD. In addition, we are conducting a site search for setting up a new general AQMS in Tseung Kwan O. After confirming a site of the AQMS, we will make necessary preparations for setting up the station, including seeking the required additional funding under the established mechanism.
- (d) The expenditure of implementing the new Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) system will be met by the existing provision of the EPD. We are consulting the relevant stakeholders on the AQHI system and will devise a publicity plan to facilitate the implementation of the AQHI in 2014.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB071

Question Serial No.

2798

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: With regard to the Port Facilities and Light Dues Incentive Scheme introduced last year to encourage the use of low sulphur fuel by ocean-going vessels when berthing in Hong Kong waters, would the Administration provide the following information:

- a) The number of participating vessels since introduction of the Scheme, their percentage in the total number of ocean-going vessels berthing in Hong Kong, and the emission reduction achieved;
- b) Will further reduction in dues be considered to encourage more ocean-going vessels to participate in the Scheme?
- c) As the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal will be commissioned soon, what is the estimated number of vessels berthing at the Terminal during the first year of operation of the Terminal? What is the volume of emission involved? What are the impacts of the Scheme on the general air quality of Hong Kong? How many vessels will participate in the Scheme as estimated by the Administration?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

- a) The 3-year Port Facilities and Light Dues Incentive Scheme aims to encourage the use of low sulphur fuel while berthing by ocean going vessels (OGV). The scheme was launched on 26 September 2012. As at 28 February 2013, a total of 1 208 OGV calls, representing a participation rate of about 12%, was granted the subsidy under the scheme. About 90% of the sulphur dioxide that would otherwise be emitted during the berthing were reduced from each of the participating OGVs.
- b) We do not have any plan to propose to increase the subsidy under the incentive scheme. At present, we are consulting the relevant trades on mandating the use of low sulphur fuel for ocean-going vessels while at berth in Hong Kong waters as announced in the 2013 Policy Address.
- c) According to the current schedule, about 16 cruise vessels would berth at Kai Tak Cruise Terminal from June 2013 to April 2014. They are expected to contribute to less than 0.2% of overall sulphur dioxide emissions. If cruise vessels use low sulphur fuel when berthing at the Kai Tak Cruise

Terminal, this can further reduce their air quality impacts in the vicinity. The Administration will continue to encourage cruise liners to participate in the incentive scheme.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB072

Question Serial No.

2799

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Since the inception of the Pilot Green Transport Fund (the "Fund"), please advise on:

1. The number of applications received, and the numbers of cases approved, rejected and under processing.
2. Details of the approved projects and the amounts of money involved.
3. How long can the Fund sustain with its balance? Will the Administration consider raising the cap on the subsidy for each approved project?
4. Will the Administration accept applications regarding non-land-transport green and innovative technologies under the Fund?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

- (a) As at 11 March 2013, the Pilot Green Transport Fund (the Fund) received 91 applications, of which 49 were approved, 28 withdrawn, seven rejected, and seven being processed.
- (b) Among the 49 approved applications, 44 of them have decided to take forward their proposals while five applications were terminated. These 44 approved applicants have put on trial or are making preparations for putting on trial a total of 79 vehicles (including 14 electric taxis, 11 electric coaches, 18 electric goods vehicles, 24 hybrid goods vehicles and 12 hybrid light buses). About \$76 million or 25% of the Fund has been committed for these trials.
- (c) We have been encouraging the transport trades to make use of the Fund to test out green innovative transport technologies. The balance of the Fund could support a good number of trials. At present, the subsidy cap for each applicant is \$9 million on one application and \$12 million for all its applications. We have no plan to increase the subsidy level of each approved trial.
- (d) Ferries can also apply to the Fund to conduct trial on green innovative transport technologies.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 19 March 2013

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

ENB073

Question Serial No.

2800

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Administration has mentioned that it will promote reduction of food waste through the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign. In this connection, please advise on the following:

- a) How much provision is earmarked for the promotion this year (i.e. 2013-14)? How much food waste is expected to be reduced?
- b) What are the themes and targets of the aforesaid campaign this year (i.e. 2013-14)?
- c) How do the government departments reduce food waste at receptions in support of the aforesaid campaign? Will relevant internal guidelines be laid down?
- d) Will the Administration consider providing subsidy to housing estates or owners' corporations for purchasing food waste composters?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

(a) and (b)

To take forward the Chief Executive's pledge to promote food waste reduction, the Government announced on 3 December 2012 the setting up of the Food Wise Hong Kong Steering Committee, which is chaired by the Secretary for the Environment and with members drawn from the relevant sectors, including catering and hotels, retail, property management, education, academia, green groups and food recipient organizations, as well as relevant government departments.

The Steering Committee is tasked with formulating and overseeing the implementation strategies of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign, which aims to promote public awareness of food waste problems in Hong Kong and co-ordinate efforts within the Government and public institutions to lead by example in food waste reduction. The objectives of the Steering Committee also include instilling behavioural change at the individual and household levels to help reduce food waste generation, drawing up and promoting good practices of food waste reduction at commercial and industrial establishments, and facilitating food donation to charitable organizations from establishments with surplus food. Under the Steering Committee two sub-committees have been set up and are responsible for education and promotion and the food waste reduction good practices for various sectors respectively. Various working groups have also been set up to support the works of the sub-committees.

The Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign would be launched shortly, with a series of activities to be rolled out, including public education initiatives through for instance TV and radio APIs, the launch of good practice guides, roving exhibitions and community events, a dedicated website, and food waste reduction workshops for various sectors, etc. We will keep in view the effect of the Campaign on the food waste reduction after the activities are rolled out. The manpower for the campaign is absorbed into the existing establishment. The planned budget for the Campaign in the year 2013-14 is around \$10 million.

- (c) The Government would lead by example in adopting green practices when attending and organizing events and meetings. Relevant circular has been promulgated to all Government Bureaux and Departments to avoid excessive food and using one-off disposable utensils when hosting meal events.
- (d) The Environment and Conservation Fund launched a funding scheme since July 2011 to support housing estates carrying out education programmes to encourage households food waste reduction and recycling of source-separated food waste by on-site facilities to useful compost products.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 19 March 2013

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

ENB074

Question Serial No.

2801

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Financial Secretary has earmarked \$5 billion for injection into the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) to further enhance public awareness of environmental protection, conduct related scientific research and encourage public participation in environmental protection activities. In this connection, please advise on the following:

- (a) Please list by a table the names, categories, details and funding amounts of projects which were funded through the Environment and Conservation Fund in the past year (2011-12).
- (b) What is the present balance of the Fund? How much longer can the Fund be expected to run after the injection? How will the Administration ensure that the Fund can operate on a continuous basis in future?
- (c) In the past year, what was the average processing time of each application? Have extra resources and manpower been set aside to cope with the possible increase in applications?
- (d) What categories of projects will be given priority in the Fund's allocations to complement the existing policies?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

- (a) In 2011-12, the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) funded 630 applicants from 342 organizations. A summary of funded projects by broad categories is given at the Appendix.
- (b) As at end 2012, the uncommitted balance of the ECF stood at about \$70 million. The proposed injection of \$5 billion to ECF is an endowment to generate investment returns for long term sustained support for community green actions. Subject to the approval of the Finance Committee for the proposed funding injection, the Administration will, in conjunction with the ECF Committee and ECF Investment Committee, work out suitable investment and budgeting strategies with a view to sustaining the long term operation of the ECF.
- (c) The processing time for individual applications will depend on the type of project and technical details involved, the scale, complexity and readiness of the project, the justifications of the proposed funding applied etc. Over the past year, the time taken to process applications generally ranged between three months to six months.

The Administration will closely monitor the workload arising from the proposed injection, and will consider seeking additional resources in accordance with the established mechanism as appropriate and necessary.

- (d) The current areas of priorities of ECF funding support are waste reduction and recovery (particularly food waste), energy conservation, research on environmental technologies, nature conservation, and environmental education programmes related to the above areas.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

**Details of Projects Granted Funding Support by the
Environment and Conservation Fund in 2011-12**

	Funding Scheme	Category	Approved Funding (\$)	Details
1	Environmental Education and Community Action Projects - General Projects	Environmental Education and Community Action	23,209,101.00	These environmental educational programmes and activities include seminars and workshops, exhibitions at public areas, eco-tours, competitions, etc. for a wide spectrum of audience such as the general public, youth, women groups, businesses to enhance community awareness and knowledge of environmental issues such as waste reduction and recycling, mobilize individuals to take action to conserve the environment and induce behavioural change towards a green lifestyle.
2	Environmental Education and Community Action Projects - Minor Works Projects	Minor works	52,931,270.50	Schools and non-government organisations (NGOs) set up environmental facilities such as green roof, renewable energy and energy efficiency installations and waste reduction facilities. Funding recipients have also organised educational activities riding on the facilities for their students and service recipients to promote awareness towards these green technologies and induce behavioural change towards a green lifestyle.
3	Community Waste Recovery and Source Separation Projects	Community Waste Recovery and Source Separation	34,458,602.20	Programmes include reduction and recycling of waste plastics, glass, used electrical and electronic equipment, food waste etc. to promote waste reduction and recovery in the community; and setting up of waste separation facilities on floors of buildings to facilitate waste separation at source.
4	On-site Meal Portioning Projects in Schools	On-site Meal Portioning in Schools	21,795,706.92	Schools carry out basic conversion works and install facilities for implementing on-site meal portioning to reduce food waste and avoid the use of disposable lunch boxes and cutleries.
5	Food Waste Recycling Projects in Housing Estates	Food Waste Recycling in Housing Estates	9,330,947.00	The funding scheme was launched in July 2011. Housing estates implement food waste recovery by setting up composters and organise education programmes on food waste reduction and separation at source.
6	Nature Conservation Management Agreement Projects	Nature Conservation	14,785,250.64	Under the management agreements, NGOs provide landowners or tenants with financial incentives in exchange for management rights over their land or their cooperation in enhancing conservation of priority sites of ecological importance.

	Funding Scheme	Category	Approved Funding (\$)	Details
7	Large-scale Environmental Education and Awareness Projects Coordinated by the Environmental Campaign Committee	Environmental Education and Awareness Programme	22,717,100.00	The Environmental Campaign Committee organizes large-scale programmes for targeted stakeholder groups to enhance community involvement. Major programmes include Student Environmental Protection Ambassador Scheme and Hong Kong Green School Award for the school sector; Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence (HKAAEE) for the business sector; as well as community-wide programmes such as the Combating Climate Change Campaign and World Environment Day activities.
8	Buildings Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes	Energy Conservation Projects	90,848,912.00	Residential, commercial, industrial buildings or composite buildings comprising any two of these three types of establishments carry out energy-cum-carbon audits to review the use of energy and quantify greenhouse gas emissions; and carry out improvement works to upgrade the energy efficiency performance of building services installations for communal use.
9	Energy Conservation Projects for Non-government Organizations	Energy Conservation Projects	41,463,498.78	NGOs carry out energy-cum-carbon audits in their premises to review the use of energy and quantify the greenhouse gas emissions; carry out improvement works to upgrade the energy efficiency performance; and organize educational activities to promote energy conservation and carbon reduction.
10	Environmental Research, Technology Demonstration and Conference Projects	Research and Conference	10,903,761.00	Tertiary institutions and non-profit making bodies carry out research on environment-related topics to build up research capacity and knowledge base, with a view to developing or introducing new and innovative technologies and practices to protect our environment and conserve resources. They also organize conferences to facilitate knowledge exchange on major environment-related issues.

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

ENB075

Question Serial No.

2815

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: As mentioned in the Budget Speech, the Government has earmarked \$500 million to set up waste electrical and electronic equipment processing facilities as well as community green stations. In this connection, please advise on the following:

- (a) The details of the plan to set up waste electrical and electronic equipment processing facilities, including the number of facilities, the types of electrical and electronic equipment that can be processed and the collection targets.
- (b) The details of the plan to set up community green stations, including the districts where the stations are to be set up, the facilities within the stations, the types of waste to be collected and the expected quantity of each type of waste to be collected.
- (c) Are the provisions earmarked sufficient to support the operation of the above two schemes? Do the provisions include expenses for encouraging the public to participate in waste reduction and recovery? If yes, what are the purposes of the provisions reserved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

- (a) According to our planning, the waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) treatment facility will have a designed capacity of 30 000 tonnes per annum in support of the future mandatory producer responsibility scheme which will cover television sets, washing machines, refrigerators, air conditioners and computer products. Currently, the prequalification exercise for the potential tenderers of this facility is in progress. We plan to invite tender by mid-2013 and seek funding approval from the Finance Committee as soon as practicable afterwards. Subject to funding approval, we plan to commission the facility in 2016.
- (b) As regards Community Green Stations, having taken into account the availability of suitable land and the need to maintain a geographical spread of the facilities across the territories, we have identified one potential site in each of the Legislative Council geographical constituencies and will consult the District Councils concerned, with a view to commencing the construction programme as soon as the sites are available. The green station operators, to be appointed by way of open tender, will collaborate with schools, property management and other relevant stakeholders or institutions on environmental education and coordination of recycling initiatives. Each community green station will have multi-purpose rooms

and workshop areas that are essential for the carrying out of its functions. Apart from accepting recyclables on-site, the green station operators will also reach out to the community to collect recyclables such as glass beverage bottles and WEEE for which there is outlet for proper recycling in Hong Kong but collection services by private recyclers are not available due to their low economic value. The amount of recyclables to be collected by the community green stations will depend on the support from the community, in particular the willingness of local stakeholders (such as property management) to collaborate for collection services.

- (c) We have earmarked \$500 million for setting up these facilities. The Government will continue to encourage the public to participate in waste reduction and recovery through various publicity and education programmes.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB076

Question Serial No.

2816

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the producer responsibility schemes (PRSs), please provide the following information:

- (a) Since the implementation of the first phase of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags in July 2009, what were the amount of levy collected, the amount of plastic waste received by the landfills and the amount of plastic recycled in each year (2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13)?
- (b) What were the types, quantities and expenditures involved in the collection and treatment of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) in Hong Kong in the past three years (2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13)?
- (c) Apart from plastic shopping bags, WEEE and glass containers, how many PRSs will be launched by the Administration? What are the details of consultation and implementation?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

- (a) The levy income collected by the Government under the first phase of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags (PSB Levy Scheme) was \$24.9 million in 2010-11, \$26.8 million in 2011-12 and \$29.8 million in 2012-13. The estimated quantities of waste plastic disposed of at landfills in 2010 and 2011 were around 710 and 620 thousand tonnes respectively, and the quantities of waste plastic recovered in 2010 and 2011 were around 1 580 and 840 thousand tonnes respectively. The compilation of figures on waste recovery and composition of waste disposed in 2012 is in progress and the relevant statistics are not yet available.
- (b) There are two main waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) recycling organizations in Hong Kong, namely St James' Settlement (SJS) and Caritas Hong Kong, and they are running two recycling programmes for WEEE and computer products respectively.

In general, items collected will be repaired for reuse as far as practicable, or dismantled for materials recovery. The total number of WEEE and computer items collected were 73 400 units in 2010-11, 106 800 units in 2011-12 and 113 600 units in 2012-13. These two organizations received funding

support from Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) and from Environmental Protection Department (EPD) respectively and the expenditure incurred during these three years were listed below:

	SJS programme (Funded by ECF) (\$ million)	Caritas programme (Funded by EPD) (\$ million)
2010-11	2.7	1.3
2011-12	3.1	1.4
2012-13	3.3	1.3

- (c) The Government is progressively implementing producer responsibility schemes (PRSs). Currently, priority is given to the preparation of legislative proposals for the extension of the PSB Levy Scheme and the introduction of PRS on waste electrical and electronic equipment. We have also launched a public consultation on the new mandatory PRS on glass beverage bottles in February 2013. In addition, the Government would continue to promote and give support to the voluntary recycling programmes including the recycling of computers, compact fluorescent lamps, rechargeable batteries and glass beverage bottles, which would help provide valuable operational experience paving way for the introduction of the territory-wide mandatory schemes.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB077

Question Serial No.

2817

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Department has mentioned that it will continue to carry out carbon audits on major government buildings and public facilities and encourage the participation of the private sector. In this connection, please advise on the following:

- (a) Please list out the current progress of carbon audit in major government buildings and public facilities, including the number of audited government buildings and public facilities, details of audits in progress, the number of buildings/facilities yet to be audited and the reasons.
- (b) How will the Department assist the above-mentioned audited government buildings and public facilities in reducing carbon emissions?
- (c) How will the Administration encourage the private sector to participate in carbon reduction initiatives? What are the expenditure and manpower involved? Will priority be given to more carbon-intensive sectors in conducting promotion and publicity?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

- (a) The Administration promulgated a comprehensive target-based green performance framework for government buildings in April 2009. *Inter alia*, bureaux / departments are encouraged to carry out regular carbon audit for government buildings completed before 2012 with construction floor area of more than 10 000 m²; and should aim to carry out carbon audit for new buildings of such size. So far, around 270 carbon audits on about 160 government buildings and public facilities have been conducted. A breakdown by type of buildings / facilities is provided below –

Type of government buildings / facilities	Number of carbon audits carried out
(i) government offices and headquarter buildings	177
(ii) public housing estates and shopping centres	6

Type of government buildings / facilities	Number of carbon audits carried out
(iii) community centres / halls	5
(iv) sewage treatment works facilities	7
(v) others, including air mail centre and resource centres	78

In addition, the Government has further rolled out in September 2012 a three-year programme to conduct energy-cum-carbon audits for about 120 Government buildings and public facilities. Carbon audits are being carried out on 31 government secondary schools, 10 swimming pools, 9 indoor markets and 8 indoor sports centres.

- (b) Government bureaux and departments that have completed carbon audits on their buildings and facilities have initiated actions to reduce their carbon footprint and energy usage, e.g. replacing T8 electromagnetic ballasted fluorescent lighting with T5 fluorescent lighting; use of light emitting diode (LED) "Exit" signs; installation of heat pumps for hot water supply; replacement of inefficient chillers; as well as adoption of green management practices etc.
- (c) To encourage private sector companies to adopt regular carbon auditing practice, actions are being taken by the Government to set up a carbon footprint repository in the form of a dedicated webpage for listed companies, primarily to facilitate disclosure of carbon audit findings, and sharing of carbon management experience and practices. To enable listed companies to gain a better understanding of the carbon audit process, as well as the needs and benefits for implementing effective emission reduction measures, the Government organized in end October 2012 a carbon audit workshop for listed companies. Over 300 participants from over 110 listed companies in Hong Kong attended the workshop. Furthermore, with funding support of some \$10 million from the Environment and Conservation Fund, a "CarbonSmart" Programme was rolled out by the Hong Kong Productivity Council in collaboration with a number of trade associations in March 2012 to incentivise private enterprises to conduct energy-cum-carbon audits. A matching fund of up to \$30,000 will be provided to each of some 200 companies to conduct the audit. The manpower and resources for conducting the above areas of work are met by funding provided under Head 44 or the Environment and Conservation Fund as appropriate, including around \$1.5 million for conducting the carbon audit workshop and setting up the carbon footprint repository for listed companies.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB078

Question Serial No.

3013

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: What are the respective numbers of visitors to the two regions and eight geo-areas of the Hong Kong Global Geopark of China (the "Geopark") since its opening? What is the expenditure for its operation and management? How many reports of vandalism by visitors have been received so far? And how will the Department publicize nature conservation through promoting visits to the Geopark?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

In 2012-13, the number of visitors to the Global Geopark was around 1.4 million. In 2012-13, the expenditure involved within the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) for the management and operation of the Global Geopark was \$29.2 million.

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has been actively promoting to the public a code of conduct for visiting geosites. In 2012-13, we received three complaints against malpractices of visitors including suspected vandalism. There were however no identifiable suspects or adequate evidence that could lead to prosecution action. We will continue our education and publicity efforts to raise the public awareness of the need and importance for the protection of our geosites. Regular patrols are also conducted to monitor visitors' behaviour and to promote the Code.

In 2013-14, the AFCD will continue its on-going efforts in promoting our Global Geopark and geo-conservation through a variety of education and publicity activities. Major activities include (a) production of multilingual promotion materials and electronic books for local and overseas tourists; (b) overseas promotion through the international platform of the Global Geoparks Network; (c) upgrading the skills of the geopark guides through the Accredited Geopark Guide System in conjunction with non-governmental organisations (NGOs); (d) training of tour operators and fishermen interested in geo-tours; (e) science popularisation programme for students through the Geopark School Programme; and (f) collaboration with NGOs and private sectors in setting up and operation of education and visitor centres.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 19 March 2013

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

ENB079

Question Serial No.

0028

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Government has been working on matters such as waste reduction at source and recycling, and will continue to implement measures for raising public awareness and enhancing community participation on waste reduction in 2013-14. However, with regard to the tonnage of waste received by the strategic landfills annually, there is basically little difference between the estimated figure for 2013 and the actual figure for 2012. Does it mean that the waste reduction measures introduced by the Government have little effect and limited effectiveness? Also, how was the estimated wasteload received in 2013 calculated? And how much money will be spent on the handling of waste received by the strategic landfills in 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Under a "reduction first" strategy, the Government will continue and enhance its efforts on a comprehensive strategy in promoting waste reduction and recycling as well as planning adequate environmental infrastructure to tackle our waste problem. Since 2005 when we published the Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste (2005-2014), the amount of total waste disposed of annually has recorded a cumulative reduction of 21%, from 6.45 million tonnes in 2005 to 5.07 million tonnes in 2012. However, within a long range trend, there will be year-to-year fluctuations in waste quantities which we have to handle. As a prudent approach in ensuring proper waste management service for the community, adequate funding is therefore reserved for handling a prospective amount of waste arising similar to that in the previous year. For 2013-14, we have reserved \$614 million for handling waste disposed of at the three strategic landfills.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 22 March 2013

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

ENB080

Question Serial No.

0029

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign has been formally launched in December 2012. How does this campaign operate and work actually? What are the number of tasks, the amount of food waste reduced or processed, the staff establishment and the amount of money spent under the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign since its inception? And what is the provision earmarked in 2013-14 to carry out more tasks for the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign? If so, what are the tasks?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

To take forward the Chief Executive's pledge to promote food waste reduction, the Government announced on 3 December 2012 the setting up of the Food Wise Hong Kong Steering Committee, which is chaired by the Secretary for the Environment and with members drawn from the relevant sectors, including catering and hotels, retail, property management, education, academia, green groups and food recipient organisations, as well as relevant government departments.

The Steering Committee is tasked with formulating and overseeing the implementation strategies of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign, which aims to promote public awareness of food waste problems in Hong Kong and co-ordinate efforts within the Government and public institutions to lead by example in food waste reduction. The objectives of the Steering Committee also include instilling behavioural change at the individual and household levels to help reduce food waste generation, drawing up and promoting good practices of food waste reduction at commercial and industrial establishments, and facilitating food donation to charitable organisations from establishments with surplus food. Under the Steering Committee two sub-committees have been set up and are responsible for education and promotion and the food waste reduction good practices for various sectors respectively. Various working groups have also been set up to support the works of the sub-committees.

The Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign would be launched shortly, with a series of activities to be rolled out, including public education initiatives through for instance TV and radio APIs, the launch of good practice guides, roving exhibitions and community events, a dedicated website, and food waste reduction workshops for various sectors, etc. The manpower for the campaign is absorbed from the existing establishment. The planned budget for the campaign in the year 2013-14 is around \$10 million.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 19 March 2013

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

ENB081

Question Serial No.

0069

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: What are the expenditures for the three landfills in Hong Kong respectively in 2012-13? How were they spent to deal with matters relating to the landfills? How will the extension of the three strategic landfills be conducted in 2013-14? Will it be merely an extension of the landfill areas? Or will consideration be given to developing more facilities for landfilling? Also, what is the estimated provision earmarked for handling matters relating to the landfills?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The operation costs for handling waste disposal at the South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill, North East New Territories (NENT) Landfill and West New Territories (WENT) Landfill in 2012-13 are \$218 million, \$150 million and \$223 million respectively. The operating costs include proper disposal of the various types of waste received at the landfills, managing the landfill gas and leachate generated as well as undertaking environmental monitoring to ensure that there is no adverse impact on public health and the environment, etc.

The extension of all three strategic landfills entails the extension of certain areas next to the existing landfills. Necessary associated facilities such as landfill gas treatment systems and leachate treatment plants will also be developed. The estimated expenditure involved in the preparatory work for the extension schemes in 2013-14 is \$6.4 million. We plan to seek funding approval from the Legislative Council later this year with a view to commissioning the landfill extension projects before they are exhausted.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB082

Question Serial No.

0075

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In respect of the handling of food waste, there is only one organic waste treatment facility at Kowloon Bay in Hong Kong currently. Its capacity for handling food waste is very limited. In 2012-13, how much money was spent in total on the organic waste treatment facility at Kowloon Bay? How was the money spent? Besides, this year's Budget also mentions that the Department will take forward the development of organic waste treatment facilities as soon as possible. In this connection, how will such work be conducted? When will the work be formally launched? What is the estimated amount of food waste to be treated daily on average after such work is conducted? And how much money will be required for the development of such facilities?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The 2012-13 estimated expenditure for the food waste pilot composting plant at Kowloon Bay is \$3.93 million for hiring a contractor to maintain and operate the facility.

We plan to develop the Organic Waste Treatment Facilities (OWTF) in phases. The first phase of OWTF will be developed at Siu Ho Wan of North Lantau with a treatment capacity of 200 tonnes per day. Tender for the design, build and operation (DBO) of this facility was invited on 8 February 2013. Subject to Finance Committee (FC)'s funding approval, we plan to award the DBO contract in early 2014 for commissioning the facility in 2016. The cost of developing the first phase of OWTF will depend on the returned tender price of the winning tender.

The second phase of OWTF will be developed at Sha Ling in the North District with a treatment capacity of 300 tonnes per day. We are now carrying out the engineering investigation and environmental impact assessment (EIA) studies for this facility. We plan to complete the EIA study in 2013 with a view to commissioning the facility in 2017.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 19 March 2013

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

ENB083

Question Serial No.

0077

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: This Year's Budget mentions that the Department will promote and enhance recovery and recycling activities. However, the development of the recovery industry has been quite constrained previously. Did the Government make any efforts or take any measures to support the development of various recyclers in the past? If yes, what were they? How much money was spent to support various recyclers in 2012-13? Besides, with the gradual implementation of various schemes on waste reduction at source, which are related to the recovery industry, will the Government introduce new measures to support the development of various recyclers in 2013-14? If yes, what is the estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Government has implemented a basket of initiatives to support the local recycling industry. The major initiatives include promoting source separation of waste to increase the quantities of recyclables available for recyclers to collect and process; providing short-term tenancy sites for leasing to recyclers; developing the EcoPark to provide long term land at affordable cost to recyclers; adopting a green procurement policy in the Government to increase market demand for recycled and environmental products; rolling out producer responsibility schemes (PRS) to finance proper recycling of products targeted under the schemes; and encouraging the development of recycling technologies through the Innovation and Technology Fund and the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF). The expenditure incurred by the department in 2012-13 on promoting source separation of waste related initiatives was about \$26.2 million.

In 2013-14, the Government will launch more initiatives on various fronts:

- The Government will step up efforts on waste reduction and waste separation at source, while progressively implementing PRS and the polluter-pays principle to boost the recovery and recycle rates of resource materials. The EPD plans to spend about \$39.53 million in 2013-14 to further promote the Programme on Source Separation of Waste, encourage community participation in waste reduction, recovery and recycling, promotion of PRS as well as food waste recycling.
- Since most of the recyclable materials are exported through the Public Cargo Working Area (PCWA), the Government will consider providing a stable supply of berths at PCWA for exclusive use by recyclers to export recyclable materials.

- To provide long-term and sustained support for green actions initiated by the community, the Government will inject \$5 billion into the ECF so that investment returns of the fund can be used to further enhance public awareness of environment protection, conduct related scientific research, and encourage public participation in environmental protection activities.
- The Government will develop five pilot community green stations in different parts of the territory to provide accessible and visible support for green living at the community level. Each of these green stations will be operated by a non-government organization (NGO) to be selected through open tender. In addition to holding publicity and educational programmes, the community green stations will support recycling efforts at community level, including reaching out to the community for the collection of recyclables, supporting the Community Recycling Network and conducting other measures to promote the separation of waste at source. We commenced the design of the green stations and aim to commission the stations in phases from late 2013. The estimated expenditure of the capital works and operation services in 2013-14 are \$44 million and \$21 million respectively.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB084

Question Serial No.

0078

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: (a) How many eco-blocks containing recycled glass does Hong Kong produce each year? What is the price difference between eco-blocks and general blocks made of sand or cement? How many eco-blocks does the Government procure each year on average for use in public works projects? What is the expenditure involved?

(b) At present, the recycling rate of glass bottles is relatively low. If the result of recycling of glass bottles is not satisfactory, how can the recycling of glass bottles and production of eco-blocks be sustained? How much annual expenditure is estimated to be sufficient for sustaining the recycling of glass bottles and production of eco-blocks?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

(a) It is estimated that on average, about 190 000 square metres of eco-pavers were produced annually in Hong Kong in the past two years. In the same period, about 160 000 square metres of eco-pavers were used annually in the public works projects on average and the expenditure involved in the relevant works was about \$52 million a year. According to the local manufacturers, the price of eco-pavers is about 25% higher than that of the conventional ones.

(b) The Government has proposed to introduce a mandatory producer responsibility scheme (PRS) for the proper management of glass beverage bottles generated in Hong Kong. Under the proposed PRS, the Government would by way of open tender appoint one or more management contractors for collection of glass beverage bottles in Hong Kong and to arrange proper treatment of the collected bottles to turn them into reusable materials for production of products or for use in appropriate applications. It is expected that the proposed PRS will recover 70% of all waste glass beverage bottles locally generated in Hong Kong, i.e. about 100 tonnes per day. In line with the "polluter pays" principle, a recycling fee will be imposed to recover the PRS costs. The exact fee level as well as the aggregate fee income will depend on the outcome of the open tender for the management contractor.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB085

Question Serial No.

3306

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Budget mentions that the Administration will continue to implement voluntary Producer Responsibility Schemes (PRSs) in 2013-14. What kind of PRSs will they be? How will they be implemented? And what is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has been supporting and promoting voluntary producer responsibility schemes on fluorescent lamps, computers, rechargeable batteries and glass bottles that are operated and funded by the relevant trades. In 2013-14, the EPD will spend about \$3.5 million in the publicity and promotion of these programmes.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB086

Question Serial No.

3307

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: It is mentioned in the Budget that the Government will set up waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) processing facilities. Where will the facilities be built? What is the size of the facilities? When will the construction begin? In what mode will the facilities be operated? What are the estimated construction and operating costs? What is the estimated quantity of WEEE to be processed after the construction of the facilities?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

We have reserved an area of three hectares in EcoPark for the development of the waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) treatment facility. The facility will have a designed capacity of 30 000 tonnes per annum in support of the future mandatory Producer Responsibility Scheme which will cover television sets, washing machines, refrigerators, air conditioners and computer products. It will be a "Design, Build and Operate" project and its construction may only commence after obtaining the funding approval and completing the tender procedures.

Currently, the prequalification exercise for the potential tenderers of this facility is in progress. We plan to invite tender by mid-2013 and seek funding approval from the Finance Committee as soon as practicable afterwards. Subject to funding approval, we plan to commission the facility in 2016. The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for the planning of the WEEE treatment facility is \$2.9 million.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB087

Question Serial No.

3314

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Budget mentions about the project on an integrated waste treatment facility to be developed in 2013-14. What types of waste will be treated by the facility? Where and when will it be built? How will it operate? What are the estimated treatment capacity and expenditure for its construction and operation?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

We plan to develop the Integrated Waste Management Facilities (IWMF) Phase 1 at an artificial island site to be reclaimed near Shek Kwu Chau, with a capacity of treating 3 000 tonnes of municipal solid waste each day. The facility will adopt modern moving grate incineration as the core technology to reduce the bulk volume of waste by about 90% and to recover energy from the waste. It will be designed, equipped with state-of-the-art air cleansing facilities and operated to meet the European Union's environmental standards.

We are awaiting the outcome of the judicial reviews against the IWMF Phase 1 project. We envisage that the tendering, design and construction of the IWMF Phase 1 project would take about seven years after we obtain the funding approval. Prior to seeking funding approval, we will review and update the project estimates.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB088

Question Serial No.

3315

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In respect of the Government's green procurement policy, what types of green materials or products will the Government mainly procure? Which departments will purchase and use green products? How many green products did the Government procure in 2012-13 and what was the expenditure involved? In addition, what is the expected expenditure on green procurement in 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Government has been taking the lead to adopt a green procurement policy. Green specifications were developed for items commonly used by bureaux and departments. At present, the number of products on the Government's green procurement list has been expanded to 103 items and the list is at Annex. For purchase of products with green specifications, bureaux and departments are encouraged to adopt the green specifications as far as practicable.

Bureaux and departments have been required to make annual report on their green procurement starting from March 2011, and we do not have records on green procurement before then. In 2011, the Government spent about \$830 million on the green procurement of the 103 products. We are now compiling the data on Government's expenditure on green procurement in 2012 and do not have an estimated expenditure for green procurement in 2013-14.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 22 March 2013

List of products with recommended green specifications

Building and construction supplies (category 01)	
01	Flooring materials
02	PVC pipe and fitting
03	Solvent-based/ Water-based paint
04	Carpet
05	Safety helmet
Cleansing Products (Category 02)	
01	All purpose cleaners
02	Laundry detergent/ Soap
03	Sanitary detergent
04	Soap toilet liquid
05	Cleaning rags and cotton waste
06	Disinfectant
Computer equipment and products (Category 03)	
01	Desktop computer
02	LCD monitor
03	Network products (including LAN switches, routers, cables, etc.)
04	Notebook computer
05	Printer
06	Server
07	All-in-one multifunctional devices (for copying, printing and fax)
08	Scanner
Electrical appliances and gas appliances and light fittings (Category 04)	
01	Domestic exhaust fan
02	Electric fan
03	Electric radiator (oil filled)
04	LPG hot plate
05	LPG water heater
06	Refrigerator
07	Room air cooler
08	Town gas cooker
09	Town gas water heater
10	Air Purifier/ Cleaner
11	Dehumidifier
12	Dish washer
13	Electric storage water heater
14	Electronic ballast for fluorescent tube/ lamp
15	Fluorescent tube/ compact fluorescent lamp
16	LCD projector

17	LED lamp for households and offices (including LED exit sign)
18	Microwave oven
19	Television
20	Vacuum cleaner
21	Washing machine
Fuel oils and hydrocarbon lubricants (Category 05)	
01	Automotive fuel oil
02	Lubricating oil/ grease
Furniture (Category 06)	
01	Chair
02	Mattress
03	Partition screen
04	Sofa
05	Steel filing cabinet
06	Workstation panel
07	Metal furniture
08	Wooden furniture
Household goods (Category 07)	
01	Bag/ Backpack
02	Gloves for field work (polythene, disposable)(rubber, industrial)(white cotton)
Office equipment (Category 08)	
01	Facsimile equipment
02	Photocopier
03	Fire extinguisher
04	Paper shredder
05	Hot/ cold bottled water dispenser
Paper for printing and photocopying (Category 09)	
01	Continuous stationery for computer-generated form
02	Photocopying recycled paper
03	Recycled paper for printing
04	Woodfree photocopying paper
05	Printing paper coated on both sides
06	Woodfree printing paper
Paper products other than for printing and photocopying (Category 10)	
01	Brown wrapping paper
02	Toilet paper & paper towel
03	Index card (paper)
Plastic and rubber products (Category 11)	
01	Garbage collection bin
02	Plastic garbage bag
03	Plastic bags (other uses)
04	Traffic bollard

05	General plastic products
06	General rubber products
Printing and publishing equipment and supplies (Category 12)	
01	Environment-friendly lithographic process inks
Shoes and boots (Category 13)	
01	Rainboot
02	Safety boot/ Shoe
Stationery and office supplies (Category 14)	
01	Adhesive tape & tape dispenser
02	Correction fluid and Thinner
03	File box
04	General office stationery
05	Ink/ Toner cartridge
06	Self-stick note pad
07	Paper envelope
08	Paper file jacket
09	Pen
10	Pencil
11	Plastic file jacket
12	Rechargeable battery
13	Standard/ Alkaline dry battery
14	Calculator
15	Correction tape
16	Glue/ Adhesive
17	Ink for stamp pad
18	Pre-inked stamp
Telecommunications and equipment and spares (Category 15)	
01	Key telephone system
02	Mobile phone
03	Radio communication system
04	Radio paging equipment
05	Radio transceiver
06	Telephone battery
Textile materials and garment (Category 16)	
01	Clothing and textile products
Vehicles and spare parts (Category 17)	
01	Environment-friendly vehicles (private/commercial vehicles)
02	Light bus
03	Rubber/ Retreaded tyre

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

ENB089

Question Serial No.

3328

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the legislative proposal on the Waste Disposal Ordinance to step up regulation of depositing abandoned construction and demolition materials on private land in 2013-14, deployment of manpower and installation of surveillance devices etc. are required for regulation. Please advise on the staff establishment, operation and expenditure in respect of the regulatory work.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is finalizing the legislative proposal with a view to introducing the Amendment Bill into the Legislative Council in the 2012-13 legislative session. The proposal aims to enhance the existing control against illegal deposition of construction and demolition waste on private land, by requiring prior notification to EPD on land owners' permission for the deposition activity.

Pending the deliberation of the legislative proposal by the Legislative Council, the Administration would examine the manpower and expenditure required to support effective implementation of the control. The need for additional resources, if any, would be considered under the normal resource allocation.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB090

Question Serial No.

3338

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the financial provision in respect of air, the revised expenditure for 2012-13 differs much from the original estimate. The revised estimate is lower than the original estimate. However, due to a miscalculation in the budget, the Administration has still decided to increase the estimate for 2013-14 significantly. Would the Administration explain how the estimate in respect of air, especially the estimate for 2013-14, was calculated?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The estimate under the Air Programme of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) for 2013-14 was calculated based on the best estimates of EPD's operational expenses and other non-recurrent expenses. Such estimate could vary from year to year due to the inclusion of non-recurrent expenditure items, changing expenditure patterns, increase in funded posts and etc. The following are the key reasons for the increase in expenditure for the Air Programme in 2013-14 –

- (a) increases in cash flow requirements for non-recurrent projects, including the one-off subsidy to assist petrol and liquefied petroleum gas taxis and light buses owners to replace once the catalytic converters and oxygen sensors of their vehicles, the operation of the Pilot Green Transport Fund and the trials of hybrid and electric buses by franchised bus companies;
- (b) increases in operating expenses for strengthening EPD's vehicle emission testing programmes, air quality monitoring activities and enhanced activities to combat climate change; and
- (c) a net increase of five posts for strengthening control on vehicle emissions, including the enforcement of the prohibition of idling vehicles running their engines and phasing out of pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB091

Question Serial No.

3344

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the tonnage of waste received by waste transfer stations annually, the estimate for 2013-14 is lower than the actual figures for 2013-14. Does it mean that these waste transfer stations have started to approach capacity and waste needs to be redirected to new transfer stations?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

In the Controlling Officer's Report, the projected quantity of waste received at the refuse transfer stations (RTSs) in 2013 is similar to the level of 2 337 560 tonnes in 2012, rounded down to the nearest hundred tonnes, i.e. 2 337 500 tonnes. At present, the RTSs are operating within their design capacities to meet the demand of waste transfer within their respective catchment areas. The Government will also keep in view the need for expanding the RTS network to cope with Hong Kong's development and waste management need.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB092

Question Serial No.

3354

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the "smoky vehicle reports processed", the estimated figure for 2013-14 is lower than the actual figure for 2012-13. Is it because the Government will introduce new measures to address the problem of smoky vehicles? Besides, what is the estimated expenditure for handling smoky vehicles in 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

In anticipation of more old diesel commercial vehicles to be phased out in 2013-14, we have estimated that the number of smoky vehicles for 2013-14 would be 7 600. This is lower than the actual figure, i.e. 7 932, for 2012-13.

The expenditure for the Smoky Vehicle Control Programme is absorbed by the resources provision of the Air Programme of the Environmental Protection Department.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB093

Question Serial No.

3355

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: What are the criteria for "indoor air quality certifications"? What are the estimated expenditures for handling and approving indoor air quality certifications in 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Certification Scheme (the Scheme) targets at offices or public places served by mechanical ventilation and air-conditioning systems. Premises qualified for the award of an IAQ certificate under the Scheme under the Excellent or Good IAQ categories will have to meet either set of the criteria as set out at the Annex.

Under the Scheme, the certification work is conducted by independent and accredited certification bodies. The Environmental Protection Department is responsible for the registration of the IAQ certificates through its IAQ Information Centre. The resources allocated for overseeing the Scheme and the registration of IAQ certificates in 2013-14 amount to about \$674,000.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Objectives for Offices & Public Places

Parameter	Unit	8-hour Average	
		Excellent Class	Good Class
Room Temperature	°C	20 to < 25.5	< 25.5
Relative Humidity	%	40 to < 70	< 70
Air Movement	m/s	< 0.2	< 0.3
Carbon Dioxide (CO ₂)	ppmv	< 800	< 1 000
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	µg/m ³	< 2 000	< 10 000
	ppmv	< 1.7	< 8.7
Respirable Suspended Particulates (PM10)	µg/m ³	< 20	< 180
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO ₂)	µg/m ³	< 40	< 150
	ppbv	< 21	< 80
Ozone (O ₃)	µg/m ³	< 50	< 120
	ppbv	< 25	< 61
Formaldehyde (HCHO)	µg/m ³	< 30	< 100
	ppbv	< 24	< 81
Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOC)	µg/m ³	< 200	< 600
	ppbv	< 87	< 261
Radon (Rn)	Bq/m ³	< 150	< 200
Airborne Bacteria	cfu/m ³	< 500	< 1 000

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

ENB094

Question Serial No.

3356

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding prosecutions instituted under the Air Pollution Control Ordinance and the Ozone Layer Protection Ordinance, how are the investigations conducted? And what is the staff establishment for investigation and prosecution respectively? Besides, what is the estimated expenditure involved in investigation and prosecution for 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Contraventions of the Air Pollution Control Ordinance (APCO) mainly involve industrial and commercial activities emitting air pollution causing a nuisance, installing furnaces and chimneys without prior approval, using more polluting fuels, in breach of licence conditions, carrying out works without required mitigation measures, or manufacturing / importing / selling products not complying with statutory specifications. Enforcement staff of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) identify these contraventions through complaint investigations or routine inspections. The work involved include identification of pollution emissions, collection of information of the polluting activities and persons involved; and if applicable, conducting samplings and testing for determining non-compliance with statutory limits and standards. Contraventions under the Ozone Layer Protection Ordinance (OLPO) concern the illegal import or export of ozone depleting substances. Suspected cases are usually identified by the Customs and Excise Department at the points of import or export. EPD enforcement staff would work with the Customs and Excise Department to collect evidences concerning the substances, the act of import or export and the companies or persons involved to establish an offence for prosecution.

The above investigation and prosecution activities form part of the EPD's routine integrated enforcement duties that cover different aspects of environmental pollution under the various programmes. We do not have separate accounts for staff and expenses involved in the handling of these two ordinances.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB095

Question Serial No.

3357

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In 2013-14, the air quality objectives (AQOs) will be updated through legislation. There will be a more complex index system developed with reference to health risks. How is the updating of the system carried out? And what is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

To tie in with the implementation of the new AQOs in 2014, we propose to replace in January 2014 the Air Pollution Index system (API) with a new health risk-based Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) system. To facilitate a smooth implementation of the new AQHI system, we need to ensure the public and relevant stakeholders have a good understanding of the proposed changes. Our preparatory work includes:

- consulting the health professionals, academics, green groups and other key stakeholders on the new AQHI system and engaging relevant parties to promote the new system and educate the public of the significance of AQHI;
- liaising with relevant Government bureaux/departments to prepare and update guidelines and response plans together with the relevant stakeholders regarding the health advice and response plans for high risk groups during poor AQHI days;
- providing briefing sessions to relevant key stakeholders such as schools to explain the AQHI system and the associated health advices;
- upgrading the back-end computing system and revamping the Environmental Protection Department's website, interactive voice recording system, mobile alert system, etc. for efficient dissemination of the new AQHI information; and
- planning and launching publicity programmes to publicize the new system before its implementation.

The associated expenditure in 2013-14 will be absorbed by the provision for the Air Programme of the Environmental Protection Department.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB096

Question Serial No.

3358

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the efforts to reduce emissions from motor vehicles, how is the combating work conducted and what is the staffing provision? What is the number of successful cases of reducing emissions from motor vehicles in 2012-13? What is the estimated expenditure for such work in 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

To tackle vehicles which emit excessively, we have been operating the Smoky Vehicle Control Programme (SVCP) since 1988 to screen out vehicles emitting smoke in excess of the statutory limit. The owners of these smoky vehicles will receive from the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) an Emission Testing Notice (ETN) requiring their vehicles to pass a dynamometer smoke test at a Designated Vehicle Emission Testing Centres (DVETC) within 12 working days upon the issue of ETN for ascertaining the rectification of the excessive smoke problem. Failure to comply with the requirement will lead to cancellation of vehicle licences by the Commissioner for Transport. In addition, EPD and the Police conduct roadside joint inspection of smoky vehicles, and a fixed penalty of \$1,000 will be issued to owners of vehicles emitting excessive smoke. All commercial vehicles seeking licence renewal are required to pass a smoke test as part of the Transport Department's roadworthiness examination.

In 2012-13, EPD processed 7 932 smoky vehicle reports. After excluding reports of duplicated spotting or with incorrect information, 6 057 ETNs were issued. 6 343 smoke tests were conducted at DVETC and 135 vehicles were recommended for licence cancellation. In addition, 492 vehicles were tested during roadside joint inspections. As a result, the Police issued 110 fixed penalty tickets and 108 summons to vehicles with excessive smoke.

The resources deployed for the programme are part and parcel of the Air Programme of the EPD and have been absorbed by the existing provisions.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB097

Question Serial No.

3359

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Apart from setting aside funds to subsidise the replacement of diesel commercial vehicles with high emissions, what are the measures to encourage wider use of more environment-friendly vehicles? What was the expenditure on the work done in 2012-13? Besides, what is the estimated expenditure involved in 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

To reduce roadside pollution, the Government has been making efforts to promote the use of green vehicles with less emissions through the Environment-friendly Vehicle Scheme, the Pilot Green Transport Fund (the Fund), and the development of electric vehicles (EV).

Under the Environment-friendly Vehicle Scheme, the Government offers concessions in the first registration tax to vehicle owners who purchase environment-friendly vehicles which have outstanding performance in emission and fuel efficiency. This tax incentive programme involves only revenue forgone but not expenditure. In 2012-13, the tax forgone is estimated to be about \$2.19 billion.

The Fund was set up with \$300 million in March 2011 to encourage public transport operators and goods vehicle owners to test out green and innovative transport technologies. As of 11 March 2013, 44 approved applicants have put on trial or are making preparations for putting on trial a total of 79 vehicles (including 14 electric taxis, 11 electric coaches, 18 electric goods vehicles, 24 hybrid goods vehicles and 12 hybrid light buses). About \$76 million, or 25% of the Fund, have been committed for these trials. The Fund will continue to receive applications in 2013-14 and the estimated expenditure for the Fund in 2013-14 is \$74.8 million.

As for EVs, the Government has extended the waiver of the First Registration Tax for EVs for a period of five years till end March 2014. We have also accelerated the tax deduction for capital expenditure on EVs such that enterprises can enjoy a 100% profits tax deduction in the first year of procurement. The Government has also been taking the lead in procuring and using EVs. In terms of infrastructural facilities, there are now over 1 000 standard EV chargers, covering all 18 districts, and some 10 quick chargers, in Hong Kong. At present, 18 EV models are available in Hong Kong. They are of various vehicle types, including private cars, motorcycles, goods vehicles and buses. More than 430 EVs are in use, up from 74 in end 2010 and 242 in end 2011. In the coming year, we will continue to liaise closely with EV dealers to encourage them to introduce EVs into the Hong Kong market, and launch publicity activities to promote the

wider adoption of EVs. We will also continue to monitor the growth of EVs and consider the need to further expand the charging network in a timely manner. As compared to \$8.6 million spent in 2012-13, about \$8.4 million has been reserved in 2013-14 for promoting the use of EVs through various channels, including the provision for the dedicated support team in Electrical and Mechanical Services Department and other publicity activities.

Name in blockletters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB098

Question Serial No.

3360

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the enforcement of the statutory ban on idling vehicles with running engines, the Government expected to issue 3 600 fixed penalty notices to offenders of anti-idling legislation in 2012-13. There is a great difference from the actual figure of six cases. How did the Administration arrive at the projected number? It seems unreasonable to have only six cases in one year. Is it due to a lack of manpower and inadequate frequency of inspection? What were the staff establishment, frequency of inspection and expenditure involved in 2012-13? What are the estimated number of fixed penalty notices to be issued and the expenditure involved in inspection and prosecution in 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Motor Vehicle Idling (Fixed Penalty) Ordinance prohibits drivers from idling a vehicle engine for more than three minutes in any 60-minute period. It empowers Traffic Wardens and Environmental Protection Inspectors to issue fixed penalty notices (FPN) to drivers violating the idling engine ban. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will co-ordinate enforcement-cum-publicity activities with traffic wardens at idling engine black spots.

The estimate of issuing 3 600 FPN in 2012-13 was made in 2011 when the EPD and the Police had no experience in enforcing the idling engine ban. Most drivers of idling vehicles switched off their vehicle engines when law enforcement staff started timing. From April 2012 to February 2013, law enforcement staff timed 1 421 vehicles with idling engines and issued FPN to seven drivers who failed to switch off their engines within three minutes. Our ultimate objective is to help drivers foster the green driving habit of stopping the engines of idling vehicles. EPD has thus been giving a lot of emphasis on education and enforcement. From April 2012 to February 2013, apart from Traffic Wardens enforcing the ban as part of their patrol duty, 340 enforcement-cum-publicity activities were conducted at idling engine black spots together with other educational activities such as distributing leaflets and posters, staging outdoor roving exhibitions, broadcasting reminders through television and radio stations, and displaying messages on parking metres, banners and bus shelters. The estimated number of FPN to be issued in 2013-14 is 6.

The EPD and the Police are responsible for the enforcement of the idling engine ban. In the EPD, the associated expenditure is absorbed by the existing provision for the Air Programme.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB099

Question Serial No.

3361

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Currently, the delivery of much of the waste and refuse to landfills is funded by the Government. Will this involve some cleansing work required after delivery of refuse? If yes, what is the work? How is it conducted? And what is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

All the landfill and refuse transfer station (RTS) contracts managed by the Environmental Protection Department include provisions for washing the external faces of outgoing waste collection vehicles and regular cleansing within the facilities as well as along adjacent roads leading to the facilities. This type of work is included in the operating fees paid to the landfill and RTS contractors and no separate breakdown is provided.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB100

Question Serial No.

3362

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Government will subsidise owners of petrol and liquefied petroleum gas taxis and light buses on a one-off basis to encourage them to replace the catalytic converters in their vehicles. Please advise on the eligibility criteria for the grant. How many vehicles are expected to be subsidized to replace their catalytic converters in 2013-14? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

All liquefied petroleum gas and petrol-fuelled taxis and light buses registered under the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap. 374) are eligible for Government's subsidy to replace their catalytic converters on a one-off basis. The Government has set aside \$150 million for this subsidy programme. The projected expenditure of the subsidy programme in 2013-14 will depend on the outcome of the tender exercise to identify contractors for the supply of the replacement parts and the provision of the replacement services. We are conducting the tender assessment. Out of the some 22 000 eligible vehicles for the subsidy, we estimate that about 14 000 vehicles will have their catalytic converters replaced in 2013-14.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB101

Question Serial No.

3366

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Environmental Protection Department will work with the Transport Department to strengthen the control of emissions from petrol and liquefied petroleum gas vehicles. Please advise how the anticipated work will be commenced and what are the staffing provisions and expenditures involved.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will strengthen emission control for petrol and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicles. There are two key initiatives, i.e. subsidizing LPG/petrol taxis and light buses' owners to replace once the catalytic converters and oxygen sensors of their vehicles; and deploying roadside remote sensing devices and dynamometers for emission testing. EPD is now vetting the tenders for the supply of catalytic converters and ancillary parts, and the replacement services. If the tender assessment is smooth, we aim to award the contracts in mid 2013 for commencing the replacement exercise in the following quarter. The replacement of converters will take about nine months to complete. After the completion of the replacement exercise, EPD will deploy remote sensing equipment on roads and testing emissions using dynamometers as part of the strengthened regulatory control on emissions of LPG and petrol vehicles.

The Legislative Council approved \$150 million for the above replacement exercise. The expenses of the strengthened control will be absorbed by existing provisions of the Air Programme of the EPD.

In addition, EPD has been working with the Transport Department to introduce the dynamometer emission test during annual inspections for petrol and LPG vehicles. These include the resolution of technical issues and resources requirements.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB102

Question Serial No.

3370

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: What are the operation and financial position of the Pilot Green Transport Fund? What are the eligibility criteria for the Fund? What is the amount of subsidy that an applicant can apply for? What was the expenditure incurred by the Fund in 2012-13 and what is the estimated expenditure in 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

As of 11 March 2013, 44 approved applicants have commenced or are preparing the trials of a total of 79 vehicles (including 14 electric taxis, 11 electric coaches, 18 electric goods vehicles, 24 hybrid goods vehicles and 12 hybrid light buses) under the Pilot Green Transport Fund (the Fund). About \$76 million or 25% of the Fund have been committed for these trials.

The Fund subsidizes the public transport sector including ferries, taxis, public light buses, vehicles of charitable / non-profit-making organizations providing services to their clients, franchised buses and non-franchised public buses, as well as goods vehicles (including special purpose vehicles) to test green and innovative transport technologies. The subsidy covers the capital cost of the green product proposed for trial but not the associated recurrent expenditure which has to be borne by the applicant. For the trial of an alternative-fueled vehicle, the subsidy is capped at 50% of such vehicle's cost or the price difference between such vehicle and its conventional counterpart, whichever is higher. A transport operator may apply to the Fund to try out different technologies or to test products under the same application subject to a maximum subsidy limit of \$9 million for each application and \$12 million in total for each applicant.

The estimated expenditure for the Fund in 2012-13 is about \$12.2 million and that for 2013-14 is about \$74.8 million.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 2 April 2013

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

ENB103

Question Serial No.

3392

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: At present, all six Phase I lots in the EcoPark in Tuen Mun Area 38 have been leased out. How effective is it? How much waste can be recovered for treatment on average by the respective recyclers in the EcoPark? And what was the expenditure of the EcoPark in 2012-13? Moreover, tender invitation for leases of the Phase 2 lots has ended. How many companies are expected to operate there and what is the expenditure? In 2013-14, how will the Administration monitor the operation of the EcoPark and what is the expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Among the six Phase 1 tenants, five of them have started their operation one by one since 2010 and successfully recovered about 24 000 tonnes of waste cooking oil, 56 000 tonnes of waste metals, 1 500 tonnes of waste computer equipment, 3 200 tonnes of waste plastics and 6 200 tonnes of waste wood up to December 2012. The remaining tenant (recycling waste batteries) has substantially completed the machinery installation and the plant is in the testing and commissioning stage.

The Administration has engaged a management contractor at a lump sum monthly fee of about \$1.5 million to manage the EcoPark. The fee covers all facility management expenses, assisting EcoPark tenants to develop their recycling business, implementing promotional and waste recovery activities, as well as operating the Visitor Centre and a dedicated website.

In the two tendering exercises in 2011 and 2012, a total of six Phase 2 lots were awarded to private recyclers for recycling waste metals, waste batteries, construction wastes, waste glass, waste electrical and electronic equipment, waste rubber tyres and food waste. Planning and construction of these recycling plants are underway and it is expected they will commence operation from 2013-14.

The Administration will continue to monitor the EcoPark tenants in accordance with the lease agreements and facilitate their value-added regarding operations.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB104

Question Serial No.

3393

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: It is mentioned in the Budget that the Government will introduce legislative proposal to extend the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags in 2013-14. What is the work involved in introducing the proposal? For example, will experts be hired for conducting consultancy studies or will public consultation be held? What is the expenditure of the work involved in introducing the proposal?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The legislative proposals for the extension of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags seek to apply the levy scheme across-the-board in the retail sector. The Government conducted a public consultation in 2011 and reported the proposed way forward to the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs in November 2011. During the preparation of the legislative proposals, a consultancy study (with contract cost of about \$0.5 million) was commissioned to look into food packaging methods and the findings of the study have been taken into account in drawing up the detailed proposals regarding food hygiene exemption. Other preparatory work, mainly for publicity and public education will also be undertaken with an estimated expenditure of \$6 million in 2013-14.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB105

Question Serial No.

3394

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the implementation of a new mandatory producer responsibility scheme for waste electrical and electronic equipment, what are the rough details of the scheme? What work has been done and what is the expenditure involved? In addition, how will the Administration proceed with the preparation of the legislative proposal in 2013-14? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The mandatory Producer Responsibility Scheme (PRS) on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) is being developed with the intention to engage different stakeholders (including but not limited to importers, distributors, retailers, consumers, exporters and recyclers) in sharing the eco-responsibility to ensure that locally generated WEEE is collected for proper treatment in Hong Kong. The Environmental Protection Department conducted a public consultation in 2010 and reported the proposed way forward in 2011. Since then we have been preparing legislative proposals for introduction to the Legislative Council in the 2013-14 legislative session. The expenditure incurred for the mandatory PRS on WEEE in 2013-14 for the relevant research and promotional work as well as the planning and development of a WEEE treatment and recycling facility is estimated to be \$4.5 million.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB106

Question Serial No.

3398

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please advise on how to work with franchised bus companies on the retrofitting programme for Euro II and Euro III buses with selective catalytic reduction devices. What are the expenditure for 2012-13 and the estimated expenditure for 2013-14 involved in the promotion of the programme?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Together with the franchised bus companies, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) have retrofitted a total of six Euro II and III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices (SCRs) for trial. The associated resources of the trial have been absorbed by existing provisions of the EPD. The SCRs have been in operation for over 12 months. EPD is now finalizing the trial results with the franchised bus companies. Subject to satisfactory trial results, the Government will fully fund the retrofit of Euro II and III franchised buses with the devices, and will further discuss with franchised bus companies regarding the detailed arrangements of the large-scale retrofit. \$550 million has been set aside for the large-scale retrofit programme.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB107

Question Serial No.

3399

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding collaboration with franchised bus companies on the trial of hybrid buses and electric buses, when will the trial be formally launched? How many hybrid buses and electric buses are expected to be available on the market and run on roads in 2013-14? What is the expenditure involved in the trial scheme? How is the expenditure shared between the Government and the bus companies?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The franchised bus companies have already placed orders for the procurement of six hybrid buses and are making preparations to procure 36 electric buses for testing out their performance in local conditions. Both trials are expected to commence in 2014 upon the delivery of the buses and will last for two years, with a mid-term review to be conducted about one year after commencement of trial. The Government will fully subsidise the capital cost of these buses, including the related charging facilities for the electric buses. The approved funding for the procurement of the six hybrid buses and 36 electric buses for trial are \$33 million and \$180 million respectively. The franchised bus companies will be responsible for the recurrent costs arising from operating these buses and the related charging facilities.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB108

Question Serial No.

3402

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please advise how the emissions from non-road mobile sources can be controlled? What are the staffing provision and the estimated expenditure for the control actions?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Non-road mobile machinery (NRMM) includes a wide range of mobile or transportable machinery powered by internal combustion engines and used primarily off the road, such as at the airport, container terminals and construction sites. To reduce the air pollutant emissions from NRMM, we proposed all new NRMM to be supplied for local use to meet emission limits on par with international standards. The proposal has been presented to the Panel on Environmental Affairs in 2012 and received support of the Panel. We are working on the legislative proposals and aim to submit the draft legislation to the Legislative Council later this year.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB109

Question Serial No.

3404

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the control of ozone depleting substances and products containing these substances, please advise in what way the control will be conducted, as well as the manpower and estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Ozone Layer Protection Ordinance (OLPO) (Cap. 403) and its subsidiary legislation regulate the production, import and export of ozone depleting substances and products containing these substances in accordance with the phasing out schedule of ozone depleting substances laid down in the 1987 Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and its subsequent amendments. At present, production of ozone depleting substance is prohibited. Only the hydrochlorofluorocarbons, which have less ozone depleting potentials, are allowed to be imported and exported through a licensing and quota system. In addition, the import of controlled products, such as refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment, aerosol product and insulation panel containing scheduled ozone depleting substances, has also been banned. The OLPO enforcement is part of the Air Programme of the Environmental Protection Department and the associated expenditure has been absorbed under its provisions.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB110

Question Serial No.

3407

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding implementing measures under the air quality management plan in collaboration with the Guangdong authorities, how do the cooperative efforts proceed? What work was done in the past? And what are the staff establishment and estimated expenditure in respect of these cooperative efforts?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection (JWGSDEP) was set up in 2000 to strengthen the cooperation between Hong Kong and Guangdong on matters relating to the environment and sustainable development. Expert groups and special panels have been set up under the Working Group for both sides to discuss and collaborate on issues of mutual concern, including on improving regional air quality. The Regional Air Quality Management Plan (The Plan) was first drawn up in 2003, and the progress of implementing emission reduction measures in accordance with the Plan has been regularly reviewed by the Special Panel on Pearl River Delta Air Quality Management and Monitoring under JWGSDEP. Additional enhanced measures have been included in the Plan as appropriate. Such measures mainly focus on power plants, motor vehicles and the highly polluting industrial processes, e.g. requiring installation of desulphurization, low-NO_x and denitrification systems at coal-fired power generation units; tightening vehicle fuel standards, and raising vehicle emission standards etc. Environmental co-operation with Guangdong authorities is mainly coordinated by the Cross-boundary and International Division (the Division) of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD). A total of 36 staff at various levels are involved in the Division. In 2013-14, some \$26 million has been earmarked under Head 44 – EPD to cover the personal emoluments, associated general departmental expenses, as well as expenses necessary for taking forward various cross boundary environmental initiatives with the Mainland.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB111

Question Serial No.

3409

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please advise how the Administration will promote the adoption of cleaner production technologies and practices by Hong Kong-owned factories in Guangdong Province. Is it by offering concessions or providing subsidies directly? Please provide details. In 2012-13, what were the number of successful cases and the expenditure involved? In 2013-14, what are the estimated number of successful cases and the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

In April 2008, we launched a five-year Cleaner Production Partnership Programme (the Programme) in conjunction with the Economic and Trade Commission of the Guangdong Provincial Government to encourage and facilitate Hong Kong-owned factories operating in the Pearl River Delta (PRD) Region to adopt cleaner production technologies and practices with a view to reducing emissions and enhancing energy efficiency. The Programme provides funding support to participating factories to carry out on-site improvement assessments, implement demonstration projects and engage third party verification services to help verify the effectiveness of improvement projects. The Programme also organises awareness promotion and publicity activities, such as seminars, workshops, briefings and factory visits. The Hong Kong - Guangdong Cleaner Production Partners Recognition Scheme is also jointly organized under the Programme to give recognition to Hong Kong-owned factories and commercial enterprises in the PRD which vigorously pursued cleaner production. Some \$93 million was provided by the Government for the Programme. In 2012-13, 288 funding applications were approved, involving funding commitment of \$7.39 million.

In the light of the environmental benefits brought by the Programme and the positive feedback from the industries, the Government will extend the Programme for another two years from 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2015 with an allocation of \$50 million to encourage and enable more Hong Kong-owned factories to participate. In 2013-14, a sum of \$25 million has been earmarked to provide funding support for some 200 projects.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB112

Question Serial No.

3410

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: With regard to carbon audits carried out on major government buildings and public facilities in 2012-13, how many audits were conducted and what were the distribution of audited buildings and the expenditure involved? In 2013-14, will the Administration consider increasing the number of audits? And what is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Administration promulgated a comprehensive target-based green performance framework for government buildings in April 2009. So far, around 270 carbon audits on about 160 government buildings and public facilities have been conducted. To take the lead in promoting carbon audit, in September 2012, the Government further rolled out a three-year programme to conduct energy-cum-carbon audits for about 120 Government buildings and public facilities. Service providers were engaged to carry out such audits on 31 government secondary schools, 10 swimming pools, 9 indoor markets and 8 indoor sports centres in 2012-13. Relevant funding commitment amounts to \$4.22 million. For 2013-14, we will continue with the three-year programme, and around \$4.6 million has been earmarked for this purpose.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB113

Question Serial No.

3413

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: How will the Government continue to oversee the inter-departmental efforts in formulating mitigation and adaptation measures for climate change in 2013-14? What are the staff establishment and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

An Inter-departmental Working Group on Climate Change led by the Environment Bureau, comprising representatives from different bureaux and departments, has been set up to strengthen co-ordination of efforts in tackling climate change. The Working Group monitors and co-ordinates efforts within the Administration in implementing measures to reduce carbon emissions, facilitate adaptation to climate change in Hong Kong, as well as promoting public awareness and understanding of climate change and its likely impacts. The Climate Change Policy Co-ordination Team under the Environmental Protection Department supports the work of the Working Group with a total of 14 staff at various levels. In 2013-14, some \$14 million has been earmarked to cover the personal emoluments, associated general departmental expenses, and other necessary expenses for taking forward climate change related initiatives.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB114

Question Serial No.

3414

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: It is mentioned in the expenditure estimate that the actual number of complaints handled in 2012 was 6 835. What were the specific types of the complaints and the expenditure involved in handling the complaints?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The air pollution complaints handled by the Administration fall into the major categories below:

Major Categories	Number of Complaints in Year 2012
Malodour	3 003
Greasy fumes/cooking odour	1 211
Construction dust/ air nuisance	1 096
Asbestos	103
Others (e.g. open burning, burning of incense paper, etc.)	1 422
Total	6 835

The handling of pollution complaints forms part of the Environmental Protection Department's routine integrated enforcement duties that cover different aspects of environmental pollution under the various programmes. We do not have separate accounts for the expenditure specifically for handling air complaints.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB115

Question Serial No.

3417

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Noise

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: How does the Government plan to promote the use of quieter construction equipment? Is it intended for government or private construction works? Under what circumstances is quieter construction equipment required? And what are the implementation plan and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Since 2005, we have been promoting the use of Quality Powered Mechanical Equipment (QPME) for construction works through an administrative labeling system. Under the system, powered mechanical construction equipment that are new, notably quieter, more environmentally friendly and efficient can be certified for inclusion into the QPME database and use a label. To encourage the use of these equipment for all projects, as from April 2008, capital expenditure on QPME can be deducted from profit tax.

As the on-going promotion and relevant administration works form parts of the routine work of Environmental Protection Department, there is no separate account on the resources involved.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB116

Question Serial No.

3418

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Noise

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: With regard to the programme to tackle noise impact of existing roads, what are the planned locations for implementation in 2013-14? Will the programme be extended to a wider scope or carried out at certain noise black spots only? Besides, what are the staff establishment and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

We tackle noise impact of existing roads through the noise barrier retrofitting programme and the low noise road surface trial programme. Though subject to technical feasibility, these programmes cover the entire territory. In 2013-14, noise barrier retrofitting works will continue at 8 locations, and we are planning to resurface additional 7 road sections with low noise road surfacing material. The locations of the road sections are listed below:

Retrofitting works

1. Tuen Mun Road (Tsuen Wan)
2. Tuen Mun Road (Yau Kom Tau)
3. Tuen Mun Road (Castle Peak Bay)
4. Tuen Mun Road (Anglers' Beach)
5. Tuen Mun Road (Sham Tseng)
6. Tuen Mun Road (Tsing Lung Tau)
7. Fanling Highway (MTR Fanling Station to Wo Hing Road)
8. Tai Po Tai Wo Road (near Po Nga Court)

Resurfacing works

1. Aberdeen Main Road (from Aberdeen Praya Road to Aberdeen Reservoir)
2. Sai Chuen Road (from Fu Sing House to Fu Wan House)
3. Sha Tin Wai Road (from Sha Tin Road to Ngan Shing Street)
4. Sung On Street (from Bailey Street to Chi Kiang Street)
5. Wan Hoi Street (from Dyer Avenue to Tak On Street)
6. Ngan Shing Street (from Siu Lek Yuen Road to Tak Wing Street)
7. Tin Sam Street (from Che Kung Miu Road to Hung Mui Kuk Road)

In addition, noise barrier retrofitting works at another 23 road sections are under preliminary planning. Feasibility of resurfacing works at another 10 road sections are also under review.

The works to tackle noise impact of existing roads form part of the on-going routine work of Environmental Protection Department. There is therefore no separate account on the resources involved in this regard.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB117

Question Serial No.

3454

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Water

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Apart from continuing to pursue various existing sewage treatment and sewerage systems, will the Government expand the sewage treatment and sewerage facilities in 2013-14, so that more sewage can be treated? If yes, what is the estimated expenditure? What is the expenditure involved in pursuing various existing sewage treatment and sewerage systems?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Administration will continue to expand and enhance the sewerage system by pursuing various sewage treatment and sewerage projects. For this objective, the Environmental Protection Department is responsible for the planning of public sewerage, whereas the Drainage Services Department is responsible for the implementation, operation and maintenance of the sewerage system. In 2013-14, the estimated expenditure of the on-going and new sewerage projects is about \$4.6 billion. These include the upgrading and expansion of existing sewage treatment works (STWs) such as the Stonecutters Island STW, Pillar Point STW and Tai Po STW, construction of new STWs such as the Yung Shue Wan STW and Sok Kwu Wan STW, construction of new sewers and upgrading of existing sewers in various urban and rural areas of Hong Kong. All these projects contribute to expanding and enhancing the sewerage system to collect and treat more sewage.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB118

Question Serial No.

3461

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (4) Water

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the management of cross-boundary water quality, which water sources are targeted for management? Dongjiang water or water from other places? Besides, how will the water be managed? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by:Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is cooperating with the Department of Environmental Protection of Guangdong Province (GDEPD) and the Human Settlements and Environment Commission of Shenzhen Municipality (SZHEC) through joint projects to address cross-boundary water quality management issues of adjoining waters including the Pearl River Estuary and Deep Bay. The details and estimated expenditure of the on-going and planned projects are set out below:

Project	Details	Estimated Expenditure
Pearl River Estuary Regional Water Quality Joint Management Planning Advance Study	The study is being carried out jointly by EPD and the GDEPD. The objective is to evaluate the pollution load carrying capacity of the Pearl River Estuary under different water quality targets. The study findings will provide a scientific basis for the formulation of a regional water quality management strategy. The study commenced in early 2010 and is aimed for completion by end 2013.	\$10 million
Second Review of the "Deep Bay (Shenzhen Bay) Water Pollution Control Joint Implementation Programme"	The study will be carried out jointly by EPD and the SZHEC. The objective is to evaluate the effectiveness of the water pollution control programmes for Deep Bay and to draw up necessary additional measures for improving the Deep Bay water quality. The study will commence in the first half of 2013.	\$9.8 million

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB119

Question Serial No.

3467

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (5) Environmental Assessment and Planning

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The actual number of applications processed under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance in 2012-13 was 105. Please provide information on the types of the applications and the assessment progress. Besides, what is the estimated expenditure for processing the applications in 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has processed 105 applications under the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Ordinance in 2012. The applications included:

- 17 applications for EIA study brief
- 4 applications for permission to apply directly for environmental permit
- 7 applications for approval of EIA report
- 28 applications for environmental permit and further environmental permit
- 38 applications for variation of environmental permit
- 11 applications for surrender of environmental permit

All 105 applications have been completely processed within 2012.

In 2013-14, the total expenditure of EPD in supporting the operation of the EIA mechanism as well as providing inputs to land use planning process will be \$88.7 million. We do not have a separate account for processing applications under the EIA Ordinance.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB120

Question Serial No.

3475

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Environmental Assessment and Planning

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the approval of applications under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance, under what circumstances will the applications be rejected or accepted and what criteria are used to determine whether they are approved? Will public consultation be included? And what is the expenditure for the entire approval procedure?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process in Hong Kong is governed by the EIA Ordinance (Cap. 499). The Technical Memorandum on EIA Process (TM) issued under the EIA Ordinance sets out the principles, procedures, guidelines, requirements and criteria for processing the various applications submitted under the EIA Ordinance. In granting or refusing applications for approval of EIA report or environmental permit, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) follows strictly the requirements stipulated in the EIA Ordinance and the TM, and the need to consider public comments received from the public and the Advisory Council for the Environment (ACE).

The EIA Ordinance stipulates a 2-stage consultation process covering applications for EIA study briefs and applications for approval of EIA reports. For these applications, the EIA Ordinance requires the EPD to consider the comments received from the public and the advice of the Advisory Council for the Environment (ACE) before making decisions on the applications.

In 2012-13, the total expenditure of the EPD in supporting the operation of the EIA mechanism as well as providing inputs to land use planning process is \$87.5 million. We do not have a separate account for processing applications under the EIA Ordinance.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB121

Question Serial No.

4192

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Environmental Assessment and Planning

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The new legislative amendments to the Air Pollution Control Ordinance will affect the criteria set out in the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance. Some projects that have passed the environmental impact assessments may need to be revised. Even if there is a 36-month exemption period after the enactment of the new amendments, it is possible that some on-going existing projects still do not comply with the new criteria upon expiry of the exemption period. If there are non-compliant projects upon expiry of the exemption period, how will they be handled? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The proposed 36-month transitional period covers all designated projects having environmental impact assessment (EIA) reports approved and environmental permits (EPs) granted based on the existing Air Quality Objectives (AQOs), before the proposed new AQOs come into effect. After an EP is granted, occasionally a project may need to apply for variations of the EP conditions due to changes in construction methods or modifications of design to suit actual site conditions encountered during construction or operational requirements. Within the transitional period, an application for variation of EP conditions will be considered based on the existing AQOs, even though the proposed new AQOs have already come into effect. In case it is necessary for a project to apply for variations to the EP conditions after expiry of the transitional period, the proponent will be required to demonstrate that the application will meet all the requirements of the EIA Ordinance by taking into account the proposed new AQOs. Failing that the applications will not be approved and the concerned project may be implemented in accordance with the conditions of the original EP.

In 2013-14, the total expenditure of the Environmental Protection Department in supporting the operation of the EIA mechanism as well as providing inputs to land use planning process will be \$88.7 million. We do not have a separate account for processing applications under the EIA Ordinance.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB122

Question Serial No.

4195

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Environmental Assessment and Planning

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding environmental projects, what are the time and expenditure generally required for procedures from making a proposal, deciding on the project to commencement of vetting and approval?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Major environmental projects undertaken by the Environmental Protection Department are part of the Public Works Programme (PWP) and they will follow the same established procedures for public works projects. Depending on the scale and complexity of individual projects, the time span from project inception through various stages of detailed planning, land search, feasibility study and design, environmental impact assessment, public consultation to the final vetting and approval by the Legislative Council would vary. Due to substantial variations, it is not appropriate to generalise. Similarly, the associated expenditure would also vary depending on the scale and complexity of each project.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB123

Question Serial No.

4198

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: As treatment of food waste is one of the major environmental policies of this Administration, are there any plans to provide additional facilities to encourage farms in Hong Kong to use fertilisers produced from food waste? What are the details of the relevant work? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Under the Food Waste Recycling Partnership Scheme with the commercial and industrial sectors, source-separated food waste collected is being treated at Environmental Protection Department's pilot composting plant in Kowloon Bay to produce about 100 tonnes of compost each year. The compost is distributed to government departments, schools, non-governmental organizations and local farmers for use as soil conditioner in landscaping, gardening and organic farming. Through the Environment and Conservation Fund, we also support the use of on-site treatment equipment by schools, elderly centers, charitable organizations and housing estates to recycle food waste to become compost products for beneficial applications. The compost produced has been utilized in the landscaping works, community gardens or local farms.

The feedback from the compost users is generally positive. As the quantity of compost currently produced is relatively small, there are suitable and adequate outlets including landscaping or local farms to absorb the compost. Major government departments procured over 6 000 tonnes of soil conditioner in 2012. We would keep in view the quantity of and the outlets for compost produced in Hong Kong.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB124

Question Serial No.

4199

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In 2012-13, which areas were worth nature conservation, with nature conservation measures already introduced? In 2013-14, for which areas does the Administration plan to formulate nature conservation measures? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

We undertake nature conservation via various measures, including (a) the management and protection of 24 country parks, 22 special areas, four marine parks, one marine reserve, the Hong Kong Wetland Park, Hong Kong Global Geopark of China and the Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar Site; (b) the enhancement of biodiversity and promotion of compatible use of country and marine parks; (c) the identification of sites of high scientific value for listing as Sites of Special Scientific Interest; (d) the provision of nature conservation advice on development proposals, planning studies and environmental impact assessments; as well as subsequent monitoring and auditing of ecological mitigation measures for these projects if approved under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance (Cap. 499); (e) promotion of public awareness of nature conservation and enforcement of nature conservation legislation; (f) the licensing control of international trade in endangered species and curbing of illegal trade in endangered species in Hong Kong; as well as (g) collaborations with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and private sectors on our work on this front. Besides, we pursue to enhance the conservation of ecologically important sites in private ownership through the Management Agreement and Public-private Partnership schemes. NGOs will be involved in the schemes to undertake conservation management work for the concerned sites. These measures will continue to be carried out in 2013-14. In addition, we will consult stakeholders on the draft Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP) under the Convention on Biological Diversity in 2013-14. The BSAP will set out the strategies and priority actions to maintain the existing condition or to further enhance our efforts in conserving the local biodiversity.

The resources incurred by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department on nature conservation and relevant education will be absorbed under Programme (2) ("Nature Conservation and Country Parks Programme") under Head 22 – AFCD. In 2013-14, the financial provision of this programme amounts to \$552 million. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will continue to oversee AFCD's works in this aspect and relevant resources were absorbed under Programme (6) ("Nature Conservation") under Head 44 – EPD. The financial provision under this programme would be \$6.9 million in 2013-14.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB125

Question Serial No.

4200

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14 under Programme (6), the Environmental Protection Department has mentioned that it will oversee the implementation of the measures to better protect country park enclaves, in particular those found suitable for being included as part of country parks". If the Administration considers including some enclaves as part of country parks, what will be the necessary measures, criteria and estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The suitability of country park enclaves for inclusion in the country parks would be assessed on the basis of a set of principles and criteria endorsed by the Country and Marine Parks Board for country park designation. These criteria include conservation value, landscape and aesthetic value, recreation potential, the size, proximity to existing country parks, land status and existing land use etc. Country park enclaves which are found to be suitable would be incorporated into country parks through the statutory designation process under the Country Parks Ordinance.

In 2013-14, the expenditure involved within the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department for the incorporation of enclaves into Country Parks will be \$1.8 million.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB126

Question Serial No.

4202

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: What are the key conservation objectives of the Hong Kong Global Geopark of China? Regarding the operation of the whole Geopark, what are the expenditure for the 2012-13 financial year and the estimated expenditure for the 2013-14 financial year?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The core conservation objective of Hong Kong Global Geopark of China (HKGGP) is to protect its valuable landforms and rock features. In addition to the above, the HKGGP was established to promote science popularization, to promote sustainable nature based tourism, as well as to benefit the local communities through capacity building and engagement projects.

In 2012-13, a total of \$29.2 million was allocated for the management and operation of the HKGGP. The same amount has been earmarked in 2013-14 for this purpose.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB127

Question Serial No.

4204

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: What are the ecological context and fishing conditions in marine parks now? What are the criteria for banning commercial fishing in marine parks? What are the estimated expenditures for consultation work and enforcement of fishing ban across the board?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

There are currently four marine parks and one marine reserve in Hong Kong. The ecosystem and marine life in the marine parks and marine reserve are generally healthy and stable. Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau Marine Park is an important habitat for the Chinese white dolphin and the majority of the hard coral species in Hong Kong can be found in Hoi Ha Wan and Tung Ping Chau Marine Parks. The abundance and diversity of fish inside marine parks and marine reserve are higher than those outside these marine protected areas.

At present, fishing is prohibited in the marine reserve while limited commercial fishing is allowed for bona fide fishermen in marine parks through a permit system. For improving ecosystems in marine parks and offering better protection for marine organisms, in consultation with stakeholders, the Government would take forward the proposal to ban commercial fishing in marine parks. We would consult stakeholders on the package of proposals to implement the ban.

The resources to be incurred by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) for the consultation would be absorbed under Programme (2) ("Nature Conservation and Country) Parks Programme") under Head 22 – AFCD. The Environment Protection Department (EPD) oversees AFCD's works in the above aspect and relevant resources would be absorbed under Programme (6) ("Nature Conservation") under Head 44 – EPD. The expenditure for enforcement of fishing ban would be subject to our consultation with stakeholders and the final package of proposals.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB128

Question Serial No.

4206

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the draft Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan under the Convention on Biological Diversity, if consultation is to be conducted in 2013-14, when and how will it be launched? For example, will intensive engagement be allowed for various environmental groups throughout the consultation? Also, what is the estimated expenditure for the consultation exercise?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

In accordance with the requirements of the Convention on Biological Diversity (the Convention), we will formulate a Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP) based on principles of the Convention and taking into account local needs and priorities.

Two engagement sessions were held in January 2013 to seek the inputs and advice from various stakeholders including environmental groups at an early stage. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department is working on a public engagement exercise in 2013 to 2014 to seek views from relevant stakeholders and the public on the issues to be addressed and the preparation of the BSAP before it is put into implementation in 2015. The public engagement exercise is scheduled to be rolled out in mid 2013. Suitable steering committee, working groups and focus groups and a dedicated website would be set up for this purpose.

The estimated expenditure for the public engagement exercise in 2013-14 is \$1 million.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB129

Question Serial No.

4719

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: With regard to the recycling of glass bottles, under the current plan of the Government, the bottles recovered will be used to produce eco-blocks containing glass content. Apart from eco-blocks, is there any plan on other ways out to maintain the sustainability of this recycling scheme? If yes, what is the estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Government has proposed to introduce a mandatory producer responsibility scheme (PRS) under which one or more management contractors will be appointed by way of open tender to coordinate the effective collection and proper treatment of glass beverage bottles generated in Hong Kong until they become reusable materials. Apart from being used for production of eco-pavers, recycled glass cullet may be used for production of partition blocks or as fill materials in various types of works. At present, these potential applications are at advanced stage of testing or technical specification preparation. In line with the polluter pays principle, there will be a recycling fee to finance the proposed PRS. At this preparatory stage, development of the PRS proposal is undertaken by Environmental Protection Department staff as part of their normal duties.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB130

Question Serial No.

4798

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Water

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please provide the number and percentage of village houses which:

- (1) have septic tanks but not yet connected to public sewerage system;
- (2) have been connected to public drains or sewers; and
- (3) are with sub-standard sewerage system.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

- (1) The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is responsible for planning the provision of public sewerage, whereas the Drainage Services Department (DSD) is responsible for the implementation, operation and maintenance of the sewerage system. For village areas where public sewers have been put in place, as at end December 2012, there are 16%, or 1 350 village houses where connection is still ongoing or are not connected to the public sewerage system, excluding 1 689 village houses that technically cannot connect due to reasons such as limited space, inadequate hydraulic gradient, obstruction from underground utilities, land resumption issues and encroachment on other's private land, etc.
- (2) As at end December 2012, 6 837 village houses have been connected to the public sewerage system. This represents a connection rate of 84% of the total number of village houses covered.
- (3) There are about 800 unsewered villages (or areas) in Hong Kong, including about 90 villages where sewerage works are being carried out. Village houses in these unsewered areas rely mainly on septic tanks or other on-site sewage treatment systems. Through enforcement of the Water Pollution Control Ordinance, EPD ensures that these septic tanks and on-site sewage treatment systems are properly maintained and operated as well as not causing water pollution problems.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB131

Question Serial No.

5335

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: What is the approximate total quantity of domestic waste collected by the Administration at present? What is the estimated expenditure for 2013-14? Does the Administration have any measures to encourage the public to reduce domestic waste in 2013-14? What are the details of the work and what is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

In 2012, the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) collected 1.93 million tonnes of refuse. FEHD's estimated expenditure in waste collection service in 2013-14 is \$436.9 million.

In 2013-14, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will continue to encourage the public to reduce waste and separate waste at source for recycling through publicity and education programmes including recognition schemes, media advertisements and broadcasts, workshops, forums and exhibitions. Invitation to owners' committees and property management companies of housing estates will be made to enlist their greater participation. We will also step up joint efforts with government departments, all district councils, schools, green groups and social services organizations to set up more community recycling points. Efforts will also be made to launch new programmes for promoting food waste reduction and recycling, the proposed mandatory Producer Responsibility Scheme for waste electrical and electronic equipment, recycling of glass beverage containers and the extension of the Environmental Levy Scheme for plastic shopping bags. EPD will spend about \$39.53 million in 2013-14 for the above measures. In addition, EPD will take forward new pilot community green stations in 2013-14, with an estimated expenditure of \$44 million and \$21 million for the capital works and operational services respectively.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB132

Question Serial No.

0543

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: It is pointed out in the Budget that the Administration would “set aside \$10 billion as subsidies, coupled with regulatory measures, to progressively phase out heavily polluting pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles”. Would the Government advise on how many diesel commercial vehicles it aims to replace through subsidies?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Kam-lam

Reply:

To improve roadside air quality and to protect public health, we proposed to phase out all pre-Euro IV (i.e. pre-Euro, Euro I, Euro II and Euro III) diesel commercial vehicles (including goods vehicles, light buses and non-franchised buses), involving some 86 000 vehicles through an incentive-cum-regulatory proposal.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 19 March 2013

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

ENB133

Question Serial No.

0891

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: It is mentioned in the budget speech that the Administration will set aside \$10 billion as subsidies, coupled with regulatory measures, to progressively phase out heavily polluting pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles, and that the Legislative Council, the relevant transport trades and other stakeholders are being consulted on the details of the proposal. In this connection, would the Administration inform this Committee of the preliminary feedbacks from the industry; when the Government is expected to commence the scheme; whether the Government will allocate additional expenditure for the implementation of the scheme in addition to the \$ 10 billion reserved; whether the Government will fine-tune the scheme if the views collected from the consultation indicate that the scheme is not attractive enough.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Kin-por

Reply:

To improve roadside air quality and protect public health, the Administration has proposed to phase out some 86 000 pre-Euro IV (i.e. pre-Euro, Euro I, Euro II and Euro III) diesel commercial vehicles (including goods vehicles, light buses and non-franchised buses) through an incentive-cum-regulatory approach. We are consulting the relevant transport trades and other stakeholders about the proposal. We will take their views into account together with other views collected during the consultation, when working out a final proposal for consideration by the Legislative Council. Subject to the support of the Legislative Council, our aim is to implement the proposal in early 2014.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB134

Question Serial No.

0892

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14 under Programme (1) that the Department will continue to raise public awareness and enhance community participation on waste reduction, recovery and recycling in 2013-14. In this connection, would the Administration inform this Committee of the expenditure and manpower arrangement of the measures on waste reduction, recovery and recycling in the coming year, as well as the implementation schedule and details of the measures? Has the Administration reviewed the effectiveness of the existing waste reduction, recovery and recycling measures? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Kin-por

Reply:

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) plans to spend about \$39.53 million in 2013-14 to further raise public awareness and enhance community participation on waste reduction, separation and recycling. A total of 43 officers will be involved in this work.

In 2013-14, the EPD will continue to encourage the public to reduce waste and separate waste at source for recycling through publicity and education programmes including recognition schemes, media advertisements and broadcasts, workshops, forums and exhibitions. Invitation to owners' committees and property management companies of housing estates will be made to enlist their greater participation. We will also step up joint efforts with government departments, all district councils, schools, green groups and social services organizations to set up more community recycling points. Efforts will also be made to launch new programmes for promoting food waste reduction and recycling, the proposed mandatory Producer Responsibility Scheme for waste electrical and electronic equipment, recycling of glass beverage containers and the extension of the Environmental Levy Scheme for plastic shopping bags. In addition, EPD will take forward new pilot community green stations in 2013-14, with an estimated expenditure of \$44 million and \$21 million for the capital works and operational services respectively.

Through implementing the Source Separation of Waste Programme and other waste reduction and recycling measures, now over 80% of the population have recycling bins close to where they live and work, and more than 530 recyclable collection points have been set up and formed a wide community recycling network. The existing waste reduction, recovery and recycling measures have been effective in increasing the recovery rate

of municipal solid waste significantly from 40% in 2004 up to 48% in 2011. There has been a cumulative reduction (as at December 2011) of 15% of domestic waste disposed of at landfills since January 2005.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB135

Question Serial No.

1686

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: It is stated under this Programme that during 2013-14, the Department will oversee the implementation of the measures to better protect country park enclaves, in particular those found suitable for being included as part of country parks. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) The location and area of the enclaves concerned;
- (2) What is the amount of expenditure involved in the above work?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply:

- (1) There are currently 77 country park enclaves, of which 23 have already been covered by Outline Zoning Plans (OZPs) under the Town Planning Ordinance (TPO) (Cap. 131). 24 out of the 54 remaining enclaves have been covered by Development Permission Area Plans gazetted under TPO. Three sites, namely Tai Long Sai Wan (17 hectares), Yuen Tun (19 hectares) and Kam Shan (one hectare), have been considered suitable for inclusion in country parks and have been gazetted under the Country Parks Ordinance (CPO) for the public to comment. The statutory process under the CPO is going on for these three sites. We are reviewing the suitability of other country park enclaves for inclusion in the country parks.
- (2) In 2013-14, the expenditure involved within the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department for the incorporation of enclaves into Country Parks as well as the strengthening of patrol and enforcement relating to the country park enclaves will be \$4.26 million.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 20 March 2013

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

ENB136

Question Serial No.

5331

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: How many complaints against illegal land filling were received in each of the past five years? How many of them were substantiated? What was the area involved? How many prosecution cases were recorded? Among these cases, how many were convicted and fined? What was the amount of fine involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

The complaints on illegal land filling of waste handled by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) are summarized below:

Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Complaints received by EPD	119	188	187	116	110
Number of substantiated complaints	19	49	59	52	54
Number of prosecutions under the Waste Disposal Ordinance*(WDO)	5	2	12	1	2
Number of convictions under WDO*	5	1	8	1	2
Total fine under WDO*	\$40,000	\$3,000	\$26,400	\$4,000	\$6,000

* The prosecutions were initiated against deposition of waste on private land without the permission of the owner or legal occupier. Enforcement against violation of land use or planning requirements is taken up by other relevant government departments.

We do not have statistics on the areas of the sites involved in these cases.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB137

Question Serial No.

4110

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Financial Secretary has mentioned in paragraph 125 of the 2013 Budget Speech that the Government will “inject \$5 billion into the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) to provide support for green projects initiated by the community”. This year’s funding is two times the funding accumulated in the past 19 years since the establishment of the ECF. In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee:

1. The application figures for the ECF by project in the past 5 years.

	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12	
	No. of applications	No. of applications approved	No. of applications	No. of applications approved	No. of applications	No. of applications approved	No. of applications	No. of applications approved	No. of applications	No. of applications approved
Energy-cum-carbon Audit Projects										
Energy Efficiency Projects										
Energy Conservation Projects for NGOs										
Research, Technology Demonstration and Conference Projects										
Community Waste Recovery Projects										
Environmental Education and Community Action Projects-General Projects and Minor Works Projects										

	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12	
	No. of applications	No. of applications approved	No. of applications	No. of applications approved	No. of applications	No. of applications approved	No. of applications	No. of applications approved	No. of applications	No. of applications approved
Public Education Programme for the "Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste (2005-2014)										
Source Separation of Waste Programme										
On-site Meal Portioning Projects in Schools										
Food Waste Recycling Projects in Housing Estates										
Total:										

2. In the past 5 years, what were the number of application received, number of application approved and amount of grant approved for different types of buildings in the energy-cum-carbon audit projects and energy efficiency projects?

Energy-Cum-Carbon Audit Projects

	2007-08			2008-09			2009-10			2010-11			2011-12		
	No. of applications	No. of applications approved	Amount of grant	No. of applications	No. of applications approved	Amount of grant	No. of applications	No. of applications approved	Amount of grant	No. of applications	No. of applications approved	Amount of grant	No. of applications	No. of applications approved	Amount of grant
Industrial															
Commercial															
Residential															
Composite buildings															
Total:															

Energy Efficiency Projects

	2007-08			2008-09			2009-10			2010-11			2011-12		
	No. of applications	No. of applications approved	Amount of grant	No. of applications	No. of applications approved	Amount of grant	No. of applications	No. of applications approved	Amount of grant	No. of applications	No. of applications approved	Amount of grant	No. of applications	No. of applications approved	Amount of grant
Industrial															
Commercial															
Residential															
Composite buildings															
Total:															

3. Regarding the projects funded by the ECF over the past five years, please provide figures on enhancement of energy efficiency, energy conservation and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12	
	Savings in electricity (kWh)	Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (Carbon dioxide)	Savings in electricity (kWh)	Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (Carbon dioxide)	Savings in electricity (kWh)	Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (Carbon dioxide)	Savings in electricity (kWh)	Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (Carbon dioxide)	Savings in electricity (kWh)	Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (Carbon dioxide)
Industrial										
Commercial										
Residential										
Composite buildings										
Total:										

4. With the injection of a big sum of funds for this financial year, would the Administration implement more new programmes/ policies for application by organisations in future in addition to the current eleven programmes? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

- (1) Details of applications received by the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) in the past 5 years are at Appendix 1.
- (2) Details of applications from different types of buildings for energy-cum-carbon audit projects and energy efficiency projects received by the ECF in the past 5 years are at Appendix 2.
- (3) Information on energy conservation and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions achieved by ECF supported projects are at Appendix 3.
- (4) Subject to the approval of the Finance Committee for the proposed funding injection to the ECF, the Administration will consult the ECF Committee with a view to drawing up a budget allocation for existing and new funding areas in the years ahead.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

**Details of Applications received by the Environment and Conservation Fund
in the Past Five Years (from 2007-08 to 2011-12)**

	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12	
	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*
Energy-cum-carbon Audit Projects (Note 1)	-	-	-	-	204	100	9	25	9	3
Energy Efficiency Projects (Note 1)	-	-	-	-	874	246	254	347	375	204
Energy Conservation Projects for Non-government Organizations (Note 2)	-	-	-	-	76	22	200	105	166	118
Research, Technology Demonstration and Conference Projects	18	11	25	9	37	18	36	17	50	16
Community Waste Recovery Projects	8	0	10	2	12	8	27	9	36	28

	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12	
	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*
Environmental Education and Community Action Projects – (i) General Projects (ii) Minor Works Projects	(i) 35 (ii) -	(i)17 (ii) -	(i) 47 (ii) 175	(i) 17 (ii) 160	(i) 46 (ii) 264	(i) 23 (ii) 227	(i) 32 (ii) 223	(i) 16 (ii) 198	(i) 29 (ii) 241	(i) 27 (ii) 192
Nature Conservation Management Agreement Projects	2	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	2	2
Public Education Programme for the "Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste (2005-2014)"	6	6	10	10	3	3	1	0	0	1
Source Separation of Waste Programme	52	50	16	12	6	9	9	8	1	1
On-site Meal Portioning Projects in Schools (Note 3)	-	-	-	-	23	22	57	40	17	18

	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12	
	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*
Food Waste Recycling Projects in Housing Estates (Note 4)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	11
Total	121	86	283	210	1 547	680	848	765	961	621

Notes

* Projects approved in a particular year may include applications received in that year and outstanding applications carried forward from the previous year.

1. The three-year Buildings Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes were launched in April 2009 and ended in April 2012 as scheduled.
2. The three-year Energy Conservation Projects for NGO Scheme was launched in October 2009 and ended in October 2012 as scheduled.
3. The On-site Meal Portioning Projects in Schools Funding Scheme was launched in December 2009.
4. The Food Waste Recycling Projects in Housing Estates Funding Scheme was launched in July 2011 and is being undertaken in phases. The first batch of housing estates obtained funding from the Environment and Conservation Fund in November 2011, while the second phase of the scheme was rolled-out in October 2012.

Details on Applications from Different Types of Buildings for Energy-cum-carbon Audit Projects

and Energy Efficiency Projects received by the Environment and Conservation Fund (2007-08 to 2011-12)

Energy-cum-carbon Audit Projects#

	2007-08			2008-09			2009-10		
	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*	Amount of Grant (\$)	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*	Amount of Grant (\$)	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*	Amount of Grant (\$)
Industrial	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	6	210,000
Commercial	-	-	-	-	-	-	34	17	650,000
Residential	-	-	-	-	-	-	126	67	3,840,000
Composite buildings	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	10	1,030,000
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	204	100	5,730,000

	2010-11			2011-12		
	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*	Amount of Grant (\$)	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*	Amount of Grant (\$)
Industrial	0	1	70,000	0	0	0
Commercial	2	4	140,000	4	2	42,000
Residential	6	19	770,000	5	1	23,000
Composite buildings	1	1	10,000	0	0	0
Total	9	25	990,000	9	3	65,000

Energy Efficiency Projects#

	2007-08			2008-09			2009-10		
	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*	Amount of Grant (\$)	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*	Amount of Grant (\$)	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*	Amount of Grant (\$)
Industrial	-	-	-	-	-	-	86	22	2,640,000
Commercial	-	-	-	-	-	-	108	18	3,000,000
Residential	-	-	-	-	-	-	607	182	54,010,000
Composite buildings	-	-	-	-	-	-	73	24	10,500,000
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	874	246	70,150,000

	2010-11			2011-12		
	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*	Amount of Grant (\$)	Number of applications received	Number of projects approved*	Amount of Grant (\$)
Industrial	26	35	6,460,000	30	20	6,630,000
Commercial	20	20	6,410,000	24	8	1,670,000
Residential	189	264	170,930,000	288	160	77,680,000
Composite buildings	19	28	18,210,000	33	16	4,800,000
Total	254	347	202,010,000	375	204	90,780,000

* Projects approved in a particular year may include applications received in that year and outstanding applications carried forward from the previous year.

The three-year Buildings Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes were launched in April 2009 and ended in April 2012 as scheduled.

**Information on energy conservation and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions achieved by
projects supported by the Environment and Conservation Fund (2007-08 to 2011-12)**

Savings in electricity and reduction in carbon dioxide emissions

	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10	
	Saving in electricity (kWh)	Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (Carbon dioxide)	Saving in electricity (kWh)	Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (Carbon dioxide)	Saving in electricity (kWh)	Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (Carbon dioxide) (tonnes)
Industrial	-	-	-	-	2 370 000	1 660
Commercial	-	-	-	-	2 070 000	1 450
Residential	-	-	-	-	38 190 000	26 730
Composite buildings	-	-	-	-	4 680 000	3 280
Total	-	-	-	-	47 310 000	33 120

	2010-11		2011-12	
	Saving in electricity (kWh)	Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (Carbon dioxide) (tonnes)	Saving in electricity (kWh)	Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (Carbon dioxide) (tonnes)
Industrial	2 310 000	1 620	930 000	650
Commercial	4 330 000	3 030	670 000	470
Residential	74 720 000	52 310	22 240 000	15 570
Composite buildings	5 940 000	4 150	1 230 000	860
Total	87 300 000	61 110	25 070 000	17 550

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

ENB138

Question Serial No.

4537

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Over the past twelve months, what is the number of environmental protection inspectors in the Department who are responsible for enforcing the statutory ban on idling vehicles with running engines under the Motor Vehicle Idling (Fixed Penalty) Ordinance? What are the respective numbers of advices, verbal warnings and written warnings issued because of the enforcement of the Ordinance each month? What is the number of cases in which Penalty Notices are issued because of the enforcement of the Ordinance each month? What is the number of cases referred to the Police for action or assistance because of the enforcement of the Ordinance each month?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

The Motor Vehicle Idling (Fixed Penalty) Ordinance prohibits drivers from idling a vehicle engine for more than three minutes in any 60-minute period. It empowers Traffic Wardens and Environmental Protection Inspectors to issue fixed penalty notices to drivers violating the idling engine ban. Currently, there are about 280 Traffic Wardens. They will enforce the idling engine ban during their patrol duty. In addition, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will co-ordinate joint enforcement-cum-publicity activities with Traffic Wardens at idling engine black spots. During these activities, the EPD deploys about two to three Environmental Protection Inspectors from a pool of about 370, who will also take enforcement actions against drivers contravening the law. From March 2012 to February 2013, the EPD co-ordinated 373 enforcement-cum-publicity activities. The numbers of vehicles with idling engines timed and fixed penalty notice (FPN) issued each month during the period are as follows –

Month	Number of vehicles with idling engines timed	Number of fixed penalty notices issued
March 2012	19	0
April 2012	20	0
May 2012	71	0
June 2012	117	0
July 2012	108	0
August 2012	218	2
September 2012	253	0
October 2012	192	1

Month	Number of vehicles with idling engines timed	Number of fixed penalty notices issued
November 2012	121	1
December 2012	85	3
January 2013	134	1
February 2013	102	1

Seven of the above FPN were issued by Environmental Protection Inspectors while two were issued by Traffic Wardens.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB139

Question Serial No.

4538

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In the past 12 months, what was the number of complaints about idling engines received monthly by the Environmental Protection Department from the public for violating the Motor Vehicle Idling (Fixed Penalty) Ordinance? Of them, what is the number of verbal advice or warning given by the Environmental Protection Inspectors before the offenders left the scene, the number of fixed penalty tickets issued by the Environmental Protection Inspectors before the offenders left the scene, and the number of cases referred to the police?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

The Motor Vehicle Idling (Fixed Penalty) Ordinance prohibits drivers from idling a vehicle engine for more than three minutes in any 60-minute period. It empowers Traffic Wardens and Environmental Protection Inspectors (EPIs) to issue fixed penalty notices (FPN) to drivers violating the idling engine ban. In addition, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will co-ordinate enforcement-cum-publicity activities at idling engine black spots.

Vehicles with idling engines may leave at any time. We will put locations where complaints about vehicles with idling engines are often received as idling engine black spots, and inform the Police accordingly. Traffic Wardens and EPIs will pay more attention to idling vehicles at these locations. EPD will also step up enforcement-cum-publicity activities there.

The number of complaints about idling engines received by the EPD, the number of vehicles with idling engines timed and the number of FPN issued by EPIs from March 2012 to February 2013 are as follows.

Month	Number of complaints about idling engines received by the EPD	Number of vehicles with idling engines timed by EPIs	Number of FPN issued by EPIs
March 2012	72	0	0
April 2012	94	0	0
May 2012	206	12	0
June 2012	262	29	0
July 2012	129	65	0

Month	Number of complaints about idling engines received by the EPD	Number of vehicles with idling engines timed by EPIs	Number of FPN issued by EPIs
August 2012	238	175	0
September 2012	176	207	0
October 2012	165	153	1
November 2012	105	87	1
December 2012	67	79	3
January 2013	52	107	1
February 2013	46	87	1

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB140

Question Serial No.

1870

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The estimated expenditure on air pollution control in 2013-14 is 44.8% higher than that in 2012-13. Would the Department advise this Committee on the specific projects and manpower related to the increase in expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher

Reply:

The increase in expenditure on the Air Programme in 2013-14 is mainly due to –

- (a) increased cash flow requirements for non-recurrent projects including the one-off subsidy to assist owners of petrol and LPG taxis and light buses to replace once the catalytic converters and oxygen sensors, the increased cashflow needs of the Pilot Green Transport Fund and the trials of hybrid and electric buses by franchised bus companies;
- (b) increased in operating expenses for strengthening Environmental Protection Department's vehicle emission testing programmes, air quality monitoring activities and actions to combat climate change; and
- (c) an increase of five posts for strengthening control on vehicle emissions including the enforcement of the prohibition of idling vehicles running their engines and phasing out of pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 21 March 2013

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

ENB141

Question Serial No.

1871

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Would the Department inform this Committee of the reason why the average annual air pollution index (API) for roadside air quality stations has long failed to meet the target despite the allocation of a large amount of resources? Will the average annual API be still used as indicators after the introduction of the new Air Quality Objectives (AQOs)? If yes, how will the new indicators compare with the old ones? If no, how will the effectiveness of the measures on air pollution control be assessed?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher

Reply:

Our measures to reduce vehicle emissions have produced an improvement in roadside air quality. As compared with 2005, the roadside concentrations of sulphur dioxide and respirable suspended particulates in 2012 reduced by 55% and 29% respectively. However, the concentrations of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) at the roadside increased by 24% during the same period, which is the primary reason for the average annual API for roadside air quality stations still failing to meet the target of not exceeding 50.

To tackle the NO₂ problem, we are taking forward a number of policy initiatives to reduce vehicle emissions. These include a plan to retrofit Euro II and III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices, strengthening the emission control of petrol and liquefied petroleum gas taxis and light buses and adopting an incentive-cum-regulatory approach to phase out pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles (including light buses, goods vehicles and coaches). In parallel, we will continue to work with Guangdong Authorities to reduce the emissions in the Pearl River Delta Region so as to reduce the regional ozone level, which could promote the formation of NO₂ at the roadside. These measures will help improve roadside air quality.

To tie in with the implementation of the new AQOs, we propose to replace in January 2014 the API reporting system with a new health risk-based Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) system. We are consulting the relevant stakeholders on the AQHI system and will develop the means to disseminate the new AQHI information to the public when it replaces the current API system. The AQHI information will also reflect the air quality trends. In addition, we have been releasing updated emission inventory information, which will show the effectiveness of air pollution control measures in reducing emissions.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 22 March 2013

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

ENB142

Question Serial No.

1872

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14 that the Department will continue to monitor the operation of the EcoPark in Tuen Mun Area 38. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

1. The leasing situation of the EcoPark in detail, including the number of tenants who have newly joined or quit, as well as the types of waste recovered by the tenants.
2. The operation of the EcoPark in 2012-13. Whether a profit or a loss has been recorded? Are there any government-subsidised projects among them? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher

Reply:

1. As of January 2013, a total of 12 lots in the EcoPark have been leased to private recyclers for recycling various recycled materials collected locally. In addition, there are two waste recycling centres set up in EcoPark to provide secured outlets for waste plastics and waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), which currently have limited recycling opportunities in the market. These two recycling centres are managed by non-profit making organizations with funding support from the Environment and Conservation Fund. Information about the tenants is summarized below.

Tenants	Waste Types
Phase 1	
1. Champway Technology Ltd	Waste cooking oil
2. Shiu Wing Metal Ltd	Waste metals
3. Hong Kong Hung Wai Wooden Board Company	Waste wood
4. Li Tong Group	Waste computer equipment
5. Hong Kong Telford Envirotech Group Ltd	Waste plastics
6. Cosmos Star Holdings Company Ltd	Waste batteries
Phase 2	
7. Chung Yue Steel Group Company Limited	Waste metals
8. SSK Metal Limited	Waste batteries
9. K. Wah Construction Products Ltd	Construction wastes/ waste glass

Tenants	Waste Types
10. E. Tech Management (HK) Ltd	WEEE
11. On Fat Lung Electrical & Metal Co., Ltd	Waste rubber tyres
12. South China Reborn Resources (Zhongshan) Company Limited	Food waste
<i>Non-profit making organizations</i>	
13. Yan Oi Tong EcoPark Plastic Resources Recycling Centre	Waste plastics
14. St James' Settlement "WEEE GO GREEN"	WEEE

2. The aim of the EcoPark is to provide long-term land at affordable cost for the development of the value-added recycling industry with a view to encouraging investment in more advanced technologies in Hong Kong. The Administration has engaged a management contractor at a lump sum monthly fee of about \$1.5 million in managing the EcoPark. The fee covers all expenses and resources for maintaining the EcoPark and its facilities, assisting EcoPark tenants to develop their recycling business, implementing promotional and waste recovery activities, as well as operating the Visitor Centre and a dedicated website. As for income, the Administration receives rental income from tenants, the monthly rental income amounts to \$1.35 million in January 2013.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB143

Question Serial No.

1873

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title): 000 operational expenses

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14, the Department states that it will continue to implement measures to reduce food waste. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

1. The statistics on the domestic and commercial food waste in 2012-13;
2. The amount of food waste processed, as well as the operational expenses and staff involved, since the inception of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign.
3. The amount of food waste to be processed by the "organic resources treatment facilities", as well as the operational expenses and staff involved.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Wah-fung, Christopher

Reply:

1. In 2011, about 3 584 tonnes of food waste were disposed of at landfills each day, of which 2 528 tonnes were from the domestic sector and 1 056 tonnes from the commercial and industrial sources.
2. The Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign would be launched shortly, with a series of activities to be rolled out, including public education initiatives through for instance TV and radio APIs, the launch of good practice guides, roving exhibitions and community events, a dedicated website, and food waste reduction workshops for various sectors, etc. We will keep in view the effect of the campaign on the food waste reduction after the activities are rolled out. The manpower for the campaign is absorbed into the existing establishment. The planned budget for the campaign in the year 2013-14 is around \$10 million.
3. The Organic Waste Treatment Facilities Phase 1 is designed to treat 200 tonnes of source separated food waste per day. We estimated that about 35 staff would be required for its operation. Tender for the design, build and operation (DBO) of this facility was invited on 8 February 2013. Subject to Finance Committee's approval, we plan to award the DBO contract in early 2014 for commissioning the facility in 2016. The operational cost of the facility will depend on the returned tender price of the winning tender.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 22 March 2013

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

ENB144

Question Serial No.

3483

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF),

- (a) What are the annual fund allocations for strengthening household participation in waste separation, food waste recovery and recycling as well as the numbers of applications involved in the past 3 years (i.e. 2010, 2011 and 2012)?
- (b) Please list in table form the total numbers of domestic units, housing estates and single-block buildings which participated in waste separation in the past 3 years (i.e. 2010, 2011 and 2012).
- (c) Please list in table form the total numbers of domestic units, housing estates and single-block buildings which participated in food waste recovery in the past 3 years (i.e. 2010, 2011 and 2012).
- (d) Please list in table form the total numbers of domestic units, housing estates and single-block buildings which participated in recycling in the past 3 years (i.e. 2010, 2011 and 2012).
- (e) How does the Administration plan to further promote and encourage the community to use the ECF for the promotion of environmental protection activities?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

- (a) The Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) provides funding to set up waste separation facilities at domestic housing estates and buildings. It also supports non-government organisations (NGOs) and schools to undertake projects to promote food waste recovery and recycling in the community. The funds approved to projects in the areas of source separation of waste, food waste reduction and recovery as well as waste recycling in 2010 to 2012 are provided in the table below -.

(b), (c) and (d)

The relevant statistics in the past three years are provided below:

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 (as at end of December 2012)
<u>Source separation of domestic waste</u>			
No. of Projects	8	1	1
Total Provision (\$ million)	0.33	0.01	0.05
No. of Participants*	about 93 housing estates and 81 buildings covering about 131 000 households	about 93 housing estates and 87 buildings covering about 132 000 households	about 93 housing estates and 90 buildings covering about 132 000 households
<u>Food waste reduction and recovery</u>			
No. of Projects	41	44	14
Total Provision (\$ million)	52.20	47.32	19.69
No. of Participants*	about 70 schools, 2 community groups	about 10 housing estates, 80 schools and 11 community groups	about 10 housing estates, 90 schools and 20 community groups
<u>Waste recycling</u>			
No. of Projects	8	13	8
Total Provision (\$ million)	10.16	18.26	12.09
No. of Participants*	about 380 housing estates, 190 buildings, 105 schools, 45 community groups, 355 shops/companies	about 560 housing estates, 530 buildings, 160 schools, 70 community groups and 660 shops/companies	about 600 housing estates, 1 020 buildings, 160 schools, 70 community groups and 670 shops/companies

* The figures include the number of participants of approved projects in that year and on-going projects that were approved in previous years.

(e) As our long term commitment to environmental protection and conservation, we have proposed injection of \$5 billion to ECF is an endowment to generate investment returns for long term sustained support for community green actions. Funding support will be provided for educational, research, technology demonstration and other projects and activities in relation to environmental protection and conservation matters. For the immediate future, the major areas of projects to be supported under the ECF will include waste reduction and recovery (particularly food waste), energy conservation, research on environmental technologies, nature conservation, and environmental education programmes related to the above areas. We will also enhance collaboration with District Councils to enhance promotion of waste reduction and recycling to build up a wider community recycling network.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB145

Question Serial No.

3484

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In 2013-14, the Administration will continue to take forward the development of organic waste treatment facilities for the treatment of source-separated food waste from the commercial and industrial sectors, the development of a waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) treatment facility to handle the WEEE locally generated and the project on the development of an integrated waste management facility to achieve bulk reduction of municipal solid waste (MSW) as soon as possible. Please provide relevant details, including the specific plan, implementation timetable, estimated treatment capacity at various phases, ancillary measures in support of waste recycling efforts in the private sector (especially small and medium enterprises), as well as the manpower and expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

Relevant details of the waste treatment facilities under planning are as follows:

a) Organic Waste Treatment Facilities (OWTF) Phase 1

The first phase of OWTF will be developed at Siu Ho Wan of North Lantau with a treatment capacity of 200 tonnes per day. Tender for the design, build and operation (DBO) of this facility was invited on 8 February 2013. We plan to complete the tendering work and seek funding approval from the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council in the fourth quarter of 2013. Subject to funding approval, we plan to commission the facility in 2016. The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for the study of the OWTF Phase 1 is \$1.3 million.

b) Organic Waste Treatment Facilities Phase 2

The second phase of OWTF will be developed at Sha Ling of the North District with a treatment capacity of 300 tonnes per day. The engineering investigation and environmental impact assessment (EIA) studies for this facility commenced in December 2011. We plan to complete the EIA study in 2013 with a view to commissioning the facility in 2017. The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for the study of the OWTF Phase 2 is \$2.1 million.

c) WEEE Treatment Facility

The WEEE treatment facility will have a designed capacity of 30 000 tonnes per annum in support of the

future mandatory producer responsibility scheme which will cover television sets, washing machine, refrigerators, air conditioners and computer products. Currently, the prequalification exercise for the potential tenderers of this treatment facility is in progress. We plan to invite tender by mid-2013 and seek funding approval from the Finance Committee as soon as practicable afterwards. Subject to funding approval, we plan to commission the facility in 2016. The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for the study of the WEEE Treatment Facility is \$2.9 million.

d) Integrated Waste Management Facilities (IWMF) Phase 1

We plan to develop the Integrated Waste Management Facilities (IWMF) Phase 1 at an artificial island site to be reclaimed near Shek Kwu Chau (SKC) with a treatment capacity of 3 000 tonnes per day. We are awaiting the outcome of the judicial reviews against the IWMF Phase 1 project. The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for relevant preparatory work is \$0.9 million.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB146

Question Serial No.

3485

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Under the Environment and Conservation Fund, how many projects were approved in each of the past three years (i.e. 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13) for recycling commercial waste and what were the amounts of funding involved? What were the numbers of participating enterprises in each year?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

The Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) provides funding to set up waste separation facilities at commercial and industrial buildings. It also supports non-government organisations (NGOs) to undertake projects to promote waste recovery in the community, such as projects to collect waste glass bottles from restaurants and bars. The relevant statistics in the past three years are provided below:

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 (as at end of December 2012)
No. of projects	138	159	65
Total provision approved in the year, the expenditure may span over a number of years (\$ million)	2.26	4.19	5.00
No. of participating enterprises / buildings *	about 350 companies/shops and 300 buildings	about 660 companies/shops and 460 buildings	about 670 companies/shops and 520 buildings

* The figures include the number of participants of approved projects in that year and on-going projects that were approved in previous years.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB147

Question Serial No.

3493

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In 2013-14, the Administration will continue to promote food waste reduction through "Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign". Please provide details of the Campaign, including the specific details and implementation timetable of the Campaign, as well as the manpower and expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

To take forward the Chief Executive's pledge to promote food waste reduction, the Government announced on 3 December 2012 the setting up of the Food Wise Hong Kong Steering Committee, which is chaired by the Secretary for the Environment and with members drawn from the relevant sectors, including catering and hotels, retail, property management, education, academia, green groups and food recipient organizations, as well as relevant government departments.

The Steering Committee is tasked with formulating and overseeing the implementation strategies of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign, which aims to promote public awareness of food waste problems in Hong Kong and co-ordinate efforts within the Government and public institutions to lead by example in food waste reduction. The objectives of the Steering Committee also include instilling behavioural change at the individual and household levels to help reduce food waste generation, drawing up and promoting good practices of food waste reduction at commercial and industrial establishments, and facilitating food donation to charitable organizations from establishments with surplus food. Under the Steering Committee two sub-committees have been set up and are responsible for education and promotion and the food waste reduction good practices for various sectors respectively. Various working groups have also been set up to support the works of the sub-committees.

The Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign would be launched shortly, with a series of activities to be rolled out, including public education initiatives through for instance TV and radio APIs, the launch of good practice guides, roving exhibitions and community events, a dedicated website, and food waste reduction workshops for various sectors, etc. We will keep in view the effect of the Campaign on the food waste reduction after the activities are rolled out. The manpower for the campaign is absorbed into the existing establishment. The planned budget for the Campaign in the year 2013-14 is around \$10 million.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB148

Question Serial No.

3495

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: It is mentioned in the Budget Speech that the Government will inject \$5 billion into the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) to provide support for green projects initiated by the community. Please provide relevant details, including the estimated number of funded projects each year and their scope, the ways to make efficient use of the Fund to strengthen community support and promote public participation, the target recipients, as well as the manpower and expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The proposed injection of \$5 billion to Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) is an endowment to generate investment returns for long term sustained support for community green actions. The ECF was set up in 1994 under the ECF Ordinance to provide funding support for educational, research, technology demonstration and other projects and activities in relation to environmental protection and conservation matters, and projects must be non-profit making in nature. Recipient organizations include non-government organizations, green groups, community bodies, schools, tertiary institutions, resident organizations, industry associations, etc. The number of projects that could be supported in a year would depend on the proposed budget of individual applications. For the immediate future, the major areas of projects to be supported under the ECF will include waste reduction and recovery (particularly food waste), energy conservation, research on environmental technologies, nature conservation, and environmental education programmes related to the above areas. Subject to the approval of the Finance Committee for the proposed funding injection, the Administration will consult the ECF Committee with a view to drawing up a budget allocation for various ECF funding schemes to meet the major environmental challenges in the years ahead. The existing secretariat of the ECF has an establishment of 5 staff (who are also deployed on other duties) and annual expenditure of \$1.8 million.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB149

Question Serial No.

0421

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the ecological area conservation plan for Tung Kok East, Tai Po ("Ting Kok Plus") launched by the Government last year, how much provision is earmarked for next year for taking forward the plan? What is the initial plan?

Asked by: Hon. CHUNG Shu-kun, Christopher

Reply:

The Government has conducted two public engagement sessions on 13 December 2012 and 20 February 2013 respectively to solicit the views of stakeholders on how to take forward the "Ting Kok Plus".

The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department has been discussing with academic regarding ecological survey in that area. It also plans to conduct spot checks along the coastline at Ting Kok and the area within Plover Cove, and would produce relevant education and publicity materials. Other relevant departments e.g. Home Affairs Department have been closely engaged for mapping out way forward on this front. Exact resource implication would need to be worked out at a later stage.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB150

Question Serial No.

0427

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Why has the Environmental Protection Department's estimate made no mention of light pollution which is of increasing concern to the public? What are the Department's plans and actions on reducing light pollution in the next year?

Asked by: Hon. CHUNG Shu-kun, Christopher

Reply:

The Government attaches great importance to the concern of the public on the light nuisance and energy wastage problems that may be caused by external lighting. In this context, the Government set up the Task Force on External Lighting (Task Force) in August 2011, with members drawn from different professional bodies, relevant trades and green groups. The Task Force is studying whether technical standards and parameters may be set for regulating external lighting in the local circumstances, and is planning to consult relevant stakeholders later this year before submitting its recommendations to the Government. We will consider the recommendations and take follow-up actions accordingly.

In 2013-14, \$1 million has been allocated under Programme (2) of the estimates for the Environment Bureau (Head 137) for the stakeholder engagement activities related to external lighting.

The Environmental Protection Department handles light nuisance and energy wastage issues related to external lighting by existing manpower and resources and no separate account is provided for this specific activity.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB151

Question Serial No.

0428

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please provide the following information:

- a. Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has indicated that promotion and public education of nature conservation in the community across sectors will be conducted in the coming year (2013-14). What are the details?
- b. Does the Administration plan to instill the correct nature conservation concepts in the public, so as to rectify their misconception that "development and conservation are mutually exclusive"?

Asked by: Hon. CHUNG Shu-kun, Christopher

Reply:

We will continue to collaborate with District Councils, non-governmental organizations and the tourism industry in the educational and publicity efforts for nature conservation. The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has earmarked \$36 million in 2013-14 for enhancing education and publicity on nature conservation. Major programmes and activities include: (a) organising educational talks and exhibitions (such as Nature in Touch, Great Outdoor Hong Kong, Bird-watching Festival) as well as the production of educational and publicity materials; (b) the dissemination of nature conservation information through the websites (www.afcd.gov.hk, www.hkherbarium.net, www.natureintouch.gov.hk, and www.hkwalkers.net) and mobile phone applications (Enjoy Hiking, Hong Kong Global Geopark of China, Hong Kong Wetland Park and Country Parks Tree Walks) of AFCD; (c) educational activities and guided tours organised in Country Parks, Geopark, Marine Parks and Hong Kong Wetland Park, such as school visit programme for kindergartens and primary schools, country parks reporter scheme, guided educational tours; and (d) the training of volunteers (country parks and wetland park volunteer scheme), local escorts and tour operators engaged in nature based tourism businesses.

As an integral part of our education and publicity efforts, the Government will continue to promote nature conservation in line with the principles of pursuing sustainable development.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 22 March 2013

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

ENB152

Question Serial No.

2352

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the expenditure for various strategic landfills of the Department, please advise on the following:

(a) What were the operational expenditures of various landfills in Hong Kong in the past three years (2010-11, 2011-12, and 2012-13)? What was the total amount of waste treated? (Please list by type of waste)

(b) What is the estimated expenditure for the operation of various landfills in Hong Kong this year (2013-14)? What is the total amount of waste estimated to be treated? (Please list by type of waste)

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

(a) The operation costs of the South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill, North East New Territories (NENT) Landfill and West New Territories (WENT) Landfill for 2010, 2011 and 2012 and the total amount of waste disposed of these three landfills are shown in the tables below :

Financial Year	Operation Cost (\$ million)			
	SENT Landfill	NENT Landfill	WENT Landfill	Total
2010-11 (Actual)	166	125	131	422
2011-12 (Actual)	191	137	161	489
2012-13 (Estimate)	218	150	223	591

Calendar Year	Waste Disposed of (million tonnes)				
	Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)	Construction Waste	Dewatered Sludge	Others	Total
2010	3.33	1.31	0.34	0.07	5.04
2011	3.28	1.22	0.34	0.07	4.91
2012	3.40	1.26	0.34	0.07	5.07

Remark: Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.

- (b) The estimated operation costs of the SENT Landfill, NENT Landfill and WENT Landfill for 2013-14 are \$221 million, \$157 million and \$236 million respectively. The projected quantities of waste required to be disposed of in 2013 are similar to 2012 and with a similar breakdown.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB153

Question Serial No.

4942

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Environmental Assessment and Planning

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: How many applications for Environmental Permits did the Department handle in the past three years (i.e. 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13)? What is the Department's staff establishment for conducting "environmental impact assessment"? What is the estimate for this year (i.e. 2013-14)?

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) processed 68, 41 and 63 applications for environmental permit under the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Ordinance in the calendar years 2010, 2011 and 2012 respectively.

In 2012-13, the EPD deployed 116 staff within its establishment to support the operation of the EIA mechanism as well as to provide inputs to land use planning process with a total expenditure of \$87.5 million. In 2013-14, the planned resources for the above activities will be 116 staff with a total expenditure of \$88.7 million. We do not have a separate account for processing applications under the EIA Ordinance.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB154

Question Serial No.

4943

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: How many officers were deployed by the Department to patrol country parks "enclaves" in the past three years (i.e. 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13)? What were the relevant expenditures? What are the number of patrolling staff and estimated expenditure for this year (i.e. 2013-14)?

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai

Reply:

From 2011-12, the expenditure and manpower involved within the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department for the strengthening of patrol and enforcement relating to the country park enclaves was \$2.5 million including the provisions for 10 contract staff.

The provision will remain the same in 2013-14.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB155

Question Serial No.

4945

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: What is the Bureau's estimated staffing provision for handling waste management this year (2013-14)? What is the relevant expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

The estimated staff establishment for waste management in 2013-14 is 577 and the relevant expenditure is \$321.6 million.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB156

Question Serial No.

4948

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please advise on the expenditures for overseas visits conducted in the name of the Department in the past 5 years (i.e. 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13) and provide details in the table below:

Dates of Visits	Reasons for Visits	Number of Accompanying Officers	Hotel Expenses	Air Ticket Fares	Total Expenses

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

Information on the expenditures for overseas visits conducted in the name of the Department and the number of officers involved in the past 5 years are provided in the table below.

Dates of Visits	Reasons for Visits	Number of Officers	Hotel Expenses (\$)	Air Ticket Fares (\$)	Total Expenses (\$)
2008-09	Experience sharing and liaison with the Mainland and other countries on environmental protection and related issues.	274	362,181	411,345	773,526
2009-10		282	353,702	386,509	740,211
2010-11		266	270,721	420,789	691,510
2011-12		220	266,087	571,457	837,544
2012-13 (up to 1 March 2013)		156	184,103	73,817	257,920

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB157

Question Serial No.

4976

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Secretary for the Environment issued a public consultation document on a New Producer Responsibility Scheme on Glass Beverage Bottles in early February this year. The consultation lasts for 3 months until early May this year. However, the above work plan is not mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14. Please advise on the following:

- (a) What is the estimated expenditure for the above public consultation and the subsequent work in 2013-14? In which part of the Department's Estimates of Expenditure is it reflected?
- (b) Why is it not set out in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14?
- (c) Does the Administration have no intention yet to submit legislative proposals on the above scheme in 2013-14? If there is a plan to submit legislative proposals, in which quarter of the coming year does the Administration expect to submit them?
- (d) To implement the related levy scheme on glass bottles, does the Department have any plan to employ additional staff? If yes, what is the staffing establishment for the scheme?

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

The consultation on the producer responsibility scheme (PRS) on glass beverage bottles was launched in February 2013. We plan to report back to the Legislative Council on the way forward within 2013. The subsequent work plan including timing for legislation and future staffing provision will depend on the outcome of the public consultation. Meanwhile, the Government will continue to implement voluntary PRSs as set out in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14. The consultation and subsequent work on the development of the PRS on glass beverage bottles will mostly be undertaken by the Environmental Protection Department staff as part of their normal duties and the cost incurred will be absorbed in the department's general expenditure.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB158

Question Serial No.

2822

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: (1) In the Brief Description, it is stated that ‘the Administration adopts a “reduction first” strategy and implements a multi-pronged approach of waste reduction, recycling’. Please elaborate on the specific details, expected results and the required expenditure of the strategy.

(2) Regarding the “refuse transfer stations tonnage of waste received annually” in the Indicators, would the Administration set out respectively the percentages of industrial waste, construction waste and domestic waste in the waste received in 2012? What are the percentages of expenditures spent on handling these wastes?

(3) Please provide information on: since the implementation of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags, how many cases of non-compliance are there? What are the details of these cases? What is the total amount of levy charged by the Government? How much of such levy is used to fund the environmental protection or waste treatment work? What is the percentage of such levy in the total amount of levy? Are there any statistics on the number of non-woven bags distributed by the merchants and the number of non-woven bags discarded?

(4) Regarding the waste recycling work, please provide the total number of recovery stations in all districts of the territory. Please also set out respectively the type and amount of waste received by the recovery stations.

Asked by: Hon. FANG Kang, Vincent

Reply:

(1) The Government has adopted a “reduction first” waste management strategy and will continue to enhance its efforts on promoting waste reduction and recovery. The Government is taking the following actions for the progressive implementation of mandatory Producer Responsibility Schemes (PRs) through legislative means:

- (a) we are preparing legislative proposals for the extension of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags. Based on the experience of the current scheme, we expect that the extended scheme may reduce the excessive use of plastic shopping bags by up to 90% in the retail outlets not covered in the first phase;

- (b) we are preparing legislative proposals for the PRS on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE). With a WEEE treatment plant to be developed in the EcoPark, we expect that the PRS may collect about 30 000 tonnes of locally generated WEEE for proper treatment every year; and
- (c) we are conducting a public consultation on a new PRS on glass beverage bottles. Subject to favourable outcome of the consultation, we expect that the PRS may collect about 38 500 tonnes of waste glass beverage bottles for proper treatment a year upon successful implementation of the PRS.

Similarly, municipal solid waste (MSW) charging is another key initiative in the waste management strategy. Following the public consultation in 2012, the Government has affirmed the direction of introducing quantity-based MSW charging to help reduce waste in Hong Kong. The waste reduction impact of MSW charging will depend on the operational details which will be explored through a public engagement being conducted by the Council for Sustainable Development. The resource requirements for these initiatives will be assessed when the relevant implementation details are available.

Moreover, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will continue to encourage the public to reduce waste and separate waste at source for recycling through publicity and education programmes including recognition schemes, media advertisements and broadcasts, workshops, forums and exhibitions. Invitation to owners' committees and property management companies of housing estates will be made to enlist their greater participation. We will also step up joint efforts with government departments, all district councils, schools, green groups and social services organizations to set up more community recycling points. In addition, EPD will take forward new pilot community green stations in 2013-14, with an estimated expenditure of \$44 million and \$21 million for the capital works and operational services respectively.

The EPD plans to spend about \$39.53 million in 2013-14 to further raise public awareness and enhance community participation on waste reduction, separation and recycling. We propose to inject \$5 billion into the Environment and Conservation Fund to generate investment income for taking forward work that would help raise awareness and enlist support from different sectors in undertaking community green actions.

- (2) The total tonnage of waste received at the refuse transfer stations in 2012 was 2 337 560 tonnes and the percentages of municipal solid waste (comprising domestic waste, commercial and industrial waste), construction waste and other waste types are 92.5%, 0.4% and 7.1% respectively. The percentages of operation cost for these three types of wastes are also 92.5%, 0.4% and 7.1% respectively. It should be noted that construction waste is only accepted at the refuse transfer facilities on the outlying islands.
- (3) Since the implementation of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags in July 2009, there have been six convictions for non-compliance. The relevant offences include (i) failure to charge the environmental levy, (ii) failure to display registration certificate; and (iii) failure to register as a prescribed retailer. The penalty is \$2,000 for each case. Between July 2009 and March 2013, the levy income received by the Government amounts to \$94.6 million. Such levy income has been deposited into the General Revenue for supporting the Government's expenditures on waste management which is estimated to be \$1,690.7 million in 2012-13. The Government has not carried out any survey on the number of non-woven bags distributed by retailers; according to a survey in mid-2012, non-woven bag disposal at landfills is estimated to be 22.0 million per annum.

- (4) Since the launch of the Source Separation of Waste Programme in 2005, over 1 940 housing estates/ residential buildings and 800 commercial and industrial buildings have now provided separation bins at the building lobbies and/or floors for their occupants to participate in source separation of waste and recycling.

Under the Voluntary Producer Responsibility Schemes, there are about 2 450 collection points for rechargeable batteries, 1 050 points for computers, and 1 180 points for florescent lamps provided in housing estates, commercial & industrial buildings and shops taking part in the schemes. Meanwhile, a pilot scheme of waste glass bottles recycling has been started in 29 public rental estates in East Kowloon.

To further arouse public awareness on recycling and encourage public participation in waste recovery, the EPD, in collaboration with government departments and various sectors, has developed a wide community recycling network (CRN) comprising about 530 collection points. At these CRN collection points, waste recycling and face-to-face promotion activities, such as waste-commodities exchange, are held regularly to facilitate the collection of recyclables, especially those of low commercial value, including waste plastics, glass bottles and small WEEE.

In addition, the Environment and Conservation Fund also supports non-government organizations (NGOs) to operate waste recovery projects to collect food waste and glass bottles. There are some 13 points for food waste recovery at NGO premises and public markets, and 15 points for collecting glass bottles from the public.

We do not have comprehensive records of the amount of recyclables collected from all the above collection points. All these collection points serve a very important role in promoting environmental awareness in the community, and recycling activities among the public are not limited to waste received at these collection points. For example, some residents or cleaners will sell the recyclables directly to recyclers or carry out recovery through other means such as waste exchange. There are currently about 500 commercial recyclers operating at various locations in Hong Kong collecting higher valued recyclables, i.e. paper, metals and good quality plastics.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB159

Question Serial No.

3001

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14, it is mentioned that the Department will “pursue the extension of the three strategic landfills, namely the West New Territories Landfill, South East New Territories Landfill and North East New Territories Landfill”. Would the Administration inform this Committee of: What are the annual operational expenditures for the three existing strategic landfills respectively? What are the extension plans for the three strategic landfills? What are the expenditure and manpower incurred by pursuing the extension?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

The operation costs for handling waste disposal at the existing South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill, North East New Territories (NENT) Landfill and the West New Territories (WENT) Landfill in 2012-13 are \$218 million, \$150 million & \$223 million respectively. We plan to seek funding approval from the Legislative Council later this year with a view to commissioning the landfill extensions before they are exhausted.

The estimated capital costs for the SENT Landfill Extension, NENT Landfill Extension and WENT Landfill Extension are \$1,320 million, \$4,180 million & \$9,960 million at September 2012 price level respectively. The manpower required for developing and implementing the three landfill extension projects will be met through internal deployment of existing staff resources.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB160

Question Serial No.

4422

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title): (297) Fees for operation of waste facilities

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the “provision for 2013–14 is \$171.0 million (10.1%) higher than the revised estimate for 2012–13. This is mainly due to increased contract payments for the operation of waste facilities. In addition, there will be a net increase of ten posts in 2013–14”, would the Administration advise this Committee:

1. Please list by subhead 297 and subhead 000 the provision for refuse transfer stations and landfills for 2013-14 and the revised estimate for 2012-13, as well as the change in staff establishment;
2. As regards the target of “operating hours of strategic landfills” which is 53 hours less than the actual operating hours in 2012-13, please list by weekdays or weekends and holidays the planned daily operating hours of the strategic landfills in 2013-14 and the actual daily operating hours in 2012-13;
3. Please list by weekdays or weekends and holidays, periods of time and types of waste the tonnage of waste received by the strategic landfills in 2013-14 and its percentage in the total solid waste disposed of.

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

1. The estimated operation cost of the refuse transfer stations and landfills for 2012-13 and 2013-14 provided under subhead 297 are shown in the tables below. No operation cost of these facilities is provided under subhead 000.

Refuse Transfer Stations	Operation Cost (\$ million)	
	2012-13 Revised Estimate	2013-14 Estimate
Island East Transfer Station	67	73
Shatin Transfer Station	35	37
West Kowloon Transfer Station	119	136
Island West Transfer Station	58	66
Outlying Islands Transfer Facilities	55	53
North Lantau Transfer Station	27	29
North West New Territories Refuse Transfer Station	29	29
Total	390	423

Landfills	Operation Cost (\$ million)	
	2012-13 Revised Estimate	2013-14 Estimate
West New Territories Landfill (WENT)	223	236
North East New Territories Landfill (NENT)	150	157
South East New Territories Landfill (SENT)	218	221
Total	591	614

There is no change in the staff establishment of these waste facilities in 2013-14 when compared with 2012-13.

- The number of opening hours of landfills in 2013 is less than that in 2012 because 2012 is a leap year and there was temporary closure of landfills due to typhoon.

	WENT Landfill	NENT Landfill	SENT Landfill
Daily operating hours	8am – 8pm	7am – 7pm	8am – 11pm

- The estimated annual quantities and percentages of various waste types to be disposed of at landfills in 2013 are provided in the table below. There is no breakdown of the estimates into different days or periods of the year.

Unit: Million tonnes

Waste Type	WENT	NENT	SENT	Total
Municipal Solid Waste	1.92 [38%]	0.71 [14%]	0.76 [15%]	3.40 [67%]
Construction Waste	0.22 [4%]	0.19 [4%]	0.85 [17%]	1.26 [25%]
Dewatered Sludge	0.16 [3%]	0.06 [1%]	0.12 [2%]	0.34 [7%]
Others	0.03 [1%]	0.02 [0%]	0.02 [0%]	0.07 [1%]
Total	2.33 [46%]	0.98 [19%]	1.76 [35%]	5.07 [100%]

Remark: Figures may not add up to total and percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding off.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB161

Question Serial No.

4426

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In the Matters Requiring Special Attention, it is mentioned that the Administration will “pursue the extension of the three strategic landfills.” Would the Administration advise this Committee:

- (a) Of the net increase of ten posts in 2013-14, how many are related to pursuing the extension of the three strategic landfills as mentioned in Matters Requiring Special Attention? If there are any, what are their duties and functions, and the expenditure involved? If there is none, what specific policies are these posts responsible for?
- (b) What are the sites, works details, estimated expenditure, and the impact on the sustainability of the surrounding environment in respect of these three extension projects?
- (c) On pursuing these extension projects, does the Administration have any specific timetable, including public engagement, consultation of stakeholders, preliminary feasibility studies, etc.? If yes, what is the expenditure involved?
- (d) Regarding the indicator on the tonnage of waste received annually, the estimate for 2013-14 is similar to the actual tonnage received in 2012-13. Has the Administration assessed the impact of promoting waste reduction at source and recycling on the waste intake of the landfills in the coming year, and what are the assessment results?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

- (a) The net increase of ten civil service posts in 2013-14, including the creation of 12 posts offsetting by deletion of two time-limited posts, is not related to the extension of the three strategic landfills. The details of the 12 new posts to be created in 2013-14 are as follows:

	No. of new posts/ Rank	Responsibilities
(i)	2 Environmental Protection Officers (EPOs)	To replace existing non-civil service contract staff to implement the Source Separation of Waste Programme and compile the local waste recovery and recycling statistics.

	No. of new posts/ Rank	Responsibilities
(ii)	1 EPO	To oversee the planning and contract procurement for the five pilot community green stations (CGSs).
(iii)	1 Senior Environmental Protection Inspector and 1 Environmental Protection Inspector (EPI)	To provide technical support to the EPO/Senior EPO for establishing the five CGSs, including supervising the operational contracts, monitoring the operators' compliance, handling complaints and enquiries, and coordinating community programmes etc.
(iv)	4 EPIs	To replace existing non-civil service contract staff to operate the construction waste disposal charging scheme and take enforcement action against non-compliance of legislation.
(v)	3 EPIs	To oversee the testing and commissioning stage of the sludge treatment facility project and supervise the operation of the facility.

(b)&(c)

The estimated capacities, planned areas and estimated capital costs of the three landfill extension projects (i.e. the South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill Extension, the North East New Territories (NENT) Landfill Extension and the West New Territories (WENT) Landfill Extension) are shown in the table below. We plan to seek funding approval from the Legislative Council Finance Committee later this year with a view to commissioning the landfill extensions before they are exhausted.

Landfill Extension	Estimated Capacity (million m³)	Area for the Proposed Extension (ha)	Latest Estimated Capital Cost (at September 2012 price level) (\$ million)
SENT	6.5	13	1,320
NENT	19	70	4,180
WENT	81	200	9,960
Total	106.5	283	15,460

Since the commencement of the engineering feasibility study and the environmental impact assessment (EIA) stages for the three landfill extension project, we have been adopting a continuous public involvement approach and have been maintaining a close liaison with the relevant District Councils, rural committees, local community and related stakeholders to brief them on the development of the landfill extension projects. The total expenditure spent so far on the engineering feasibility and EIA in relation to development of the three landfill extension projects is about \$40 million.

(d) Under the “reduction first” strategy, the Government will continue and enhance its efforts in promoting waste reduction and recycling. However, within a long range trend, there will be year-to-year fluctuations in waste quantities which we have to handle. As a prudent approach in ensuring proper

waste management service for the community, adequate funding is therefore reserved for handling a prospective amount of waste arising similar to that in the previous year.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 2 April 2013

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

ENB162

Question Serial No.

4427

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: As mentioned in the policy initiatives of the Environment Bureau regarding the 2013 Policy Address, the Bureau will “develop five pilot community green stations in different parts of the territory to provide accessible and visible support... Each of these green stations will be operated by a non-government organisation to be selected through open tender”. In respect of this plan, please advise this Committee on the relevant details, the expenditure involved, the criteria for approval, the potential sites identified and the reasons for selection, as well as the performance indicators.

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

We plan to develop five pilot community green stations in different parts of the territory to provide accessible and visible support for green living at the community level. Each of these green stations will be operated by a non-government organisation (NGO) to be selected through open tender. Leveraging on the NGO operators' local connections, the green stations will undertake recycling initiatives and collaborate with schools, property management and other relevant stakeholders or institutions on such initiatives and environmental education. The community green stations will support recycling efforts at community level, including reaching out to the community for the collection of recyclables, supporting the Community Recycling Network and conducting other measures to promote the separation of waste at source. In addition, the stations will also hold publicity and educational programmes. The capability of an NGO operator in undertaking these functions as well as the cost required will be taken into account in the tender assessment.

Having taken into account the availability of suitable land and the need to maintain a geographical spread of the facilities across the territories, we have identified potential sites in each of the Legislative Council geographical constituencies and will consult the District Councils concerned, with a view to commencing the construction programme as soon as the sites are available. We commenced the design of two green stations and aim to commission the stations in phases from late 2013. The estimated expenditure of the capital works and operation services in 2013-14 are \$44 million and \$21 million respectively.

Upon commissioning, the Environmental Protection Department will monitor the performance of the community green stations with reference to a basket of indicators including the number of collection points set up in the community, the number of environmental education sessions conducted for schools, property management and other relevant stakeholders or institutions as well as the tonnage of recyclables collected.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB163

Question Serial No.

0521

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the information about the Department's records management work over the past three years (2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13):

1. The number of dedicated staff for records management and their ranks. If there is no dedicated staff for records management, please provide the number of staff involved in records management, the number of hours spent on records management and the information on the additional duties that the staff need to handle.
2. Please provide information on closed programme records and administrative records and pending transfer to the Government Records Service (GRS) for appraisal in the following table:

Type of records	Years covered by the records	Number of the records and their linear metres	Retention period of the records approved by the GRS	Are these confidential records?

3. Please provide information on the programme records and administrative records transferred to the GRS in the following table:

Type of records	Years covered by the records	Number of the records and their linear metres	Year of transfer to the GRS	Retention period of the records approved by the GRS	Are these confidential records?

4. Please provide information on the records approved for destruction by the GRS in the following table:

Type of records	Years covered by the records	Number of the records and their linear metres	Year of transfer to the GRS	Retention period of the records approved by the GRS	Are these confidential records?

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

- Records management duties are overseen by a Departmental Records Manager and an Assistant Departmental Records Manager. They are officers at the rank of Chief Executive Officer and Senior Executive Officer respectively. They are assisted by around 260 clerical and secretarial staff whose duties may include records management. The proportion of their time engaged in records management varied according to different practices and operational functions.
- During the past three years, we had no closed programme records and administrative records pending transfer to Government Records Service (GRS) for appraisal.
- Information on the programme records and administrative records transferred to the GRS is provided in the table below.

Year	Type of records	Covering period (year opened and year closed)	Number of the records and their linear metres	Year of transfer to the GRS	Approved retention as appraised by the GRS	Are these confidential records
2010-11	Programme	-	-	-	-	-
	Administrative	1987 – 1994	17 nos. 0.79LM	2010	Being reviewed by GRS	No
2011-12	Programme	1999 – 2005	2 318 nos. 26 LM	2011	5 years	No
	Programme	1982 – 2006	329 nos. 19.33 LM	2011	Being reviewed by GRS	No
	Administrative	-	-	-	-	-
2012-13	Programme	-	-	-	-	-
	Administrative	-	-	-	-	-

- Information on the records approved for destruction by the GRS is provided in the table below.

Year	Type of records	Covering period (year opened and year closed)	Number of the records and their linear metres	Year of transfer to the GRS*	Approved retention as appraised by the GRS	Are these confidential records
2010-11	Programme	-	-	-	-	-
	Administrative	1978 – 2004	263 nos. 10.41 LM	-	2 - 7 years	No
2011-12	Programme	1987 – 1995	402 nos. 8 LM	-	Nil	No
	Administrative	1995 – 2007	14 nos. 1 LM	-	5 years	No
2012-13	Programme	-	-	-	-	-
	Administrative	1995 – 2005	263 nos. 35 LM	-	3 - 7 years	No

* Not required to be transferred to GRS

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB164

Question Serial No.

1483

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the measures to be taken by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) in 2013-14 to improve air quality, please inform this Committee of the following:

1. The schedule of introducing legislation to update the new Air Quality Objectives (AQOs) and the specific details of the new AQOs;
2. The specific details of the new "health-based system" which will replace the existing air pollution index system.

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

Reply:

1. Our plan is to effect the new Air Quality Objectives (AQOs) on 1 January 2014. We tabled the Air Pollution Control (Amendment) Bill 2013 in Legislative Council (LegCo) in February 2013 and first and second readings in the LegCo was held on 20 March 2013. Details of the new AQOs are at Annex.
2. To tie in with the implementation of the new AQOs, we propose to replace in January 2014 the Air Pollution Index system with a new health risk-based Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) system. The proposed AQHI system has the following key features –
 - (i) the aggregated increase in hospital admission risks of the air pollutants, namely nitrogen dioxide, ozone, particulate matters and sulphur dioxide, are used for determining the AQHI cut-points to reflect their combined health effects at different air pollution levels;
 - (ii) the AQHI bands are reported in a scale from 1 to 10+ and are grouped into 5 health risk categories, namely, low, moderate, high, very high and serious.
 - (iii) the health risk levels associated with the short-term AQG of the World Health Organization for the air pollutants are used for determining the AQHI cut-points for the high and very high categories, reflecting corresponding increase in aggregate health risks of 11.29% and 12.91% increase in hospital admissions (due to respiratory and heart illnesses) respectively; and
 - (iv) it will be calculated on the basis of 3-hour moving average pollutant concentrations to enable the change of air quality be closely followed.

We briefed the LegCo Panel on Environmental Affairs of the proposed AQHI system at the meeting on 25 February 2013 and got the Panel's support to launch the new system.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 19 March 2013

Proposed New AQOs for Hong Kong

Pollutants	Averaging Time	Existing AQOs		Proposed new AQOs	
		($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	No. of Exceed-ances Allowed	($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	No. of Exceed-ances Allowed
Sulphur Dioxide	10-min	--	--	500	3
	24-hr	350	1	125	3
Respirable Suspended Particulates (PM10)	24-hr	180	1	100	9
	Annual	55	NA	50	NA
Fine Suspended Particulates (PM2.5)	24-hr	--	--	75	9
	Annual	--	--	35	NA
Nitrogen Dioxide	1-hr	300	3	200	18
	Annual	80	NA	40	NA
Ozone	8-hr	240 ^[1]	3	160	9
Carbon Monoxide	1-hr	30 000	3	30 000	0
	8-hr	10 000	1	10 000	0
Lead	Annual	1.5 ^[2]	NA	0.5	NA

^[1] There is no existing 8-hour AQO for ozone in Hong Kong. The figure presented above is the 1-hour AQO.

^[2] There is no annual AQO for lead in Hong Kong. The figure presented above is the 3-month AQO.

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

ENB165

Question Serial No.

1484

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: With regard to the waste treatment measures of the Environmental Protection Department in 2013-14, please inform this Committee of:

- (1) The reasons for an increase of 9.8% in the financial provision for waste treatment in 2013-14 compared with the original estimate for 2012-13;
- (2) The specific details of the measures to raise the waste recovery rate to 55% by 2015 as indicated by the Administration earlier ;
- (3) What are the specific targets set by the Administration for the waste management strategies on waste reduction at source, recycling and waste separation etc.? How will the effectiveness be assessed?

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

Reply:

(1) The increase in provision in the estimate for 2013-14 as compared with the original estimate for 2012-13 is mainly provided to cover the price fluctuation as required in accordance with the contract provisions of waste facilities; aftercare service at restored landfills which was previously funded under the Capital Works Reserve Fund, operating cost for the sludge treatment facility which would be commissioned in end 2013, and to meet the increased requirement of operating expenses.

(2) & (3)

In order to achieve the waste recovery target of 55% by 2015, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is putting more efforts to further promote the Programme on Source Separation of Waste and encourage community participation in waste separation, recovery and recycling. The EPD will continue to encourage the public to reduce waste and separate waste at source for recycling through publicity and education programmes including recognition schemes, media advertisements and broadcasts, workshops, forums and exhibitions. Invitation to owners' committees and property management companies of housing estates will be made to enlist their greater participation. We will also step up joint efforts with government departments, all district councils, schools, green groups and social services organizations to set up more community recycling points. Efforts will also be made to launch new programmes for promoting food waste reduction and recycling, the proposed mandatory Producer Responsibility Scheme for waste electrical and electronic equipment, recycling of glass beverage containers and the extension of the Environmental Levy Scheme for plastic shopping bags. In addition, EPD will take forward new pilot community green stations in 2013-14, with an estimated expenditure of \$44 million and \$21 million for the capital works and operational services respectively.

To facilitate and ensure proper outlets for collected recyclables, further support to the local recycling trade will be provided, including provision of short term land through short-term tenancies and long term land at EcoPark for use by local waste recyclers, as well as stable provision of suitable berth facilities at public cargo handling areas for exclusive bidding by recycling trades.

In addition, we propose to inject \$5 billion to the Environment and Conservation Fund to generate investment income for taking forward work that would help raise awareness and enlist support from different sectors in undertaking community green actions.

All the above measures would mobilize the community to help reduce waste and enable Hong Kong to reuse and recycle waste at a much higher level.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB166

Question Serial No.

1485

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Environment Bureau has mentioned that it will reduce vehicle emissions on various fronts in 2013-14. Would the Administration advise on the following:

1. The specific details, progress and timetable of the incentive and regulatory means for replacing old diesel commercial vehicles;
2. The details, timetable and financial commitment of the programme on replacing catalytic converters in taxis and light buses;
3. The progress of implementing the programme on retrofitting Euro II and Euro III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices;
4. The details and implementation of the programme on making use of the Pilot Green Transport Fund to try out innovative green transport technologies and its status.

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

Reply:

1. To improve roadside air quality and protect public health, we propose to phase out some 86 000 pre-Euro IV (i.e. pre-Euro, Euro I, Euro II and Euro III) diesel commercial vehicles (including goods vehicles, light buses and non-franchised buses) through an incentive-cum-regulatory proposal. Specifically, our proposals include –
 - a) to offer ex-gratia payment to vehicle owners for phasing out their pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles. Ex-gratia payment will also be provided to vehicle owners who scrap their pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles without replacement by new vehicles. The payment level will be correlated inversely with the age of the vehicle to be scrapped or replaced. A higher ex-gratia payment will be made in the cases of replacement by newly registered vehicles.
 - b) to stop the renewal of licences for pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles in phases with the banning of the most polluting pre-Euro and Euro I vehicles on 1 January 2016, and Euro II on 1 January 2017 and Euro III on 1 January 2019 respectively; and

- c) to set a statutory retirement age of 15 years for newly registered diesel commercial vehicles as a long term solution to the pollution problem caused by aged diesel commercial vehicles.

We are consulting the relevant transport trades and other stakeholders about the proposals and would report to the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs on the findings and the way forward.

2. The Finance Committee approved \$150 million in April 2012 to provide a one-off subsidy to owners of about 21 360 liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) taxis and light buses to replace once their catalytic converters and oxygen sensors as part of the proposal to strengthen the emission control of petrol and LPG vehicles. Subject to satisfactory outcome of the tender exercise, we would be able to award the contracts by mid 2013 for commencing the replacement exercise in the following quarter. The replacement exercise will take about nine months to complete. Upon its completion, we will deploy remote sensing equipment on roads as part of the strengthened regulatory control on LPG and petrol vehicles.
3. Together with the franchised bus companies, we have retrofitted six Euro II and III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices (SCRs) for trial. The SCRs have been in operation for over 12 months. We are now analyzing the trial data together with the franchised bus companies. Subject to satisfactory trial results and agreement with the franchised bus companies on the arrangements, the Government will fully fund the retrofit of Euro II and III franchised buses with the devices and has set aside \$550 million for the retrofit programme.
4. The Government set up in March 2011 a \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund to encourage the public transport operators and goods vehicle owners to test out green and innovative transport technologies. The Fund subsidizes the capital cost (including installation cost if applicable) of the green and innovative technology product but not the associated recurrent expenditure. For alternative-fueled vehicles, the subsidy is either the price premium between the alternative-fueled and the conventional vehicle or 50% of the cost of the alternative-fueled vehicle, whichever is higher. The Fund also subsidizes 50% of the cost for setting up the related support system (e.g. charging facilities for electric vehicles). As of 11 March 2013, 44 approved applicants have started or are making preparations for trial of a total of 79 vehicles (including 14 electric taxis, 11 electric coaches, 18 electric goods vehicles, 24 hybrid goods vehicles and 12 hybrid light buses). About \$76 million or 25% of the Fund have been committed for these trials.

Name in blockletters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB167

Question Serial No.

4443

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please list out the specific estimates and policy objectives of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign in 2013-14.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

To take forward the Chief Executive's pledge to promote food waste reduction, the Government announced on 3 December 2012 the setting up of the Food Wise Hong Kong Steering Committee, which is chaired by the Secretary for the Environment and with members drawn from the relevant sectors, including catering and hotels, retail, property management, education, academia, green groups and food recipient organizations, as well as relevant government departments.

The Steering Committee is tasked with formulating and overseeing the implementation strategies of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign, which aims to promote public awareness of food waste problems in Hong Kong and co-ordinate efforts within the Government and public institutions to lead by example in food waste reduction. The objectives of the Steering Committee also include instilling behavioural change at the individual and household levels to help reduce food waste generation, drawing up and promoting good practices of food waste reduction at commercial and industrial establishments, and facilitating food donation to charitable organizations from establishments with surplus food. Under the Steering Committee two sub-committees have been set up and are responsible for education and promotion and the food waste reduction good practices for various sectors respectively. Various working groups have also been set up to support the works of the sub-committees.

The Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign would be launched shortly, with a series of activities to be rolled out, including public education initiatives through for instance TV and radio APIs, the launch of good practice guides, roving exhibitions and community events, a dedicated website, and food waste reduction workshops for various sectors, etc. We will keep in view the effect of the Campaign on the food waste reduction after the activities are rolled out. The manpower for the campaign is absorbed into the existing establishment. The planned budget for the Campaign in the year 2013-14 is around \$10 million.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB168

Question Serial No.

4444

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please list out the estimates for taking forward the organic waste treatment facilities in 2013-14.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

We plan to develop the Organic Waste Treatment Facilities (OWTF) in phases. The first phase of OWTF will be developed at Siu Ho Wan of North Lantau with a treatment capacity of 200 tonnes per day. Tender for the design, build and operation (DBO) of this facility was invited on 8 February 2013. Subject to Finance Committee's funding approval, we plan to award the DBO contract in early 2014 for commissioning the facility in 2016. The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for the study of the OWTF Phase 1 is \$1.3 million.

The second phase of OWTF will be developed at Sha Ling in the North District with a treatment capacity of 300 tonnes per day. We are now carrying out the engineering investigation and environmental impact assessment (EIA) studies for this facility. We plan to complete the EIA study in 2013 with a view to commissioning the facility in 2017. The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for the study of the OWTF Phase 2 is \$2.1 million.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB169

Question Serial No.

4445

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: According to the air pollution indices recorded at roadside monitoring stations, the number of days with air pollution index (API) exceeding 100 was 141 in 2010, 172 in 2011 and 142 in 2012. Please advise on the reasons for the continuing deterioration of air quality in Hong Kong and the estimated expenditure for improving air quality to reduce the number of days with API exceeding 100 in 2013-14.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

Our measures to reduce vehicle emissions have improved roadside air quality. As compared with 2005, the roadside concentrations of sulphur dioxide and respirable suspended particulates in 2012 were reduced by 55% and 29% respectively. However, the concentrations of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) at the roadside increased by 24% during the same period. This is the key reason for the increase in the number of days of roadside monitoring stations with API exceeding 100.

To tackle the roadside NO₂ problem, we will take forward a number of new measures to further reduce vehicle emissions. These include retrofitting Euro II and III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices (SCR), strengthening the emission control of petrol and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicles and adopting an incentive-cum-regulatory approach to phase out pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles (including light buses, goods vehicles and coaches). In parallel, we will continue to work with Guangdong Authorities to reduce the emissions in the Pearl River Delta Region so as to reduce the regional ozone level, which could promote the formation of NO₂ at roadsides. These measures will help improve roadside air quality.

Improving air quality is part and parcel of the Air Programme of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) and the related expenditure is covered by the provision for the Air Programme. As for the above new measures, the Government has set aside \$550 million for the SCR retrofit programme for Euro II and III franchised buses, \$150 million for the one-off replacement of catalytic converters for petrol and LPG taxis and light buses as part of the measure to strengthen the emission control for petrol and LPG vehicles and \$10 billion for phasing out pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB170

Question Serial No.

4446

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Water

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The legislative process for rezoning a site on Stonecutters Island for the underground biological treatment works under the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme (HATS) Stage 2B was completed in 2011. What is the total expenditure involved? Please also advise on whether the planning for HATS Stage 2B can be completed in 2013-14 and the estimated expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

The rezoning procedures for the proposed underground biological treatment plant under Harbour Area Treatment Scheme (HATS) Stage 2B were completed in 2011 and the total cost of engaging consultants to carry out planning and land use study of the site for facilitating the rezoning application was \$2.82 million.

The Environmental Protection Department has commissioned a review of HATS Stage 2B as regards the water quality trends, population growth, sewage flow build-up and other relevant issues and is examining the review findings. The review is conducted through consultancy services. The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for hiring consultants' services is \$1.25 million. We are considering ways to further enhance the water quality of the urban coastal waters and aim to consult the public and stakeholders later this year.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 2 April 2013

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

ENB171

Question Serial No.

4494

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please list out the average cost of handling one tonne of Municipal Solid Waste in 2012-13, including the costs of transferring and handling waste in landfills.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

A breakdown of the average annual costs for transfer and disposal of municipal solid waste at landfills in 2012-13 is provided below:

	Projected 2012-13 (\$/tonne)
Transfer	207
Disposal at landfills	179
Total cost per tonne	386

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB172

Question Serial No.

4495

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please list out the figures of plastic shopping bags handled at landfills in Hong Kong ever since the implementation of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

The Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags commenced operation on 9 July 2009. The estimated amount of plastic bags disposed of at landfills for the year of 2009, 2010 and 2011 was 681, 817 and 740 tonnes per day respectively.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB173

Question Serial No.

2729

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF), would the Administration advise:

- (a) What were the numbers of applications for ECF in the past three years (i.e. 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13)? Of the applications, how many were successfully approved? What organizations were granted approval? And what were the amounts of fund granted?
- (b) What are the criteria for approving applications?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

- (a) Details on applications received and projects approved by the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) in the past three years from 2010-11 to 2012-13 (up to end December 2012) are set out in the Appendix.
- (b) The following criteria are being adopted for assessing funding applications –
 - (1) projects must contribute to the overall environment of Hong Kong, to raise environmental awareness of the local community, or to mobilize the community to take action to improve the environment;
 - (2) the benefits must accrue to the district/local community as a whole, and not just to individuals, a single private organization or a consortium of private companies;
 - (3) projects must be non-profit making in nature; and
 - (4) in considering a project proposal, due consideration is given to –
 - (i) the benefits that it will bring to Hong Kong's environment, ecology, flora and fauna etc., or the extent to which it will enhance the environmental awareness of local community;
 - (ii) whether there is a demonstrable need for the proposed project;
 - (iii) whether the programmes of the project proposal can bring about positive impacts in the longer run;

- (iv) the technical and project management capability of the applicant, as well as the past performance of the applicant, including the effectiveness of past projects, and the applicant's ability to comply with the funding conditions;
- (v) whether the proposed schedule of implementation is well-planned and practicable, and the duration is reasonable;
- (vi) whether the proposed budget is prudent, realistic and cost-effective, with full justification for every expenditure item;
- (vii) whether the proposed project has alternative sources of funding support;
- (viii) whether the proposed project should more appropriately be funded by other sources;
- (ix) whether there is or likely to be a duplication of the work already or currently carried out by other groups; and
- (x) if recurrent expenditure is incurred, whether the proposed project has potential to become self-sufficient after a certain period of time.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

**Details of Applications Received and Projects Funded by
the Environment and Conservation Fund
from 2010-11 to 2012-13 (up to end December 2012)**

	<u>Funding Scheme</u>	<u>Recipient Organizations</u>	<u>Number of Applications</u> (a). 2010-11 (b). 2011-12 (c). 2012-13	<u>Number of Approved Projects*</u> (a). 2010-11 (b). 2011-12 (c). 2012-13	<u>Approved Funding (\$)</u> (a). 2010-11 (b). 2011-12 (c). 2012-13
1	Environmental Education and Community Action Projects - General Projects	Local non-profit making organizations (e.g. universities, green groups, community bodies, schools, etc.)	(a). 32 (b). 29 (c). 28	(a). 16 (b). 27 (c). 10	(a). 6,110,536.20 (b). 23,209,101.00 (c). 3,630,264.50
2	Environmental Education and Community Action Projects - Minor Works Projects	Local non-profit making organizations (e.g. universities, green groups, community bodies, schools, etc.)	(a). 223 (b). 241 (c). 274	(a). 198 (b). 192 (c). 230	(a). 78,475,837.00 (b). 52,931,270.50 (c). 48,540,886.70
3	Community Waste Recovery and Source Separation Projects	Local non-profit making organizations (e.g. universities, green groups, community bodies, residents' organizations, etc.)	(a). 36 (b). 37 (c). 17	(a). 17 (b). 29 (c). 9	(a). 10,041,079.00 (b). 34,458,602.20 (c). 12,139,971.40
4	On-site Meal Portioning Projects in Schools	All Government-funded schools in Hong Kong (except Government schools)	(a). 57 (b). 17 (c). 10	(a). 40 (b). 18 (c). 14	(a). 51,799,697.70 (b). 21,795,706.92 (c). 19,687,411.00
5	Food Waste Recycling Projects in Housing Estates (Remarks: The funding scheme was launched in July 2011 and has been undertaken in phases. The first batch of housing estates obtained funding from the Environment and Conservation Fund in November 2011. The second phase of the scheme was rolled-out in October 2012 and the applications are being processed.)	Residents' organizations of private residential buildings	(a). - (b). 35 (c). 2	(a). - (b). 11 (c). 0	(a). - (b). 9,330,947.00 (c). 0

	<u>Funding Scheme</u>	<u>Recipient Organizations</u>	<u>Number of Applications</u> (a). 2010-11 (b). 2011-12 (c). 2012-13	<u>Number of Approved Projects*</u> (a). 2010-11 (b). 2011-12 (c). 2012-13	<u>Approved Funding (\$)</u> (a). 2010-11 (b). 2011-12 (c). 2012-13
6	Nature Conservation Management Agreement Projects	Local non-profit making organizations (e.g. green groups, community bodies, etc.)	(a). 0 (b). 2 (c). 1	(a). 0 (b). 2 (c). 1	(a). 0 (b). 14,785,250.64 (c). 7,774,266.15
7	Large-scale Environmental Education and Awareness Projects Coordinated by the Environmental Campaign Committee	Local non-profit making organizations (e.g. universities, green groups, community bodies, schools, etc.)	(a). N.A. (b). N.A. (c). N.A.	(a). N.A. (b). N.A. (c). N.A.	(a). 25,351,100.00 (b). 22,717,100.00 (c). 18,931,560.00
8	Buildings Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes (BEEFS)	Local owners' corporations registered under the Building Management Ordinance (Cap. 344), owners' organizations or residents' organizations of residential, commercial, industrial buildings or composite buildings comprising any two of these three types of establishments	(a). 263 (b). 384 (c). 279	(a). 372 (b). 207 (c). 216	(a). 203,013,255.28 (b). 90,848,912.00 (c). 84,136,526.50
9	Energy Conservation Projects for Non-government Organizations	Local non-profit making organizations (e.g. green groups, community bodies, etc.)	(a). 200 (b). 166 (c). 410	(a). 105 (b). 118 (c). 90	(a). 29,688,473.40 (b). 41,463,498.78 (c). 21,843,287.10
10	Environmental Research, Technology Demonstration and Conference Projects	Local non-profit making organizations (e.g. universities, green groups, community bodies, schools, etc.)	(a). 36 (b). 50 (c). 32	(a). 17 (b). 16 (c). 10	(a). 10,407,459.00 (b). 10,903,761.00 (c). 8,722,680.00

* Projects approved in a particular year may include applications received in that year and outstanding applications carried forward from the previous year.

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

ENB174

Question Serial No.

1535

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14 that the Government will "review regularly the green specifications of the products that are commonly used by government departments on the green procurement list, and continue the promotion of green procurement policy in the Government". In this connection, would the Government provide the following information:

- a. Please list in detail the products on the green procurement list and the expenditure for procuring those products in the past three years (i.e. 2010-2011 to 2012-2013). What is the Government's estimated expenditure for green procurement in 2013-2014?
- b. What criteria does the Government use to determine the green specifications of the products? Does the Government plan to include more products into the green procurement list? If yes, what are the details of the plan? If no, what are the reasons?
- c. How will the Government promote the green procurement policy? What is the expenditure involved in the promotion plan?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

- a. The Government has been taking the lead to adopt a green procurement policy. At present, the number of products on the Government's green procurement list has been expanded to 103 items and the list is at Annex. Bureaux and departments have been required to make annual report on their green procurement starting from March 2011, we do not have records on green procurement before then. In 2011, the Government spent about \$830 million on the green procurement of the 103 products. We are now compiling the data on Government's expenditure on green procurement in 2012 and do not have an estimated expenditure for green procurement in 2013-14.
- b. The green specifications of products are determined on the basis of a range of factors, including the recyclability, recycled content, durability, impact on the environment (e.g. emissions), energy efficiency, toxicity etc. We commissioned a new consultancy study in February 2013 to expand the Government's green procurement list and to update the current green specifications of 103 products.
- c. To promote the green procurement policy, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) in collaboration with other departments and stakeholders will continue to organise or participate in training seminars. Relevant information on green procurement including the Government's green procurement list and the relevant training materials will continue to be disseminated through EPD's website. The above work is absorbed within EPD's existing resources as an integral part of EPD's works and a separate breakdown on the promotion plan is not available.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 20 March 2013

List of products with recommended green specifications

Building and construction supplies (category 01)	
01	Flooring materials
02	PVC pipe and fitting
03	Solvent-based/ Water-based paint
04	Carpet
05	Safety helmet
Cleansing Products (Category 02)	
01	All purpose cleaners
02	Laundry detergent/ Soap
03	Sanitary detergent
04	Soap toilet liquid
05	Cleaning rags and cotton waste
06	Disinfectant
Computer equipment and products (Category 03)	
01	Desktop computer
02	LCD monitor
03	Network products (including LAN switches, routers, cables, etc.)
04	Notebook computer
05	Printer
06	Server
07	All-in-one multifunctional devices (for copying, printing and fax)
08	Scanner
Electrical appliances and gas appliances and light fittings (Category 04)	
01	Domestic exhaust fan
02	Electric fan
03	Electric radiator (oil filled)
04	LPG hot plate
05	LPG water heater
06	Refrigerator
07	Room air cooler
08	Town gas cooker
09	Town gas water heater
10	Air Purifier/ Cleaner
11	Dehumidifier
12	Dish washer
13	Electric storage water heater
14	Electronic ballast for fluorescent tube/ lamp
15	Fluorescent tube/ compact fluorescent lamp
16	LCD projector

17	LED lamp for households and offices (including LED exit sign)
18	Microwave oven
19	Television
20	Vacuum cleaner
21	Washing machine
Fuel oils and hydrocarbon lubricants (Category 05)	
01	Automotive fuel oil
02	Lubricating oil/ grease
Furniture (Category 06)	
01	Chair
02	Mattress
03	Partition screen
04	Sofa
05	Steel filing cabinet
06	Workstation panel
07	Metal furniture
08	Wooden furniture
Household goods (Category 07)	
01	Bag/ Backpack
02	Gloves for field work (polythene, disposable)(rubber, industrial)(white cotton)
Office equipment (Category 08)	
01	Facsimile equipment
02	Photocopier
03	Fire extinguisher
04	Paper shredder
05	Hot/ cold bottled water dispenser
Paper for printing and photocopying (Category 09)	
01	Continuous stationery for computer-generated form
02	Photocopying recycled paper
03	Recycled paper for printing
04	Woodfree photocopying paper
05	Printing paper coated on both sides
06	Woodfree printing paper
Paper products other than for printing and photocopying (Category 10)	
01	Brown wrapping paper
02	Toilet paper & paper towel
03	Index card (paper)
Plastic and rubber products (Category 11)	
01	Garbage collection bin
02	Plastic garbage bag
03	Plastic bags (other uses)
04	Traffic bollard

05	General plastic products
06	General rubber products
Printing and publishing equipment and supplies (Category 12)	
01	Environment-friendly lithographic process inks
Shoes and boots (Category 13)	
01	Rainboot
02	Safety boot/ Shoe
Stationery and office supplies (Category 14)	
01	Adhesive tape & tape dispenser
02	Correction fluid and Thinner
03	File box
04	General office stationery
05	Ink/ Toner cartridge
06	Self-stick note pad
07	Paper envelope
08	Paper file jacket
09	Pen
10	Pencil
11	Plastic file jacket
12	Rechargeable battery
13	Standard/ Alkaline dry battery
14	Calculator
15	Correction tape
16	Glue/ Adhesive
17	Ink for stamp pad
18	Pre-inked stamp
Telecommunications and equipment and spares (Category 15)	
01	Key telephone system
02	Mobile phone
03	Radio communication system
04	Radio paging equipment
05	Radio transceiver
06	Telephone battery
Textile materials and garment (Category 16)	
01	Clothing and textile products
Vehicles and spare parts (Category 17)	
01	Environment-friendly vehicles (private/commercial vehicles)
02	Light bus
03	Rubber/ Retreaded tyre

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

ENB175

Question Serial No.

1544

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In his Budget Speech, the Financial Secretary has set aside \$5 billion for injection into the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF). In this connection, would the Government inform this Committee of the following:

- a) The number of projects funded by the ECF and their funding, as well as their percentage in the total amount of funding in the year over the past five years (i.e. 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 & 2012) by project category;
- b) Has the Government assessed whether the funded projects could achieve their original purposes or objectives after completion of the projects over the past five years (i.e. 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 & 2012)? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- c) As for the \$5 billion provision, has the Government set any annual target number of funded projects or amount of funding by project category in the coming years. If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

- (a) The required information on projects funded by the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) over the past five years is at Appendix.
- (b) ECF has a monitoring system to ensure that supported projects meet funding requirements as well as their planned objectives. Project proponents are required to set out targets and deliverables in the funding applications. For approved projects, proponents are required to submit regular progress reports to the Secretariat of the ECF Committee for review. Payments to the project proponents are made by installments upon showing satisfactory progress. The ECF Committee and the Secretariat may carry out inspections and surprise checks to examine the progress of the projects. Completion inspections are also conducted for some projects depending on the nature of activities and works involved. Final disbursement to the project proponent will only be made after satisfactory completion of the project as supported by a completion report together with a duly certified statement of account.
- (c) Considering the current major environmental challenges, the major areas of projects to be supported under the ECF will include waste reduction and recovery (particularly food waste), energy conservation, research on environmental technologies, nature conservation, and environmental education programmes

related to the above areas. Subject to the approval of the Finance Committee for the proposed funding injection, the Administration will consult the ECF Committee with a view to drawing up a budget allocation for various ECF funding schemes in the years ahead.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

<u>ECF-funded initiatives / funding schemes</u>	<u>Amount committed (\$ million)</u>				
	<u>(number of projects)</u>				
	<u>[% of the total amount in the year]</u>				
	<u>2008-09</u>	<u>2009-10</u>	<u>2010-11</u>	<u>2011-12</u>	<u>2012-13</u> (up to Dec 2012)
Environmental Campaign Committee Programmes	20.59 (9) [24.58%]	38.47 (11) [10.98%]	25.35 (7) [5.92%]	22.72 (8) [6.76%]	18.93 (6) [8.28%]
Environmental Education and Community Action - General Projects	1.42 (17) [1.69%]	7.34 (23) [2.1%]	6.11 (16) [1.43%]	23.21 (27) [6.91%]	3.6 (10) [1.57%]
Environmental Education and Community Action - Minor Works Projects	52.04 (160) [62.12%]	84.86 (227) [24.22%]	78.48 (198) [18.33%]	52.93 (192) [15.76%]	48.54 (230) [21.23%]
Nature Conservation Management Agreement Projects	0 (0) [0%]	9.63 (2) [2.75%]	0 (0) [0%]	14.79 (2) [4.4%]	7.77 (1) [3.4%]
Research, Technology Demonstration and Conference Projects	4.41 (9) [5.26%]	29.38 (18) [8.39%]	10.41 (17) [2.43%]	10.90 (16) [3.25%]	8.72 (10) [3.81%]
Waste Reduction and Recycling Projects	1.69 (14) [2.02%]	54.29 (39) [15.50%]	61.84 (57) [14.44%]	65.59 (58) [19.53%]	31.83 (23) [13.92%]
Energy Conservation Projects	-	84.09 (368) [24%]	232.70 (477) [54.35%]	132.31 (325) [39.39%]	105.98 (306) [46.35%]
Others (e.g. Public Education Programme under the "Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Waste (2005-2014), etc.)	3.63 (10) [4.33%]	42.25 (9) [12.06%]	13.24 (2) [3.10%]	13.45 (6) [4%]	3.3 (2) [1.44%]
Total	83.78 (219) [100%]	350.31 (697) [100%]	428.13 (774) [100%]	335.9 (634) [100%]	228.67 (588) [100%]

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

ENB176

Question Serial No.

1545

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Noise

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the retrofitting programme for existing roads, would the Government provide the following information:

1. By type of measure (i.e. to retrofit barriers on existing roads and to re-surface local roads with low-noise material) and by district, what were the number of works completed, the number of people benefited and the relevant expenditure under the programme in the past five years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2012-13)?
2. What is the number of works in progress and under planning under the programme currently? And what are the progress, anticipated date of completion, number of people benefited and the relevant expenditure of these works?
3. Please elaborate what criteria the Administration will adopt in identifying suitable locations for the works.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

1. To tackle noise impact of existing roads on neighbouring residents, we have completed 7 noise barrier retrofitting works in the past 5 fiscal years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2012-13), benefiting a total of some 31 000 residents. The list of retrofitting works completed is given in the table below.

Retrofitting works completed in 2008-09 to 2012-13

Ref. No.	Road Section	District	Expenditure (\$million in MOD price)	Year of Completion
1	Cheung Pei Shan Road	Tsuen Wan	204	2009
2	Tseung Kwan O Road (near Hing Tin Estate)	Kwun Tong	163	2009
3	Tseung Kwan O Road (near Tsui Ping (South) Estate)	Kwun Tong		
4	Tsing Tsuen Bridge (Tsuen Wan and Tsing Yi)	Tsuen Wan and Kwai Tsing	167	2010
5	Yuen Shin Road (near Kwong Fuk Estate)	Tai Po	33	2010
6	Kwun Tong Bypass	Kwun Tong	75	2010
7	Fanling Highway (Po Shek Wu Road to MTR Fanling Station)	North	507	2013

For the low noise road surface trial programme, low noise road surfacing material has been applied to a total of 24 road sections in past 5 fiscal years, spending about \$35 million and benefiting some 51 000 residents. Details of the 24 road sections are given in the table below.

Resurfacing works completed in 2008-09 to 2012-13

Ref. No.	Road Section	District	Expenditure (\$million)	Year of Completion
1	Tuen Mun Heung Sze Wui Road (From Siu Lun Street to Hoi Chu Road)	Tuen Mun	0.3	2008
2	Tai Hang Tung Road (From Tong Yam Street to Tat Chee Avenue)	Sham Shui Po	1.0	
3	Portland Street (From Waterloo Road to Argyle Street)	Yau Tsim Mong	2.2	2009
4	Ma Sik Road (From Jockey Club Road to Tin Ping Road)	North	0.7	
5	Jockey Club Road (From Lung Sum Avenue to San Fung Avenue)	North	2.7	
6	Tai Chung Kiu Road (From Sha Kok Street to Sha Tin Wai Road)	Sha Tin	2.8	
7	Wang Tat Road (From Wang Lok Street to Chun Hing San Tsuen)	Yuen Long	1.9	
8	Wong Nai Chung Road (From Sing Woo Road to Broadwood Road)	Wan Chai	0.7	
9	Wong Nai Chung Road (From Sports Road to Broadwood Road)	Wan Chai	0.4	
10	Texaco Road North (From Tsuen Kam Interchange to Kwok Shui Road)	Tsuen Wan	0.8	2010
11	Java Road (From Tong Shui Road to Tin Chiu Street)	Eastern	3.0	
12	Kornhill Road (From King's Road (East Junction) to King's Road (West Junction))	Eastern	1.3	
13	Fung Tak Road (From Lung Poon Street to Sheung Yuen Street)	Wong Tai Sin	1.5	
14	Lai Chi Kok Road (West Bound Only) (From Tai Nam West Street to Cheung Mau Street)	Sham Shui Po	1.5	
15	Chuk Yuen Road (From Ma Chai Hang Playground to Nga Chuk Street)	Wong Tai Sin	2.3	2011
16	Yeung Uk Road (From Tai Ho Road to Chung On Street)	Tsuen Wan	0.5	
17	Ngan O Road (From Pui Shing Road to Chiu Shun Road)	Sai Kung	1.5	
18	Sha Tin Wai Road (From Ngan Shing Street to Ngau Pei Sha Street)	Sha Tin	1.0	2012
19	Pak Wo Road (From So Kwun Po Road to Pak Wo Road Roundabout)	North	3.0	
20	Lei Yue Mun Road (From Ko Chiu Road (North Junction) to Ko Chiu Road (South Junction))	Kwun Tong	1.6	
21	Pak Wo Road (From Choi Yuen Road to Po Wing Road)	North	0.3	
22	Tung Tau Tsuen Road (From Shatin Pass Road to Tai Shing Street)	Wong Tai Sin	0.6	
23	Long Yuet Street (From San Ma Tau Street to Kwei Chow Street)	Kowloon City	0.4	
24	Siu Lek Yuen Road (From Chap Wai Kon Road to Tai Chung Kiu Road)	Sha Tin	3.1	

2. Currently 8 noise barrier retrofitting works are under construction and about 18 000 residents would be benefited when completed. The list of retrofitting works in progress is given in the table below.

Retrofitting works in progress

Ref. No.	Road Section	District	Estimated Expenditure (\$ million in MOD price)	Anticipated Year of Completion	Remarks
1	Tuen Mun Road (Tsuen Wan)	Tsuen Wan	1,257	2014	The retrofitting works are implemented under the contracts of the project "Reconstruction and Improvement of Tuen Mun Road"
2	Tuen Mun Road (Yau Kom Tau)	Tsuen Wan		2013	
3	Tuen Mun Road (Castle Peak Bay)	Tuen Mun		2014	
4	Tuen Mun Road (Anglers' Beach)	Tsuen Wan		2013	
5	Tuen Mun Road (Sham Tseng)	Tsuen Wan		2013	
6	Tuen Mun Road (Tsing Lung Tau)	Tsuen Wan		2013	
7	Fanling Highway (MTR Fanling Station to Wo Hing Road)	North	247	2013	
8	Tai Po Tai Wo Road (near Po Nga Court)	Tai Po	97	2014	The proposed retrofitting works at Tai Po Tai Wo Road near Tai Wo Estate and Serenity Park are under review

Noise barrier retrofitting works at another 23 road sections are under planning and about 44 000 residents would be benefited upon completion. Among these road sections, the retrofitting of noise barriers on Tuen Mun Road Town Centre Section is at detailed design stage. The project is expected to be completed in 2017 at an estimated cost of \$404 million, and would benefit about 2 500 residents when completed. Retrofitting works for the remaining 22 road sections are at preliminary planning stage or under review. They will be brought forward according to the established mechanism and procedures of the Public Works Programme. The implementation timetable and the expenditure will be worked out in the light of progress.

Subject to progress, we are planning to resurface 11 road sections with low noise road surfacing material between 2013-17, spending about \$10 million and benefiting some 20 000 residents. The 11 road sections are listed in the table below.

Resurfacing works under planning

Ref. No.	Road Section	District	Estimated Expenditure (\$million)	Anticipated Year of Completion
1	Aberdeen Main Road (From Aberdeen Praya Road to Aberdeen Reservoir)	Southern	2.4	2013
2	Sai Chuen Road (From Fu Sing House to Fu Wan House)	Sham Shui Po	0.5	

Ref. No.	Road Section	District	Estimated Expenditure (\$million)	Anticipated Year of Completion
3	Sha Tin Wai Road (From Sha Tin Road to Ngan Shing Street)	Sha Tin	1.5	
4	Sung On Street (From Bailey Street to Chi Kiang Street)	Kowloon City	0.6	
5	Wan Hoi Street (From Dyer Avenue to Tak On Street)	Kowloon City	0.5	
6	Ngan Shing Street (From Siu Lek Yuen Road to Tak Wing Street)	Sha Tin	1.1	
7	Tin Sam Street (From Che Kung Miu Road to Hung Mui Kuk Road)	Sha Tin	1.1	
8	Wong Tai Sin Road (From Nga Chuk Street to Ma Chai Hang Road)	Wong Tai Sin	0.9	2014
9	Sau Mau Ping Road (From Sau Hong House to Sau Lok House)	Kwun Tong	0.3	2015
10	Queen's Road West (From Des Voeux Road West to Hill Road)	Central and Western	0.9	
11	Shatin Pass Road (From Choi Hung Road to Tung Tau Tsuen Road)	Wong Tai Sin	0.3	2017

3. For considering whether existing road sections are suitable for retrofitting noise barriers to reduce noise impact on neighbouring residents, besides whether the traffic noise would exceed the limit of 70 dB(A) $L_{10}(1\text{hour})$ and resources availability, the following criteria would be adopted:

- (a) whether the noise barrier or enclosure will obstruct any emergency access or hinder fire fighting efforts;
- (b) whether the noise barrier or enclosure will affect road safety or obstruct the flow of pedestrians and traffic; and
- (c) whether there is adequate space and structural capability (applicable to flyovers) for supporting the noise barrier or enclosure.

Low noise road surfacing materials are currently the standard materials for high speed roads in the territory. The low noise road surface trial programme currently underway is to test out the effectiveness of the materials in terms of noise reduction and durability on local roads. The selection of road sections for trial is based on traffic flow volume, percentage of heavy vehicles, road geometry and gradient.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB177

Question Serial No.

1546

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the financial provision, the original estimate for 2012-13 was \$626.7 million but was subsequently revised as \$553.3 million, representing a decrease of 11.7%. Please provide the reasons in detail. Is this a result of suspension/termination of some policies or measures?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

The 11.7% decrease in the expenditure for the Air Programme is due to reduced cash flow requirement for non-recurrent projects, including the one-off grant to encourage early replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles, trial of hybrid buses by franchised bus companies and the pilot green transport fund. The revised financial provision is not related to suspension/termination of policies or measures.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 19 March 2013

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

ENB178

Question Serial No.

1547

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: On “continuing to co-ordinate inter-departmental efforts to reduce emissions from vehicles”, would the Government provide the following information:

- (1) Please list in table form the numbers of electric vehicles, petrol vehicles, diesel vehicles (further classified into Euro I or pre-Euro, Euro II, Euro III, Euro IV and Euro V) and hybrid vehicles owned by the government departments at present;
- (2) What was the fuel expenditure incurred by the above four types of vehicles and their respective emissions in the past five years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2012-13)?
- (3) Please provide details on the work or measures carried out by the Administration to reduce emissions from the vehicles of the government departments, as well as the related expenditure.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

(1) and (2)

All government pre-Euro II diesel vehicles in Government have been phased out. The numbers of electric vehicles, petrol vehicles, diesel vehicles and hybrid vehicles as at 1 March 2013 and fuel expenditure incurred are provided in Table 1 below. The emission design standards of Euro II, III, IV and V petrol vehicles and diesel vehicles are summarized in Table 2. The government vehicles are subject to regular check and maintenance to keep their technical performance at satisfactory level.

Table 1. Numbers of electric vehicles, petrol vehicles, diesel vehicles and hybrid vehicles and their fuel expenditure incurred

Vehicle Type	Electric Vehicles	Petrol Vehicles	Diesel Vehicles				Hybrid Vehicles	
			Euro II	Euro III	Euro IV	Euro V		
Numbers	75	3 936	185	519	297	694	382	
Fuel Consumption ¹ (\$ million)	2008-09	No information ²	45.6	4.9	13.2	3.6	N/A	1.4
	2009-10	No information ²	52.4	5.1	13.0	8.7	1.5	1.7
	2010-11	No information ²	56.4	4.8	11.3	9.4	10.7	2.2
	2011-12	No information ²	59.9	4.8	11.2	9.2	16.4	2.9
	2012-13 ³	No information ²	48.4	3.6	8.0	6.7	17.0	2.4

Table 2. Emission design standards of petrol and diesel vehicles by Euro standards

Emission standards	Electric Vehicles ⁴	Petrol Vehicles (including hybrid vehicles)		Diesel Vehicles	
		Nitrogen oxides (NOx) (g/km) ⁵	Hydrocarbons (HC) (g/km)	Nitrogen oxides (NOx) (g/kWh) ⁶	Particulate Matters (PM) (g/kWh)
Euro II	N/A	0.5 ⁷		7.0	0.15
Euro III	N/A	0.15	0.20	5.0	0.1
Euro IV	N/A	0.08	0.10	3.5	0.02
Euro V	N/A	0.06	0.10	2.0	0.02

Remarks:

1. As Euro V diesel vehicles were first introduced to the government vehicle fleet in September 2009, the fuel expenditure is for the period of September 2009 and December 2012.
2. There was no separate record of the electricity consumed due to the limitation of the charging facilities.
3. The information provided for the fiscal year 2012-13 is as at end December 2012.
4. Electric vehicle has no emission design standard as they have no tailpipe emission.

5. Petrol vehicles are mainly with design weight less than 3.5 tonnes which emission standards are measured and expressed in gram per kilometer (g/km).
 6. Diesel vehicles are mainly with design weight not less than 3.5 tonnes which emissions are measured and expressed in gram per kilowatt-hour (g/kWh).
 7. The NO_x and HC emission design standard for Euro II petrol vehicles is a combined standard.
- (3) To reduce emissions from the Government vehicle fleet, the Administration has given priority to the use of environment-friendly vehicles with less emissions and better fuel economy when replacing vehicles subject to the availability of suitable models on the market, operational and resource considerations. There are 6 343 vehicles in the Government fleet of which 2 032 are environment-friendly vehicles. If including vehicles which will be delivered or have been ordered in 2013, the number of environment-friendly vehicles in the Government fleet will increase to 2 373 which represent 37% of the vehicles in the fleet. The Administration procured 359 environment-friendly vehicles in 2012 with an expenditure of more than \$150 million.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB179

Question Serial No.

1548

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The budget speech mentions that the Government is “pressing ahead with the first phase development of the organic waste treatment facilities in Siu Ho Wan, Lantau. Scheduled for commissioning in 2016, the facilities will convert food waste into energy and compost products.” In this connection, would the Government provide the following information:

1. What are the timetable and progress of the development of the organic waste treatment facilities? If tender is already invited, how many tenders has the Administration received in total?
2. Please provide details on the criteria for assessing tenders.
3. What is the estimated treatment capacity of such facilities after their completion? What is the quantity of energy and compost products to be generated? Has the Administration assessed the local market demand for compost products in future? If yes, what is the assessment result? If no, what are the reasons?
4. Please list in detail the number of jobs directly and indirectly created after the completion of such facilities.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

- 1) Tender for the design, build and operation (DBO) of the Organic Waste Treatment Facilities (OWTF) Phase 1 was invited on 8 February 2013. The tender closing is scheduled on 7 June 2013 and the number of tenders received will not be known before the close of tender.
- 2) The tender assessment will employ an open and transparent marking scheme that has been approved by the Central Tender Board and included in the tender documents for the tenderer's reference. The technical submission and tender price of each tender will be assessed according to the criteria set out in the marking scheme. The technical submissions will be assessed first to evaluate the following aspects of the tenders:
 - (i) Experience
 - (ii) Project Management and Human Resources
 - (iii) Design and Construction Plans

- (iv) Operation Plan
- (v) Environmental Management, Quality, Safety and Health, and Emergency Procedures
- (vi) Past Performance

The price documents would only be opened after the completion of the technical submission evaluation. The technical score and the price score for each tender will be combined with equal weighting to form the overall marking. Normally the conforming tender with the highest overall marking would be recommended for acceptance subject to the requirement that the tenderer is considered technically, commercially and financially capable of undertaking the contract.

- 3) The OWTF Phase 1 is designed to recycle 200 tonnes of source separated food waste each day into biogas and compost products. The biogas is a renewable energy which will be used as fuel to generate electricity for the OWTF Phase 1's internal use as well as export to the electricity grid. We estimate that the OWTF phase 1 would export about 14 million kWh of electricity to the grid and produced about 7 000 tonnes of compost products each year. The annual compost consumption in Hong Kong is estimated to be between 18 500 tonnes to 30 000 tonnes, hence the local market should be able to absorb the compost produced by the OWTF Phase 1.

- 4) We estimate that the operation of OWTF Phase 1 would create about 35 permanent jobs.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB180

Question Serial No.

2124

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: It is mentioned in the Budget Speech that five community green stations will be set up. In this connection, would the Government provide the following information:

- (a) What is the timetable of the Administration from preliminary preparation, completion to commissioning of the community green stations? And what is the relevant expenditure?
- (b) According to a paper submitted by the Environment Bureau to the Panel on Environmental Affairs, Legislative Council, each of these green stations will be operated by a non-government organization (NGO) to be selected through open tender. Please state in detail the contents and details of the tender, and assessment criteria adopted by the Administration.
- (c) Would the Administration state in detail the criteria for site selection? Will the Administration take into account the service-to-population ratio and set up more than one green station in each district? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (d) Will the Administration state in detail the specific targets and performance the community green stations are expected to achieve? What measures will the Administration take to ensure that such targets and performance can be achieved? And what is the relevant expenditure?
- (e) How many jobs does the Administration expect to be created directly and indirectly by the community green stations?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

(a) and (c)

We plan to develop five pilot community green stations in different parts of the territory to provide accessible and visible support for green living at the community level. Having taken into account the availability of suitable land and the need to maintain a geographical spread of the facilities across the territory, we have identified potential sites and will consult the District Councils concerned, with a view to commencing the construction programme as soon as the sites are available. We commenced the design of the green stations and aim to commission the stations in phases from late 2013. We will continuously assess the effectiveness of the community green stations and accordingly consider in due course the way forward after the completion of the pilot phase. The estimated expenditure of the capital works and operation services in 2013-14 are \$44 million and \$21 million respectively.

(b) Each of these green stations will be operated by a non-government organization (NGO) to be selected through open tender. Leveraging on the NGO operators' local connections, the green stations will collaborate with schools, property management and other relevant stakeholders or institutions on environmental education and coordination of recycling initiatives. In addition to holding publicity and educational programmes, the community green stations will support recycling efforts at community level, including reaching out to the community for the collection of recyclables, supporting the Community Recycling Network and conducting other measures to promote the separation of waste at source. The capability of an NGO operator in undertaking these functions as well as the cost required will be taken into account in the tender assessment.

(d) and (e)

The Environmental Protection Department will monitor the performance of the community green stations with reference to a basket of indicators including the collection programmes to be undertaken in the community, the number of environmental education sessions conducted for schools, property management and other relevant stakeholders or institutions as well as the tonnage of recyclables collected. On the other hand, subject to the outcome of the open tender, the Government will provide financial resources for the selected NGO operators to hire the appropriate personnel and procure relevant equipment. To this end, the estimated expenditure of the operation services in 2013-14 is \$21 million. The exact number of the job opportunities directly created will depend on the manpower planning of individual NGO operators. As the community green stations promote the recovery rate, an increased amount of recyclables will be separated at source for recycling. This will help create job opportunities in the recycling industry though the exact number of jobs cannot be readily quantified. The green station would, in addition, promote reduction of waste at source.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB181

Question Serial No.

2126

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14 under Programme (1) that the Government will “pursue the extension of the three strategic landfills, namely the West New Territories Landfill, South East New Territories Landfill and North East New Territories Landfill”. In this connection, would the Government provide the following information:

- (1) When are the remaining capacities of the three landfills expected to be used up? What were the overall treatment capacities and operating costs of the landfills in each of the past five years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2012-13)?
- (2) What is the size of the planned extension area of the three landfills? What are the extension details, timetables and relevant expenditures?
- (3) Please advise on the number of complaints about the three landfills received by the Government in each of the past five years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2012-13) by landfill and complaint category;
- (4) What improvement measures have been taken by the Government to address the above complaints? What are the effectiveness and expenditures of the measures?

Asked by: Hon. Kwok Wai-keung

Reply:

- (1) It is estimated that the three existing landfills (i.e. the South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill, the North East New Territories (NENT) Landfill and the West New Territories (WENT) Landfill) will be fully exhausted one by one in the years to come and likely to be exhausted before 2020. The total quantities of waste disposed of at these three landfills in the past 5 years (from 2008 to 2012 on calendar year basis) are 4.94, 4.86, 5.04, 4.91 and 5.07 million tonnes respectively. The total annual operating costs are \$440 million, \$397 million, \$422 million, \$489 million and \$591 million in the past 5 financial years from 2008-09 to 2012-13 respectively.
- (2) The estimated capacities, planned areas and estimated capital costs of the three landfill extension projects are shown in the table below. We plan to seek funding approval from the Legislative Council later this year with a view to commissioning the landfill extensions before they are exhausted.

Landfill Extension	Estimated Capacity (million m³)	Area for the Proposed Extension (ha)	Latest Estimated Capital Cost (at Sep 2012 price level) (\$ million)
SENT	6.5	13	1,320
NENT	19	70	4,180
WENT	81	200	9,960
Total	106.5	283	15,460

- (3) The environmental complaints related to the SENT, NENT and WENT Landfill from 2008 to 2012 are listed in the following tables.

Environmental Complaints related to SENT Landfill

Calendar Year	No. of Complaints By Types				
	Air	Noise	Water	Waste	Miscellaneous
2008	747	0	1	0	0
2009	549	0	1	0	2
2010	754	0	1	0	0
2011	1 120	0	0	0	0
2012	1 953	0	1	0	0

Environmental Complaints related to WENT Landfill

Calendar Year	No. of Complaints By Types				
	Air	Noise	Water	Waste	Miscellaneous
2008	3	0	1	0	0
2009	11	0	2	0	1
2010	9	0	0	0	0
2011	16	2	3	0	5
2012	18	4	2	0	10

Environmental Complaints related to NENT Landfill

Calendar Year	No. of Complaints By Types				
	Air	Noise	Water	Waste	Miscellaneous
2008	1	0	0	0	0
2009	0	0	0	0	0
2010	0	0	0	0	0
2011	1	0	0	0	0
2012	1	0	0	0	0

- (4) The three strategic landfills are designed and operated to meet various environmental standards which include measures to prevent odour and other environmental nuisances. In order to further mitigate any potential odour impact to the surrounding areas, a number of additional measures have been implemented at the landfills, including minimizing the size of tipping areas as far as practicable; covering the tipping areas with a layer of soil and/or Posi-Shell Cover (a cement-based cover material)

at the end of the daily waste reception process; covering the non-active tipping areas with temporary impermeable liners or Posi-Shell Cover; setting up deodorizers; installing extra landfill gas extraction wells and mobile flares; upgrading wheel washing facility to full-body vehicle washing facility etc. We have spent \$17 million, \$6 million, \$21 million, \$34 million and \$5 million in the past 5 financial years from 2008-09 to 2012-13 respectively for the associated installation costs and the recurrent costs have been absorbed in the operation costs.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB182

Question Serial No.

2127

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the mandatory Producer Responsibility Scheme (PRS) for waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE), please provide the following information:

- (1) What is the work progress of preparing the legislative proposal for the scheme? What are the manpower and expenditure involved?
- (2) According to Environment Bureau's reply to a question raised by the Legislative Council earlier, the Administration has indicated that the remaining sites in the EcoPark have been earmarked for the development of WEEE treatment and recycling facilities to support the PRS on WEEE. Please provide details on the area of the sites reserved and the related development plan, as well as the timetable and expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

- (1) The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is preparing legislative proposals for the mandatory Producer Responsibility Scheme (PRS) on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) with a view to introducing into the Legislative Council in the 2013-14 legislative session. The expenditure incurred for the mandatory PRS on WEEE in 2013-14 for the relevant research and promotional work as well as the planning and development of a WEEE treatment and recycling facility is estimated to be \$4.5 million. At this stage, preparatory work for the PRS is undertaken by the EPD staff as part of their normal duties, which will not incur additional expenditure in 2013-14. Longer term manpower requirements will be determined taking into account of the operational details that are being worked out.
- (2) We have reserved an area of three hectares in EcoPark for the development of the WEEE treatment facility. The facility will have a designed capacity of 30 000 tonnes per annum in support of the future mandatory PRS which will cover television sets, washing machines, refrigerators, air conditioners and computer products. The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for the planning of the WEEE treatment facility is \$2.9 million.

Currently, the prequalification exercise for the potential tenderers of this facility is in progress. We plan to invite tender by mid-2013 and seek funding approval from the Finance Committee as soon as practicable afterwards. Subject to funding approval, we plan to commission the facility in 2016.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 20 March 2013

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

ENB183

Question Serial No.

4657

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (5) Environmental Assessment and Planning

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding environmental impact assessment (EIA) studies, would the Administration provide the following information:

1. the number of applications under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance approved by the Government, as well as the manpower and expenditure of the Government for processing the applications in the past five years (2008-09 to 2012-13);
2. the total expenditure of the Government for conducting EIA studies on government projects in the past five years (2008-09 to 2012-13) by project category;
3. the current number of projects in which the permit conditions remain effective after completion of the projects or at the operation stage. Would the Administration provide details on these projects?
4. the number of projects with works or operations stopped because of non-compliance with the permit conditions in the past five years (2008-09 to 2012-13). Would the Administration provide details on the non-compliance situation of these projects?
5. Does the Government have any plan to review and improve the present mechanism? If yes, what are the details, timetable, manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

1. From 2008 to 2012, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) approved 53 environmental impact assessment (EIA) reports for designated projects under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance. For the same period, the total expenditure for supporting the operation of the EIA mechanism and providing inputs to land use planning process was \$416.8 million. We do not have a separate account for processing applications under the EIA Ordinance.
2. From 2008 to 2012, the EPD issued study briefs to 47 government projects for carrying out EIA studies. These projects are categorized in the following table. The EIA Ordinance requires project proponents to prepare and submit EIA reports for vetting and approval by EPD. As these EIA studies are conducted by project proponents, EPD does not have information on the expenditures for carrying these EIA studies.

Category of Government Designated Projects with EIA Study Briefs issued from 2008 to 2012	Numbers
Infrastructure Projects (i.e. roads, railways, port facilities, sewage treatment works, reclamations, industrial activities, community facilities etc.)	34
Decommissioning Projects	4
Large Scale Engineering Feasibility Studies	9
Total	47

3. The environmental permits (EPs) of all 53 designated projects referred to in part 1 of the answer above remain currently in force. The conditions set out in these EPs are related to implementation of environmental mitigation measures and environmental monitoring and auditing programmes during construction and operation stages of the projects. Details of these projects are given in the attached Annex A.
4. From 2008 to 2012, the EPD conducted 22 numbers of prosecutions against violations under the EIA Ordinance. Since the violations had been rectified, the EPD had not cancelled any environment permit nor issued any cessation order to stop the works.
5. As a continual improvement process, the EPD regularly reviews the operation of the environmental impact assessment (EIA) system with a view to enhancing its effectiveness and efficiency taking into account the experiences accumulated in implementing the system, new professional developments as well as feedback from various stakeholders. We have implemented a series of improvement measures such as issuing guidance materials, providing advice at the early stage of EIA study, organizing training and seminars, etc. to enhance understanding of the EIA process and to facilitate compliance with the EIA Ordinance. The reviews are undertaken by existing manpower and resources of the department and we do not have a separate account for this specific activity.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

List of the Designated Projects with Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Reports**Approved under EIA Ordinance from 2008 to 2012**

1.	EMSD Hong Kong Workshop at Sheung On Street, Chai Wan
2.	Development of the Integrated Waste Management Facilities, Phase 1
3.	Shatin to Central Link – Tai Wai to Hung Hom Section
4.	Shatin to Central Link – Cross Harbour Section (Phase II - Hung Hom to Admiralty)
5.	Shatin to Central Link - Cross Harbour Section (Phase I - Mong Kok East to Hung Hom)
6.	Shatin to Central Link - Stabling Sidings at Hung Hom Freight Yard
7.	Central Police Station Compound conservation and Revitalisation
8.	Liantang / Heung Yuen Wai Boundary Control Point and Associated Works
9.	Regulation of Shenzhen River Stage IV
10.	Phase III Redevelopment of The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups Jockey Club Sai Kung Outdoor Training Camp
11.	Shatin to Central Link Protection Works at Causeway Bay Typhoon Shelter
12.	Integration of Siu Ho Wan and Silver Mine Bay Water Treatment Works
13.	South Island Line (East)
14.	Kwun Tong Line Extension
15.	Providing Sufficient Water Depth for Kwai Tsing Container Basin and its Approach Channel
16.	Installation of Submarine Gas Pipelines and Associated Facilities from To Kwa Wan to North Point for Former Kai Tak Airport Development
17.	Improvement of Fresh Water Supply to Cheung Chau
18.	Black Point Gas Supply Project
19.	Development of a 100MW Offshore Wind Farm in Hong Kong
20.	Organic Waste Treatment Facilities, Phase 1
21.	Road Works at West Kowloon
22.	Tuen Mun Chek Lap Kok Link
23.	Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities
24.	Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge Hong Kong Link Road
25.	West New Territories (WENT) Landfill Extensions

26.	Provision of a Poultry Slaughtering Centre in Sheung Shui
27.	Hong Kong Section of Guangzhou – Shenzhen – Hong Kong Express Rail Link
28.	Hong Kong Offshore Wind Farm in Southeastern Waters
29.	Decommissioning of the Co-Combustion Pilot Plant at Tap Shek Kok
30.	Phased Re-provisioning of Cape Collinson Crematorium
31.	Upgrading of Remaining Sections of Kam Tin Road and Lam Kam Road
32.	Hang Hau Tsuen Channel at Lau Fau Shan
33.	Inter-reservoirs Transfer Scheme - Water Tunnel between Kowloon Byewash Reservoir and Lower Shing Mun Reservoir
34.	Construction of a Secondary Boundary Fence and New Sections of Primary Boundary Fence and Boundary Patrol Road
35.	Improvement to Pok Oi Interchange
36.	Construction of Cycle Tracks and the Associated Supporting Facilities from Sha Po Tsuen to Shek Sheung River
37.	Traffic Improvements to Tuen Mun Road Town Centre Section
38.	Kai Tak Development
39.	Development of a Biodiesel Plant at Tseung Kwan O Industrial Estate
40.	Sludge Treatment Facilities
41.	Tsim Sha Tsui Station Northern Subway
42.	West Island Line
43.	Tsuen Wan Bypass, Widening of Tsuen Wan Road between Tsuen Tsing Interchange and Kwai Tsing Interchange and Associated Junction Improvement Works
44.	Tuen Mun Area 54 Sewage Pumping Station
45.	Proposal Development at Fung Lok Wai, Yuen Long at Lot 1457 RP in DD123
46.	Harbour Area Treatment Scheme (HATS) Stage 2A
47.	Provision of Cremators at Wo Hop Shek Crematorium
48.	Upgrading of Pillar Point Sewage Treatment Works
49.	Proposed Comprehensive Development at Wo Shang Wai, Yuen Long
50.	South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill Extension
51.	Provision of Additional Interchange connecting Tuen Mun Road and Castle Peak Road near Sam Shing Estate and Widening of Tuen Mun Road at Tsing Tin Interchange
52.	Wai Chai Development Phase II and Central-Wan Chai Bypass

53.

Development of a Bathing Beach at Lung Mei, Tai Po

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

ENB184

Question Serial No.

4658

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: With regard to the approved trials under the Pilot Green Transport Fund since its launch, please provide relevant information in the following format:

Name of applicant	Trial product, technology and quantity	Amount of subsidy (\$)	Start date	Project progress (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Administration on the trial reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have the results been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

As of 11 March 2013, 44 approved applications have commenced or are preparing the trials of a total of 79 vehicles (including 14 electric taxis, 11 electric coaches, 18 electric goods vehicles, 24 hybrid goods vehicles and 12 hybrid light buses) under the Pilot Green Transport Fund (the Fund). The amount of approved subsidy for these 44 trials ranges from \$0.2 million to \$5.8 million. The Fund requires the successful applicant to procure the trial products through tendering. To avoid affecting the tender exercises, we do not release the approved subsidy for individual applications. The information on these 44 trials is at Annex.

For fund recipients, they need to provide data for interim reports to share the latest findings of the trials with the public as soon as practicable. The reports will be made available in the Environmental Protection Department website.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

Name of applicant	Trial product, technology and quantity	Approval date	Project progress (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Administration on the trial reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have the results been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	2 electric buses	12.10.2011	Under planning		
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	2 electric van type light goods vehicles	12.10.2011	Under planning		
Federal Express (Hong Kong) Limited	3 electric van type light goods vehicles	12.10.2011	Under planning		
TNT Express Worldwide (HK) Limited	2 electric van type light goods vehicles	12.10.2011	In progress	Monitoring the trial	
Chi Shing Transportation Company	1 electric van type light goods vehicles	12.10.2011	In progress	Monitoring the trial	
Good Funds Services Limited	2 electric buses	12.10.2011	Under planning		
Kwoon Chung Motors Company Limited	2 electric buses	12.10.2011	Under planning		
International Trademart Company Limited	2 electric buses	12.10.2011	Under planning		
Kwai Bon Transportation Limited	3 hybrid light goods vehicles	9.2.2012	In progress	Monitoring the trial	
A. S. Watson Group (HK) Limited	1 hybrid light goods vehicle	9.2.2012	Under planning		
MTR Corporation Limited	1 hybrid light goods vehicle	9.2.2012	Under planning		
Kerry Distribution (Hong Kong) Limited	3 hybrid medium goods vehicles	9.2.2012	Under planning		
Hong Kong Automobile Association	1 electric van type light goods vehicle	9.2.2012	In progress	Monitoring the trial	
On Mei Tak Environmental Technology Limited	3 hybrid medium goods vehicles	9.2.2012	In progress	Monitoring the trial	
Swire Beverages Limited	3 hybrid light goods vehicles	9.2.2012	In progress	Monitoring the trial	
Swire Beverages Limited	3 hybrid medium goods vehicles	9.2.2012	In progress	Monitoring the trial	

Name of applicant	Trial product, technology and quantity	Approval date	Project progress (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Administration on the trial reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have the results been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
UPS Parcel Delivery Service Limited	2 hybrid light goods vehicles	9.2.2012	Under planning		
Shun Hing Logistics Company Limited	2 hybrid light goods vehicles	9.2.2012	In progress	Monitoring the trial	
S.F. Express (Hong Kong) Limited	3 hybrid light goods vehicles	9.2.2012	Under planning		
Kwoon Chung Motors Company Limited	2 electric van type light goods vehicles	22.6.2012	Under planning		
Sun Bus Limited	1 electric bus	22.6.2012	Under planning		
Yan Yan Motors Limited	2 hybrid light buses	22.6.2012	Under planning		
Teamwise Corporation Limited	2 hybrid light buses	22.6.2012	Under planning		
Glory Success Transportation Limited	3 hybrid light buses	22.6.2012	Under planning		
Hong Kong Metropolitan Bus Limited	1 hybrid light bus	22.6.2012	Under planning		
Sunny Engineering Company	1 electric taxi	24.7.2012	Under planning		
Shu Sang Taxi Company	2 electric taxis	24.7.2012	Under planning		
Kam Tsang Taxi Company	1 electric taxi	24.7.2012	Under planning		
Lai Sun Motors Company Limited	1 electric taxi	24.7.2012	Under planning		
Discovery Bay Transit Services Limited	2 electric buses	24.7.2012	Under planning		
Hong Kong & China Transportation Consultants Limited	3 hybrid light buses	1.11.2012	Under planning		
Big Three Limited	1 hybrid light bus	1.11.2012	Under planning		
China-Hong Kong Passenger Services Co. Limited	2 electric taxis	1.3.2013	Under planning		

Name of applicant	Trial product, technology and quantity	Approval date	Project progress (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Administration on the trial reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have the results been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Fanling Motors Company Limited	2 electric taxis	1.3.2013	Under planning		
Tai Po Motors Company	2 electric taxis	1.3.2013	Under planning		
Wai Kit Trading International Limited	1 electric taxi	1.3.2013	Under planning		
Chief Asia Group Limited	1 electric taxi	1.3.2013	Under planning		
Ip Yiu Kwan	1 electric taxi	1.3.2013	Under planning		
Gate Gourmet Hong Kong Limited	1 electric van type light goods vehicle	1.3.2013	Under planning		
Kwok Kin Air Condition & Electrical Work Company Limited	1 electric van type light goods vehicle	1.3.2013	Under planning		
Chun Dak Engineering (HK-Macau) Company Limited	1 electric van type light goods vehicle	1.3.2013	Under planning		
CM Geotechnics Limited	1 electric van type light goods vehicle	1.3.2013	Under planning		
Cinpek Engineering Limited	1 electric van type light goods vehicle	1.3.2013	Under planning		
BioCycle (Hong Kong) Limited	2 electric van type light goods vehicles	1.3.2013	Under planning		

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

ENB185

Question Serial No.

4668

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the trials of electric buses and hybrid buses, would the Administration provide the following information:

1. Please provide information on the two aforesaid trials in the following table:

	Contents of the trials	Participating franchised bus companies	Number of vehicles under trial	Current progress (Under preparation/ in progress)	Expected year of completion	Trial routes/ districts	Related expenditure
Electric buses							
Hybrid buses							

2. Please provide details of the arrangements on ancillary facilities (e.g charging points) for the two trials, as well as the manpower and expenditure involved;
3. Does the Administration have any plan to inform the public of the progress of the trials regularly? If yes, through what channels will the information be disseminated according to the plan? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

1. The franchised bus companies have already placed orders for the procurement of six hybrid buses and are making preparations to procure 36 electric buses for testing out their performance under local conditions. Both trials are expected to commence in 2014 upon the delivery of the buses and will last for two years, with a mid-term review to be conducted about one year after commencement of trial.

Key information on the two trials are provided in the following table:

	Contents of the trials	Participating franchised bus companies	Number of vehicles under trial	Current progress (Under preparation/ in progress)	Expected year of completion	Trial routes/ districts	Related expenditure (\$ million)
Electric buses	To assess the performance of the buses under local conditions	KMB CTB NWFB LW NLB	36	Tender documents under preparation	2016	Trial routes have yet to be fixed, but will cover routes of different driving patterns (highways and urban), gradients and route lengths, etc.	180
Hybrid buses	To assess the performance of the buses under local conditions	KMB CTB NWFB	6	Purchase orders have been placed.	2016	Routes running through busy corridors	33

Note: KMB stands for The Kowloon Motor Bus Company (1933) Limited; CTB for Citybus Limited; NWFB for New World First Bus Services Limited; LW for Long Win Bus Company Limited and NLB for New Lantao Bus Company (1973) Limited.

- The Government will fully subsidise the capital cost of the buses in these two trials, including the related charging facilities for the electric buses. The approved funding for the procurement of the 36 electric buses and six hybrid buses for trial are \$180 million and \$33 million respectively. The franchised bus companies will be responsible for the recurrent costs arising from operating these buses and the related charging facilities. As regards the manpower for the two trials, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) and Transport Department (TD) cope with the associated workload by redeploying existing resources and the creation of two time-limited posts (including one Environmental Protection Officer and one Senior Environmental Protection Inspector) for EPD and a time-limited Motor Vehicle Examiner I post for TD for the trial of electric buses, and a time-limited Senior Environment Protection Inspector post for EPD for the trial of hybrid buses.
- We will report the mid-term and final trial results of the two trials to the Legislative Council according to the progress of the trials.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB186

Question Serial No.

4669

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: With regard to the continued monitoring of the operation of the EcoPark in Tuen Mun Area 38, please provide the following information:

1. Information on tenants of the EcoPark in the table below:

Names of Companies or Organizations	Years of Operation	Numbers of Staff	Types of Recycled Materials	Average Daily Yield	Recycled Products	Average Daily Throughput	Site areas and Rentals

2. Has the Administration maintained statistics on vehicular visits to the EcoPark? If yes, please provide quarterly breakdowns by vehicle type for the past 5 years (i.e. 2008 to 2012). If no, what are the reasons?
3. Has the Administration maintained statistics on utilisation of the 8 berthing spaces at the marine frontage? If yes, please provide quarterly figures for the past 5 years (i.e. 2008 to 2012). If no, please advise whether statistics will be compiled starting from 2013? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

1. The information requested is summarized below.

Phase 1 Tenants

Tenants	Date of Commissioning	No. of Staff	Throughput* 2012 (tonnes)	Waste Types	Recycled Materials/ Products	Monthly Rentals [Area]
Champway Technology Ltd	April 2010	25	9 700	Waste cooking oil	Biodiesel	\$50,000 [6 000m ²]
Shiu Wing Metal Ltd	May 2010	10	32 700	Waste metals	Sorted & sheared scrap metals	\$200,000 [9 500 m ²]

Tenants	Date of Commissioning	No. of Staff	Throughput* 2012 (tonnes)	Waste Types	Recycled Materials/ Products	Monthly Rentals [Area]
Hong Kong Hung Wai Wooden Board Company	May 2010**	5	0**	Waste wood	Wood fuel	\$53,250 [5 000 m ²]
Li Tong Group	September 2010	15	860	Waste computer equipment	Dismantled electronic components	\$85,000 [6 500 m ²]
Hong Kong Telford Envirotech Group Ltd	November 2010	3	2 350	Waste plastics	Plastic flakes and chips	\$80,000 [5 000 m ²]
Cosmos Star Holdings Company Ltd	Under testing and commissioning			Waste batteries	Dismantled battery components	\$41,000 [4 000 m ²]

* The throughput data refer to the amount of waste materials recovered and recycled by the tenants

** Operation has been suspended since October 2011 to adjust the business model and the tenant advised that the operation would be resumed in mid 2013

Phase 2 Tenants (managed by non-profit making organizations*)

Tenants	Date of Commissioning	No. of Staff	Throughput** 2012 (tonnes)	Waste Types	Recycled Materials/ Products	Quarterly Rentals [Area]
Yan Oi Tong EcoPark Plastic Resources Recycling Centre	March 2010	36	1 850	Waste plastics	Plastic flakes, plastic pellets and baled plastics	\$1 [5 000 m ²]
St James' Settlement "WEEE GO GREEN"	October 2010	28	300	Waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE)	Refurbished electrical and electronic equipment, and dismantled components	\$1 [5 000 m ²]

* With funding support from the Environment and Conservation Fund

** The throughput data refer to the amount of waste materials recovered and recycled by the tenants

In addition, a total of six Phase 2 lots were awarded to private recyclers through open tender for recycling waste metals, waste batteries, construction wastes, waste glass, WEEE, waste rubber tyres and food waste. Planning and construction of these recycling plants are underway.

2. The information on vehicular visits to the EcoPark is summarized below.

Years	Quarters	Vehicle Entry Record	
		Private Cars	Trucks
2008	1 st quarter	2 204	2 711
	2 nd quarter	2 354	2 742
	3 rd quarter	2 428	2 805
	4 th quarter	3 009	2 821
2009	1 st quarter	3 201	3 434
	2 nd quarter	3 154	3 486
	3 rd quarter	3 251	3 506
	4 th quarter	3 208	3 423
2010	1 st quarter	3 409	5 499
	2 nd quarter	3 215	4 738
	3 rd quarter	3 501	4 822
	4 th quarter	3 375	5 063
2011	1 st quarter	4 439	3 698
	2 nd quarter	4 844	4 207
	3 rd quarter	4 702	3 308
	4 th quarter	1 671	3 293
2012	1 st quarter	4 546	4 179
	2 nd quarter	4 262	3 493
	3 rd quarter	4 353	4 972
	4 th quarter	5 140	3 395

Remark:

1. EcoPark tenants have started their operation one by one since 2010

3. The information on utilization of berthing spaces is summarized below.

Years	Quarters	Nos. of Usage
2010	1 st quarter	0
	2 nd quarter	0
	3 rd quarter	3
	4 th quarter	3
2011	1 st quarter	6
	2 nd quarter	5
	3 rd quarter	3
	4 th quarter	3
2012	1 st quarter	2
	2 nd quarter	2
	3 rd quarter	5
	4 th quarter	1

Remarks:

1. No usage of berthing spaces was recorded in both 2008 and 2009
2. EcoPark tenants have started their operation one by one since 2010

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB187

Question Serial No.

1733

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please list in table form the details of projects funded by the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) in the past two years (i.e. 2011-12 and 2012-13).

	Project	Organiser	Implementation Period	Approved Funding	Details of the project
1(Example)	Community recycling scheme	Hong Kong Christian Service	2011/5 – 2012/5		
2					
3					

Asked by: Hon. KWOK, Dennis

Reply:

In 2011-12 and 2012-13 up to end December 2012, the Environment and Conservation Fund approved 1 210 applicants from 676 organizations. A summary of approved projects and activities by broad categories is given at Appendix.

Name in blockletters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

**Details of Projects Granted Funding Support by the
Environment and Conservation Fund in
2011-12 and 2012-13 (up to end December 2012)**

	Funding Scheme	Recipient Organizations	Project Duration	Approved Funding (\$) (a). 2011-12 (b). 2012-13	Details
1	Environmental Education and Community Action Projects - General Projects	Local non-profit making organizations (e.g. universities, green groups, community bodies, schools, etc)	1 month to 3 years	(a). 23,209,101.00 (b). 3,630,264.50	These environmental educational programmes and activities include seminars and workshops, exhibitions at public areas, eco-tours, competitions, etc. for a wide spectrum of audience such as the general public, youth, women groups, businesses to enhance community awareness and knowledge of environmental issues such as waste reduction and recycling, mobilize individuals to take action to conserve the environment and induce behavioural change towards a green lifestyle.
2	Environmental Education and Community Action Projects - Minor Works Projects	Local non-profit making organizations (e.g. universities, green groups, community bodies, schools, etc)	9 months to 3 years	(a). 52,931,270.50 (b). 48,540,886.70	Schools and non-government organisations (NGOs) set up environmental facilities such as green roof, renewable energy and energy efficiency installations and waste reduction facilities. Funding recipients have also organised educational activities riding on the facilities for their students and service recipients to promote awareness towards these green technologies and induce behavioural change towards a green lifestyle.
3	Community Waste Recovery and Source Separation Projects	Local non-profit making organizations (e.g. universities, green groups, community bodies, residents' organizations, etc)	1 to 3 years	(a). 34,458,602.20 (b). 12,139,971.40	Programmes include reduction and recycling of waste plastics, glass, used electrical and electronic equipment, food waste etc. to promote waste reduction and recovery in the community; and setting up of waste separation facilities on floors of buildings to facilitate waste separation at source.
4	On-site Meal Portioning Projects in Schools	All Government-funded schools in Hong Kong (except Government schools)	3 years	(a). 21,795,706.92 (b). 19,687,411.00	Schools carry out basic conversion works and install facilities for implementing on-site meal portioning to reduce food waste and avoid the use of disposable lunch boxes and cutleries.

	Funding Scheme	Recipient Organizations	Project Duration	Approved Funding (\$) (a). 2011-12 (b). 2012-13	Details
5	Food Waste Recycling Projects in Housing Estates	Residents' organizations of private residential buildings	25 months	(a). 9,330,947.00 (b). 0	The funding scheme was launched in July 2011 and has been undertaken in phases. The first batch of housing estates obtained funding from the Environment and Conservation Fund in November 2011, with a total allocation of about \$9 million granted, while the second phase of the scheme was rolled-out in October 2012. Housing estates implement food waste recovery by setting up composters and organise education programmes on food waste reduction and separation at source.
6	Nature Conservation Management Agreement Projects	Local non-profit making organizations (e.g. green groups, community bodies, etc)	14 months to 3 years	(a). 14,785,250.64 (b). 7,774,266.15	Under the management agreements, NGOs provide landowners or tenants with financial incentives in exchange for management rights over their land or their cooperation in enhancing conservation of priority sites of ecological importance.
7	Large-scale Environmental Education and Awareness Projects Coordinated by the Environmental Campaign Committee	Local non-profit making organizations (e.g. universities, green groups, community bodies, schools, etc)	ongoing	(a). 22,717,100.00 (b). 18,931,560.00	The Environmental Campaign Committee organizes large-scale programmes for targeted stakeholder groups to enhance community involvement. Major programmes include Student Environmental Protection Ambassador Scheme and Hong Kong Green School Award for the school sector; Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence (HKAEE) for the business sector; as well as community-wide programmes such as the Combating Climate Change Campaign and World Environment Day activities.
8	Buildings Energy Efficiency Funding Schemes	Local owners' corporations registered under the Building Management Ordinance (Cap. 344), owners' organizations or residents' organizations of residential, commercial, industrial buildings or composite buildings comprising any two of these three types of establishments	6 months to 4 years	(a). 90,848,912.00 (b). 84,136,526.50	Domestic, commercial and industrial buildings as well as housing estates carry out energy-cum-carbon audits to review the use of energy and quantify greenhouse gas emissions; and carry out improvement works to upgrade the energy efficiency performance of building services installations for communal use.

	Funding Scheme	Recipient Organizations	Project Duration	Approved Funding (\$) (a). 2011-12 (b). 2012-13	Details
9	Energy Conservation Projects for Non-government Organizations	Local non-profit making organizations (e.g. green groups, community bodies, etc)	6 months to 4 years	(a). 41,463,498.78 (b). 21,843,287.10	NGOs carry out energy-cum-carbon audits in their premises to review the use of energy and quantify the greenhouse gas emissions; carry out improvement works to upgrade the energy efficiency performance; and organize educational activities to promote energy conservation and carbon reduction.
10	Environmental Research, Technology Demonstration and Conference Projects	Local non-profit making organizations (e.g. universities, green groups, community bodies, schools, etc)	3 months to 4 years	(a). 10,903,761.00 (b). 8,722,680.00	Tertiary institutions and non-profit making bodies carry out research on environment-related topics to build up research capacity and knowledge base, with a view to developing or introducing new and innovative technologies and practices to protect our environment and conserve resources. They also organize conferences to facilitate knowledge exchange on major environment-related issues.

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

ENB188

Question Serial No.

1734

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Government will inject \$5 billion into the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) to support the environmental activities proposed by the communities. What is the balance of the ECF so far? How many environmental projects can it sufficiently support? After the injection, will the money be used to increase the number of approved projects or raise the subsidy limit of each approved project? Please advise on the details.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK, Dennis

Reply:

As at end 2012, the uncommitted balance of the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) stood at about \$70 million. It is difficult to estimate the number of projects that can be supported as the budget for individual projects varies. Based on the historical spending pattern, the uncommitted balance of ECF is expected to be depleted by around mid-2013. We proposed to inject \$5 billion into the ECF so that investment returns of the fund can provide long term sustained support for community green actions. Again, it is difficult to estimate the number of projects that can be supported after the proposed injection as the budget for individual projects varies. For the immediate future, the major areas of projects to be supported under the ECF will include waste reduction and recovery (particularly food waste), energy conservation, research on environmental technologies, nature conservation, and environmental education programmes related to the above areas.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 19 March 2013

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

ENB189

Question Serial No.

2613

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Administration has indicated that the increase of estimated expenditure by \$247.8 million for 2013-14 is mainly due to increased cash flow requirement for non-recurrent projects and other operating expenses. What are the titles and contents of these relevant non-recurrent projects? What are the expenditures for various projects? What are the reasons for increasing the cash flow?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK, Dennis

Reply:

The non-recurrent projects that will increase cash flow requirements in 2013-14 include –

(a) One-off subsidy to assist vehicle owners to replace the catalytic converters and oxygen sensors of their petrol and LPG taxi and light buses

In April 2012, the Finance Committee (FC) approved \$150 million for subsidizing vehicle owners to replace once the catalytic converters and oxygen sensors of their petrol and LPG taxis and light buses for strengthening the emission control of petrol and LPG vehicles. The replacement exercise is expected to commence in 2013-14 with an estimated spending in the fiscal year to be about \$100 million.

(b) Pilot Green Transport Fund (The Fund)

It was launched in March 2011 to encourage the public transport sector and goods vehicle owners to test out green and innovative transport technologies. Under the disbursing arrangements of the Fund, the subsidies will be released in stages to the subsidy recipients having regard to the progress of the approved trials. More subsidy recipients are expected to launch their trial, in 2013-14 as compared with 2012-13, thereby increasing the expenditure of the Fund by about \$63 million to about \$75 million.

(c) Trial of Hybrid Buses by Franchised Bus Companies

The FC has approved an allocation of \$33 million in April 2011 for fully subsidizing the franchised bus companies to procure six hybrid buses for trial under local conditions. The franchised bus companies have already placed orders for the hybrid buses for commencing the trial in 2014. The second installment payment of \$16.5 million for the buses, which is about \$13 million more than the first installment payment, will be made in 2013-14.

(d) Trial of Electric Buses by Franchised Bus Companies

The FC approved an allocation of \$180 million in July 2012 for fully subsidizing the franchised bus companies to procure 36 electric buses and related charging facilities for trial under local conditions. The franchised bus companies are making preparations to order the buses for commencing the trial in 2014. In this connection, we expect a payment of \$90 million to be made for these buses in 2013-14.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB190

Question Serial No.

4636

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Administration handled 5 893 and 6 835 complaints respectively in 2011 and 2012. It also estimates that about 6 800 cases will be handled in 2013. What major categories do these complaints fall into? What are their respective numbers?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK, Dennis

Reply:

The air pollution complaints handled by the Administration fall into the major categories below:

Major Categories	Number of Complaints	
	Year 2011	Year 2012
Malodour	2 235	3 003
Greasy fumes/cooking odour	1 218	1 211
Construction dust/ air nuisance	1 083	1 096
Asbestos	103	103
Others (e.g. open burning, burning of incense paper, etc)	1 254	1 422
Total	5 893	6 835

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB191

Question Serial No.

4637

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The number of complaints handled by the Administration rose in both 2011 and 2012. However, the Administration issued 243 and 109 legal notices in 2011 and 2012 respectively, and the estimate for 2013 is similar to that for last year. Why does the number of legal notices issued tend to decrease while the number of complaints is on the increase?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK, Dennis

Reply:

The overall number of complaints handled and the number of legal notices issued are affected by different factors. The number of legal notices issued under this programme is affected mainly by the number of unauthorized building works involving the use of asbestos containing materials. As the number of such referrals on unauthorized building works by the Buildings Department had reduced in 2012, the number of legal notices issued also decreased in 2012.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB192

Question Serial No.

1031

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14, would the Administration inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What is the progress of retrofitting Euro II and Euro III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices? What is the number of buses already retrofitted with catalytic reduction devices at present? What is the budget for implementing the programme?
- (b) What are the details, timetable and budget of the plan for working with franchised bus companies on the trial of electric buses?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

Reply:

- (a) Together with the franchised bus companies, we have retrofitted six Euro II and III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices (SCRs) for trial. The SCRs have been in operation for over 12 months. We are now analyzing the trial data together with franchised bus companies. Subject to satisfactory trial results and agreement with the franchised bus companies on the arrangements, the Government will fully fund the retrofit of Euro II and III franchised buses with the devices. To this end, \$550 million has been set aside for the retrofit programme.
- (b) In July 2012, the Finance Committee approved an allocation of \$180 million for fully subsidizing the franchised bus companies to procure 36 single-deck electric buses (including 28 battery-electric buses and 8 supercapacitor buses) and related charging facilities for trial to test out their operational efficiency and performance under local conditions. The franchised bus companies are making preparations for the procurement of electric buses. The trial is expected to commence in 2014 and will last for two years with a mid-term review to be conducted about one year after its commencement.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 21 March 2013

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

ENB193

Question Serial No.

1103

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Given that all three existing landfills in Hong Kong are expected to be filled up in the 2010s, and site selection for the two Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) treatment facilities by Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has been withheld due to a judicial review. Would the Administration inform this Committee of:

- (a) Has the Administration considered how the increasing MSW in Hong Kong can be handled once the application for judicial review is dismissed and the relevant facilities cannot be built? Does the Administration have any back-up sites or fallback options?

- (b) Has the Administration considered what the construction plan will be if the construction of such large scale waste treatment facility for bulk reduction of MSW can proceed after a ruling of the judicial review has been handed down? What is the timetable for completion? What are the figures on cost increase?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Kin-fung, Jeffrey

Reply:

- (a) Waste treatment using advanced technology for substantial waste volume reduction and energy recovery is an indispensable and integral part of the overall waste management strategy for Hong Kong.

We are awaiting the outcome of the judicial review against the integrated waste management facility (IWMF) Phase 1 project. In the meantime, we will continue to vigorously pursue various measures to reduce waste at source, promote food waste reduction under the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign, develop the organic waste treatment facilities to recycle food waste and pursue the extension of the three strategic landfills.

- (b) Subject to the outcome of the judicial review, we will continue to engage the relevant stakeholders and seek funding approval from the Legislative Council for the project. We envisage that the tendering, design and construction of the IWMF Phase 1 project would take about seven years after we obtain the funding approval. Prior to seeking funding approval, we will review and update the project estimates.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB194

Question Serial No.

0733

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the injection of \$5 billion into the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF), will the Administration advise on:

- (a) The annual expenditure of the ECF in the past three years (up to 2012-13) and the estimated expenditure of the ECF in 2013-14;
- (b) Any measures to prevent recipient organisations or groups from using the funds for political propaganda or electioneering?

Asked by: Hon. LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply:

- (a) Funding approved under the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) from 2010-11 to 2012-13 are as follow:

	Funding approved (\$ million)
2010-11	428.13
2011-12	335.90
2012-13 (up to Dec 2012)	228.67

The uncommitted fund of ECF stood at about \$70 million as at end 2012. Subject to funding approval by the Finance Committee on the proposed injection of \$5 billion to the ECF to provide long term sustained support for community projects on environment and conservation, the ECF Committee will draw up its annual budget for priority areas having regard to the estimated investment returns.

- (b) The ECF has set out clear guidelines and requirements in its Guide to Application and conditions for granting fund support on applications to ECF. The guidelines include measures to prohibit the use of ECF fund for purposes of personal, political, commercial or religious publicity of any individuals or organizations. It has a monitoring system to ensure that supported projects are implemented according to the funding requirements and conditions. The ECF Committee and the Secretariat may carry out inspections and surprise checks to examine the progress of the projects and ensure compliance with the

funding requirements. Any breach of the funding conditions may result in the suspension or termination of ECF funding support.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment/
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB195

Question Serial No.

1201

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Administration has indicated that it plans to introduce legislation to update the Air Quality Objectives in 2013-14. What are the details, expenditure and timetable of the work?

Asked by: Hon. LEE Kok-long, Joseph

Reply:

Our plan is to effect the new Air Quality Objectives on 1 January 2014. The Air Pollution Control (Amendment) Bill 2013 has been tabled in the Legislative Council and first and second readings was held on 20 March 2013. The expenditure of this legislative amendment will be absorbed within the existing provision of the Environmental Protection Department.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 19 March 2013

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

ENB196

Question Serial No.

3538

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: (a) Please provide the expenditure and details of recovering from the community and processing compact fluorescent lamps and Light Emitting Diode (LED) lights containing toxic substances (e.g. mercury and arsenic) over the past three years (i.e. from 2010-11 to 2012-13); and

(b) Has the Administration conducted or does it plan to conduct any studies on the environmental impact of inappropriate disposal of lamps containing toxic substances?

Asked by: Hon. LEE Wai-king, Starry

Reply:

(a) We are recovering spent mercury containing lamps through a voluntary trade-funded Producer Responsibility Scheme (PRS), namely the Fluorescent Lamp Recycling Programme (FLRP) for small quantities from households. For large quantities generated from commercial and industrial establishments, waste producers are required by law to engage proper collection of their waste. Currently, all spent lamps collected are delivered to the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre (CWTC) at Tsing Yi for proper treatment. This collection programme covers Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFL), Straight Fluorescent Tubes (SFT) and High Intensity Discharge Lamps (HID). In the past 3 years, the number of mercury containing lamps received at the CWTC and the associated expenditure are shown in the table below:

Year	Mercury Containing Lamps (total number)	Associated Expenditure (\$)
2010	1 584 000	414,000
2011	1 664 000	474,000
2012	1 997 000	562,000

LED lamps are not classified as chemical waste and we do not have any information on their collection and disposal in Hong Kong.

(b) It is known that each CFL, SFT or HID contains a tiny amount of mercury which is toxic. To protect public health and the environment, mercury containing lamps are therefore subject to regulatory control and for the disposal of large quantities of these lamps, they have to be collected by licensed collectors and disposed of at the CWTC. We have been monitoring the situation at waste facilities and so far there are no incidents of bulk disposal of the above waste.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB197

Question Serial No.

0145

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Would the Department provide details on how to use the estimated provision for 2013-14 under Programme (1) for:

- (1) the implementation of voluntary producer responsibility schemes;
- (2) the promotion of reduction of food waste under the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign (including the number of activities to be held and their details, with provision required for the activities listed); and
- (3) the work to take forward the development of organic waste treatment facilities for the treatment of source-separated food waste from the commercial and industrial sectors, the development of a waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) treatment facility to handle the WEEE locally generated and the project on the development of an integrated waste management facility as soon as possible.

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwan-yuen, Andrew

Reply:

- (1) The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has been supporting and promoting voluntary producer responsibility schemes on fluorescent lamps, computers, rechargeable batteries and glass bottles that are operated and funded by the relevant trades. In 2013-14, EPD will spend about \$3.5 million in the publicity and promotion of these programmes.
- (2) To take forward the Chief Executive's pledge to promote food waste reduction, the Government announced on 3 December 2012 the setting up of the Food Wise Hong Kong Steering Committee, which is chaired by the Secretary for the Environment and with members drawn from the relevant sectors, including catering and hotels, retail, property management, education, academia, green groups and food recipient organizations, as well as relevant government departments. The Steering Committee is tasked with formulating and overseeing the implementation strategies of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign, which aims to promote public awareness of food waste problems in Hong Kong and co-ordinate efforts within the Government and public institutions to lead by example in food waste reduction. The objectives of the Steering Committee also include instilling behavioural change at the individual and household levels to help reduce food waste generation, drawing up and promoting good practices of food waste reduction at commercial and industrial establishments, and facilitating food

donation to charitable organizations from establishments with surplus food. Under the Steering Committee two sub-committees have been set up and are responsible for education promotion and development of food waste reduction good practices respectively. Various working groups have also been set up to support the works of the sub-committees. The Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign would be launched shortly, with a series of activities to be rolled out, including TV and radio APIs, the launch of good practice guides, roving exhibitions and community events, a dedicated website, and food waste reduction workshops for various sectors etc. The manpower for the campaign is deployed from the existing establishment. The planned budget for the campaign in the year 2013-14 is around \$10 million.

(3a) Organic Waste Treatment Facilities (OWTF)

We plan to develop the OWTF in phases. The first phase of OWTF will be developed at Siu Ho Wan of North Lantau with a treatment capacity of 200 tonnes per day. Tender for the design, build and operation (DBO) of this facility was invited on 8 February 2013. Subject to the funding approval by the Finance Committee, we plan to award the DBO contract in early 2014 and commission the facility in 2016. The second phase of OWTF will be developed at Sha Ling of the North District with a treatment capacity of 300 tonnes per day. We are now carrying out the engineering investigation and environmental impact assessment (EIA) studies for this facility. We plan to complete the EIA study in 2013 with a view to commissioning the facility in 2017.

(3b) Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Treatment Facility

The prequalification exercise for the potential tenderers of this facility is in progress. We plan to invite tender by mid-2013 and seek funding approval from the Finance Committee as soon as practicable afterwards. Subject to funding approval, we plan to commission the facility in 2016.

(3c) Integrated Waste Management Facilities (IWMF) Phase 1

We plan to develop the IWMF Phase 1 at an artificial island site to be reclaimed near Shek Kwu Chau with a treatment capacity of 3 000 tonnes per day. We are awaiting the outcome of the judicial review against the IWMF Phase 1 project.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 20 March 2013

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

ENB198

Question Serial No.

3956

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the Advisory Council on the Environment, what are the breakdown of expenditure and total expenditure for the coming year: How many projects will the Fund subsidize in the coming year: What are the upper and lower subsidy limits for each project?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply:

The Advisory Council on the Environment (ACE) advises the Government on matters relating to environmental protection and nature conservation. The terms of reference of ACE are –

- (a) to keep under review the state of the environment in Hong Kong; and
- (b) to advise the Government, through the Secretary for the Environment, on the appropriate measures which might be taken to combat pollution of all kinds, and to protect and sustain the environment.

ACE does not have any funded projects pertaining to environment and conservation issues.

The secretariat support for ACE is provided by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD). ACE also incurs expenses in organizing visits and public fora on selected topics from time to time. EPD does not have a separate vote on the activities, and the related expenditure of ACE is absorbed by the existing provisions for EPD.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB199

Question Serial No.

5460

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Many people told me that air pollution in Kwun Tong has become increasingly serious due to the large number of works projects, which have affected their respiratory health. Would the Director of Environmental Protection advise whether studies have been conducted with the departments involved in tree planting and green planning and specific greening projects have been drawn up in response to pollution in individual districts? As a result of urban renewal, it is very likely that the urban areas in Kwun Tong will continue to face serious air pollution in the future 10 years. Would the Director of Environmental Protection advise whether there are any short-term measures to address this problem?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply:

Regarding air pollution caused by construction activities, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has been enforcing the Air Pollution Control (Construction Dust) Regulation (Cap. 311R) which requires contractors to adopt dust reduction measures to avoid causing air pollution nuisance to the surrounding environment. In addition, the Government has been implementing various measures to reduce emissions from power generation, industry and transport sectors. These efforts have improved the air quality over the territory.

The air quality in Kwun Tong in recent years has also been improved. As compared with 2008, the concentrations of sulphur dioxide and respirable suspended particulates measured at the air quality monitoring station in Kwun Tong dropped by 35% and 9% respectively in 2012 while nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) remained stable with a slight increase of 2% in the same period.

To further improve air quality, the Government is taking forward a number of policy initiatives to reduce vehicle emissions. These include a plan to retrofit Euro II and III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices (SCRs), strengthening the emission control of petrol and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicles and adopting an incentive-cum-regulatory approach to phase out pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles (including light buses, goods vehicles and coaches). In parallel, EPD will continue to implement emission control measures and work with Guangdong authorities to improve the air quality of the Pearl River Delta region.

Development Bureau has been taking the lead in tree planting and city greening and the promotion of more greenery in building works. In 2012, it issued guidelines to specify the minimum greenery coverage areas for government building projects. Similar provision of greenery coverage has also been adopted by the

Buildings Department as part of the requirements for granting Gross Floor Area concessions for new developments. These measures help enhance the quality of our living space, particularly at pedestrian level. Enhanced green coverage has also been adopted in some of Development Bureau's projects, e.g. Energizing Kowloon East.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB200

Question Serial No.

5461

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (3) Noise

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Kwun Tong residents have repeatedly asked the Government to retrofit noise barriers to address the noise problem of Lei Yue Mun Road. Please provide the latest noise data related to this project and information on the discussion progress on the solutions.

During the consultation on Tseung Kwan O - Lam Tin Tunnel, residents have expressed concerns about the existing pollution problem of the Eastern Harbour Crossing (EHC) and explicitly demanded the Government to cover the road section at the EHC entrance or plant trees in order to reduce noise and light pollution. Please provide the latest data on noise and light pollution near EHC Kowloon entrance and information on the discussion progress on the relevant solutions.

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply:

When developing Sceneway Garden and Lei On Court at Lei Yue Mun Road, since the unmitigated traffic noise level would exceed 70 dB(A), mitigation measures against road traffic noise like podium decking over Lei Yue Mun Road for Sceneway Garden and self-protecting building designs for Lei On Court have been incorporated in accordance with the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines. Notwithstanding, at the request of residents, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) and the Highways Department have conducted studies on the feasibility of provision of noise barriers on Lei Yue Mun Road near Sceneway Garden and Lei On Court. However, the findings have been that provision of noise barrier is not feasible mainly due to insufficient space and structural constraint of the elevated roads.

When developing Yau Lai Estate near Eastern Harbour Crossing (EHC), since the unmitigated traffic noise level would exceed 70 dB(A), the Housing Department had adopted noise mitigation measures, including noise barriers, architectural fins and a noise tolerant car park building in accordance with the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines. Currently, the approach roads to the EHC are under the management of the New Hong Kong Tunnel Company Limited. The company has advised that appropriate locations at these roads sections have been resurfaced with suitable materials with noise reduction effect. There is no plan to cover the road sections at the EHC entrance. Also, EPD did not receive any light pollution complaint in respect of the area nearby the entrance of the EHC on the Kowloon side in the past three years.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB201

Question Serial No.

5462

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please provide a summary of air quality by district for the past three years (up to 2012-13).

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply:

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) operates an air quality monitoring network comprising 11 general air quality monitoring stations (AQMSs) and three roadside stations. The network provides representative air quality information for the whole Hong Kong including busy corridors in urban areas.

The annual average air pollution indices (API) measured at the 11 general AQMSs and the three roadside AQMSs in the past three years are below. All the general AQMSs in the last three years met the target of having an annual average API of not exceeding 50. Due to the high levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) at the roadside, all the three roadside stations fell short of the target during the period.

General Air Quality Monitoring Station	District(s) represented by the Station	Annual Average API		
		2010	2011	2012
Central/Western	Central and Western, Wan Chai, Southern (depending on the location)	42	44	42
Sham Shui Po	Sham Shui Po, Yau Tsim Mong, Kowloon City	47	48	45
Eastern	Eastern, Southern (depending on the location)	43	42	40
Kwun Tong	Kwun Tong, Wong Tai Sin	45	46	44
Kwai Chung	Kwai Tsing	45	47	44
Tsuen Wan	Tsuen Wan	45	46	42
Tai Po	Tai Po, North (including Sheung Shui and Fanling)	40	40	40
Shatin	Shatin, Sai Kung (including Tseung Kwan O)	40	42	38
Tung Chung	Islands	39	43	40
Yuen Long	Yuen Long (including Tin Shui Wai), Tuen Mun	43	46	40
Tap Mun	Rural background site	38	42	37

Roadside Air Quality Monitoring Station	Annual Average API		
	2010	2011	2012
Causeway Bay	78	83	79
Central	83	83	77
Mong Kok	76	79	80

To tackle the roadside NO₂ problem, EPD will take forward a number of new measures to reduce vehicle emissions. These include retrofitting Euro II and III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices (SCR), strengthening the emission control of petrol and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicles and adopting an incentive-cum-regulatory approach to phase out pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles (including light buses, goods vehicles and coaches). In parallel, we will continue to work with Guangdong authorities to reduce the emissions in the Pearl River Delta Region so as to reduce the regional ozone level, which could promote the formation of NO₂ at roadsides. These measures will help improve roadside air quality.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB202

Question Serial No.

0108

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Water

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: It has not been mentioned in this year's Budget about the provision used for improving the water quality of the harbour. In his Policy Address announced earlier, the Chief Executive has stated that more resources will be allocated to vigorously improve the water quality in the vicinity of the Victoria Harbour and promote a water-friendly culture. Would the Administration inform this Committee of the provision earmarked in this year's Budget for the work to improve the water quality of New Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter in West Kowloon, Hoi Sham Park in To Kwa Wan and Kowloon City Ferry Pier, including dredging away the sediment in the navigational channel and culvert outlets, as well as salvaging floating refuse, to reduce the impact of seawater odour on the nearby residents? What will be the increases in provision for the coming three years (i.e. 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16)?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla

Reply:

As mentioned in the Policy Address, upon completion of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme Stage 2A next year, the water quality of Victoria Harbour will see substantial improvement. The Government will study ways to further enhance the water quality of urban coastal waters.

To improve the water quality in West Kowloon and the New Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter (NYMTTS) area, the Drainage Services Department (DSD) has increased the frequency of desilting works at the Cherry Street box culvert outlet to three times per year at an estimated annual cost of \$250,000 for the next three years (2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-2016). In 2012-13, DSD's annual expenditure for routine operation and maintenance works relating to storm water drains in the catchment area was \$3.6 million and \$33,000 for the operation and maintenance of six dry weather flow interceptors (DWFIs). Similar expenditure is projected for the next three years. Moreover, DSD is carrying out a consultancy study for the investigation, design and construction of a proposed DWFI at the Cherry Street box culvert outlet. We plan to commence the construction works in 2014 subject to funding approval.

For the area of the To Kwa Wan Typhoon Shelter, DSD's inspection shows that there is no siltation problem at the box culverts. In 2012-13, DSD's annual expenditure for routine operation and maintenance works relating to storm water drains in the To Kwa Wan catchment area was \$1.10 million, and \$15,000 for the operation and maintenance of five DWFIs in the area. Similar expenditure is projected for the next three years. While most of the improvement works of the sewerage system in the area, including four of the DWFIs, have been completed from late 2011 to early 2013, we plan to commence construction of the remaining works comprising the upgrading of sewers in 2014 subject to funding approval.

In addition, the Marine Department (MD) has also increased the frequency of conducting sounding survey at the north-eastern end of the NYMTTS to determine whether safety of maritime navigation is affected and maintenance dredging by the Civil Engineering and Development Department (CEDD) is necessary. CEDD will carry out maintenance dredging to ensure navigation safety at West Kowloon (including the NYMTTS) and To Kwa Wan in the coming three years. The estimated expenditure for 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 are \$6 million, \$8 million and \$6 million respectively.

MD has outsourced the marine refuse cleansing services, which include scavenging floating refuse in Hong Kong waters, collection of domestic refuse from local vessels inside typhoon shelters and from ships at anchorages. MD's current contract for the marine refuse cleansing services covering the period from October 2012 to September 2013 is \$37.2 million, and \$37.3 million, \$39.6 million and \$40.8 million will be reserved for the same contract period in 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 respectively.

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) meanwhile will continue to take joint enforcement action with other concerned government departments to rectify misconnections from buildings and illegal discharges identified in the catchment area. As the action forms part of EPD's routine integrated enforcement practices that cover a wide range of enforcement activities against different aspects of environmental pollution, it is not possible to provide a breakdown of EPD's expense specifically on tackling misconnections or illegal discharges.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB203

Question Serial No.

1086

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Government is pressing ahead with the first phase development of the organic waste treatment facilities in Siu Ho Wan, Lantau. Scheduled for commissioning in 2016, the facilities will convert food waste into energy and compost products. What is the estimated expenditure on this in the next three years (2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16)? Meanwhile, will the Administration launch other programmes on waste reduction at source? If yes, what are the details and expenditure of the programmes? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Mei-fun, Priscilla

Reply:

Tender for the design, build and operation (DBO) of the Organic Waste Treatment Facilities (OWTF) Phase 1 was invited on 8 February 2013. We plan to complete the tendering work and seek funding approval from the Public Works Subcommittee and Finance Committee of Legislative Council in the fourth quarter of 2013. Subject to funding approval, we plan to commission the facility in 2016.

The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for the study of the OWTF Phase 1 is \$1.3 million. The cost of developing this facility in 2014-15 and 2015-16 will depend on the returned tender price of the winning tender.

The Government has been adopting a multi-pronged approach to tackle food waste, emphasizing on avoidance and reduction of food waste, and recycling the unavoidable portion to recover useful resources as far as practicable. To take forward the Chief Executive's pledge to promote food waste reduction, the Government announced on 3 December 2012 the setting up of the Food Wise Hong Kong Steering Committee, which is chaired by the Secretary for the Environment and with members drawn from the relevant sectors and relevant government departments.

The Steering Committee is tasked with formulating and overseeing the implementation strategies of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign, which aims to promote public awareness of food waste problems in Hong Kong and co-ordinate efforts within the Government and public institutions to lead by example in food waste reduction. The objectives of the Campaign also include instilling behavioural change at the individual and household levels to help reduce food waste generation, drawing up and promoting good practices of food waste reduction at commercial and industrial establishments, and facilitating food donation to charitable organizations from establishments with surplus food.

The Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign would be launched shortly, with a series of activities to be rolled out, including public education initiatives through for instance TV and radio APIs, the launch of good practice guides, roving exhibitions and community events, a dedicated website, and food waste reduction workshops for various sectors, etc. The manpower for the campaign is absorbed from the existing establishment. The planned budget for the campaign in the year 2013-14 is around \$10 million.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB204

Question Serial No.

3883

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In respect of environmental protection, diesel commercial vehicles will be progressively phased out. Please inform the Committee by how many stages will diesel commercial vehicles be phased out.

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply:

To improve air quality and protect public health, the Administration has proposed to stop the renewal of licences for pre-Euro, Euro I to III diesel commercial vehicles in phases, with the banning of the most polluting pre-Euro and Euro I vehicles on 1 January 2016, Euro II on 1 January 2017 and Euro III on 1 January 2019. The Environment Protection Department is consulting the transport trades and the relevant stakeholders on the proposal.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB205

Question Serial No.

3884

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In respect of environmental protection, diesel commercial vehicles will be progressively phased out. Please provide details on the specific timetable and relevant arrangements for the phasing out of diesel commercial vehicles.

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply:

To improve air quality and protect public health, the Administration has proposed to stop the renewal of licences for pre-Euro, Euro I to III diesel commercial vehicles in phases, with the banning of the most polluting pre-Euro and Euro I vehicles on 1 January 2016, and Euro II on 1 January 2017 and Euro III on 1 January 2019 respectively. The Administration has set aside \$10 billion as the proposed ex-gratia payment for eligible vehicle owners for phasing out these diesel commercial vehicles. The ex-gratia payment amounts up to 30% of the taxable value of new vehicles depending on the age of vehicles and whether new vehicles will be bought as replacements. The details of the proposed payment level are below:

	Age of Scrapped vehicles and Ex-gratia Payment Level as a percentage of the taxable values of new vehicles				
	18 years or above	16 years - below 18 years	13 years - below 16 years	10 years - below 13 years	Below 10 years
Those who do not seek replacement by newly registered vehicles	10%	12%	14%	16%	18%
Those who replace them with newly registered vehicles of the same class	18%	21%	24%	27%	30%

The Environmental Protection Department is consulting the transport trades and the relevant stakeholders on the proposal.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB206

Question Serial No.

2492

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The development of environmental industries is conducive to the sustainable development of our society. Would the Administration advise on the following:

- (a) What were the figures of the environmental industries (including the recycling business) in the past five years (2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13), including distribution by sector, contribution to gross domestic product, turnover and staff number?
- (b) What were the figures of the recycling business in the past five years (2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13), including types of recycling service or waste, amounts of waste recycled by type, turnover and staff number?
- (c) What were the provision, expenditure and staff allocated by the Government for the development of environmental industries in the past five years (2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13)? What were the themes and conclusions of the research projects conducted in this area (if any)?
- (d) What were the expenditure, establishment and manpower allocated for the development of EcoPark in the past five years (2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13)? Has the Administration studied the future development of EcoPark? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) According to the statistics published by the Census and Statistics Department, the economic contribution (in terms of value added) and employment in respect of the environmental industries are as follows -

	2008	2009	2010	2011
Value added at current prices (\$ million) ⁽¹⁾	4,178	4,697	5,603	6,515
Percentage share in GDP ⁽²⁾	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Employment ⁽³⁾	31 270	32 410	36 080	38 350
Percentage share in total employment ⁽⁴⁾	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.1

Remarks :

1. Refers to value added of the environmental industries in the private sector.
2. The contribution of the environmental industries in the private sector is compiled as a percentage share in

nominal GDP valued at basic prices. The GDP figure in the denominator is slightly different from the commonly used one, i.e. valued at current market prices, in which taxes on products are included.

3. Refers to persons engaged in the environmental industries in the private sector.
4. Figures of total employment refer to Composite Employment Estimates.

Environmental industries included in the above statistics mainly include sewerage and waste management, environmental engineering and consultancy services as well as import/export and wholesale trading of waste and scrap. Further breakdown by industries is not available.

- (b) At present about 540 companies and organizations are engaged in the recycling industry in Hong Kong. These include private recyclers, recycling centres operated by non-profit-making organizations, and recyclers operating at the EcoPark, and they directly employ about 4 000 workers. In addition, there are itinerant collectors and scavengers of recyclable materials. Owing to the high mobility, it is difficult to make an accurate estimate of the actual number of people engaged in the trade. In addition, since most of these companies are private enterprises, we do not have the financial information of their business.

Available information on the recycling industry in the past five calendar years is given below.

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
No. of Waste Collectors/ Recyclers ⁽¹⁾	490	470	500	520	540
No. of employees ⁽¹⁾	4 600	4 900	4 800	5 100	4 000
Quantity of paper recovered (thousand tonnes) ⁽²⁾	1 091	1 027	1 195	1 278	N.A. ⁽³⁾
Quantity of plastics recovered (thousand tonnes) ⁽²⁾	1 023	1 211	1 577	843	N.A. ⁽³⁾
Quantity of metals recovered (thousand tonnes) ⁽²⁾	933	834	720	782	N.A. ⁽³⁾

Remarks :

1. Figures are based upon the information from the Recycler Directory which is gathered under a voluntary registration scheme and is therefore non-exhaustive.
2. Further breakdown of recovered recyclable materials is available in the annual reports of “Monitoring of Solid Waste in Hong Kong” at the following website:
https://www.wastereduction.gov.hk/en/assistancewizard/waste_red_sat.htm
3. “N.A.” denotes figures not available yet.

- (c) The Government invests heavily in the development of environmental infrastructure facilities and the setting up of various funding schemes to encourage adoption of clean technologies. We also provide funding support to encourage research and development on green and environmental technologies. A list of the major projects/funding schemes and their respective costs/funds incurred over the past five years from 2008-09 to 2012-13 is as follow -

Infrastructural Projects	Approved Capital Costs (\$ million)
Stage 2A of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme	17,199.9
Upgrading of Pillar Point sewage treatment works	1,920.5
Sludge Treatment Facilities	5,154.4
District Cooling System at the Kai Tak Development (Phases I and II)	1,861.8
Development of EcoPark	319.0

Funding Schemes and Other Initiatives	Commitment/Earmarked Funds (\$ million)
Environment and Conservation Fund	1,500.0
Pilot Green Transport Fund	300.0
Cleaner Production Partnership Programme	93.0
Environmental technology projects funded under the Innovation and Technology Fund	126.0
Funding support for academic research concerning green and energy conservation technologies, environmental science, as well as developing a sustainable environment, under the University Grants Committee and Research Grants Council	190.0

As the above measures and investments form an integral part of the work of relevant bureaux and departments, we do not have a separate breakdown on the funds and manpower involved for promoting the development of environmental industries per se. Further information about the theme and research projects can be found in the relevant webpages of the University Grants Committee and Innovation and Technology Fund.

- (d) In addition to the approved capital cost of \$319 million for the development of the EcoPark, the Administration has engaged a management contractor at a lump sum monthly fee of about \$1.5 million to manage the EcoPark. The fee covers all facility management expenses, assisting EcoPark tenants to develop their recycling business, implementing promotional and waste recovery activities, as well as operating the Visitor Centre and a dedicated website. The relevant resources allocated for the development of EcoPark in the past five years have been absorbed under Programme (1) (Waste) under Head 44 – Environmental Protection Department. We would not be able to separately provide the expenditure and manpower involved for the development of EcoPark.

As of January 2013, all available lots in the EcoPark have been let and the tenants are at different stages of planning, constructing or commissioning of their plants and operations. The Administration will continue to monitor the operation of the EcoPark and provide assistance to the tenants to help them develop their business.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB207

Question Serial No.

2493

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Sustainable Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding environmental education, please advise on the following:

- (a) The funds, expenditures and staffing provisions involved in environmental education over the past five years (i.e. 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13), as well as the themes and conclusions of the research projects conducted in this area (if any); please also advise on the estimates for this financial year (2013-14);
- (b) The funds, expenditures and staffing provisions involved in enhancing the public awareness of energy efficiency and conservation measures over the past five years (i.e. 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13), as well as the themes and conclusions of the research projects conducted in this area (if any);
- (c) The funds, expenditures and staffing provisions involved in promoting the recycling of used articles over the past five years (i.e. 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13), as well as the themes and conclusions of the research projects conducted in this area (if any);
- (d) The funds, expenditures and staffing provisions involved in "eco-driving" over the past five years (i.e. 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13), as well as the themes and conclusions of the research projects conducted in this area (if any);
- (e) The funds, expenditures and staffing provisions involved in education on wildlife over the past five years (i.e. 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13), as well as the themes and conclusions of the research projects conducted in this area (if any);
- (f) Will the Administration consider including educational elements of biodiversity in the curriculum guides of kindergartens, primary schools and Liberal Studies at secondary schools? If yes, what are the details, including the funds, expenditures and staffing provisions? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) To promote community environmental awareness and action, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has set up five environmental resource centres (ERC)/environmental education centres and a mobile ERC providing information on a range of local and global environmental issues. Targeted promotion programmes like roving exhibitions to housing estates and shopping malls on source separation of waste are also organized to encourage public participation in improving the environment. In addition, the EPD and Environmental Campaign Committee (ECC) have been organizing environmental education campaigns to promote waste recycling, energy conservation and other green habits in their daily lives. We do not conduct research projects on environmental and conservation education per se, but we take advice from various stakeholders and partners in the organization of these programmes. Staff from various divisions are involved in these activities when the themes are related to their responsibilities. No separate breakdown is available. Over the past five years, the departmental expenditures on these environmental education programmes are as follows:

Year	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	Estimated 2013-14
Expenditure	\$3.7 million	\$3.8 million	\$3.5 million	\$3.9 million	\$4.2 million	\$4.4 million

In the past five years, the ECC also incurred expenditures of \$132.4 million in organization of various educational and promotional events on environment and conservation.

- (b) To promote public awareness on energy efficiency and conservation, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has organized various promotional activities including school exhibitions and outreach programmes, trade seminars, public seminars, tours of the Education Path of EMSD Headquarters, promotion of Energy Efficiency (Labelling of Products) Ordinance and Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance, distribution of promotional leaflets and newsletters, dissemination of energy saving information through the Internet, etc. Over the past five years, the expenditures on enhancing the public awareness of energy efficiency and conservation measures are as follows:

Year	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Expenditure	\$0.6 million	\$1 million	\$1 million	\$1 million	\$2 million

As existing manpower has been deployed for the promotional activities, there is no breakdown for the manpower involved.

- (c) In view of the increasing public awareness towards the reuse of used articles, EPD has provided an online platform namely "Hong Kong Second-hand Exchange (HKSE)" since 2007 to promote and facilitate the exchange of unwanted but still usable articles to help reduce, reuse and recycle waste in Hong Kong. Members of HKSE are encouraged to post their second-hand goods on HKSE for donation or for sale at a nominal charge. Over the past five years, the expenditures for hosting the service of HKSE, which is a lump sum cost shared with another dedicated website "Waste Reduction Website" under EPD, are as follows:

Year	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Expenditure	\$123,000	\$384,000	\$311,000	\$311,000	\$309,000

Apart from HKSE, the promotion of recycling has been embedded in our other promotional campaigns, e.g. source separation of waste.

As the management and operation of HKSE are part and partial of EPD's daily work in respect of promotion on waste reduction and recycling, relevant resources are absorbed under Programme (1) (Waste) under Head 44 – EPD, there is no breakdown for the manpower involved for the management and operation of HKSE alone.

No research project on promoting the recycling of used articles has been conducted over the past five years.

- (d) From 2008-09 to 2012-13, EPD conducted 18 seminars on eco-driving for the transport trades. Details are as follows:

Year	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
No. of Eco-driving Seminars	3	6	3	3	3

As the expenditures incurred have already been absorbed by the existing resources provision of the Air Programme of EPD, there is no breakdown for the expenditures and manpower involved.

- (e) The educational works on wildlife are carried out by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD). Over the past five years, the expenditures on the environmental education programmes on wildlife are as follows:

Year	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Expenditure	\$5.2 million	\$5.6 million	\$7.5 million	\$8.2 million	\$8.8 million

The educational works are mainly undertaken by staff with responsibilities for wetland park operation and no separate breakdown on staff for the educational works is available.

- (f) The AFCD organizes different thematic campaigns on animals and plants to promote public education on biodiversity. Major projects include: (a) production and distribution of education and publicity materials, and the organization of talks, outreach programmes and exhibitions; (b) dissemination of messages and information on biodiversity conservation through websites; (c) education activities and guided tours, such as school visit programmes for kindergartens, primary and secondary schools; and (d) training of volunteers. The AFCD has also developed an education kit on biodiversity for biology teachers of junior classes in secondary schools to facilitate their teaching of biology. In addition, an education kit for senior secondary biology teachers is being developed. The expenditure and manpower involved are provided in our reply in part (e) above.

The development of curriculum is under the purview of the Education Bureau.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 2 April 2013

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

ENB208

Question Serial No.

2495

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Environmental Protection Department mentioned in the Programme that the Department developed new proposals to meet changing waste management needs. What are the estimated expenditure and staffing provision for this work? What are the specific work plans? Has the Department conducted any research on this? If yes, what are the details and specific new proposals?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) aims to develop and implement a sustainable waste management strategy for Hong Kong. In view of the imminent waste problem facing Hong Kong, the Administration adopts a "reduction first" strategy and implements a multi-pronged approach of waste reduction, recycling, timely development of waste treatment facilities, and introduction of modern waste treatment technology. The associated work is undertaken by EPD staff as part of their normal duties. In 2013-14, the Administration plans to roll out a resource sustainability blue print to provide an overview on waste management strategy. For specific initiatives, key new proposals being developed include (i) the extension of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags for which the legislative proposals will be introduced into the Legislative Council (LegCo) within the 2012-13 legislative session, (ii) the mandatory producer responsibility scheme (PRS) on waste electrical and electronic equipment for which the legislative proposals are under preparation for introduction into the LegCo as soon as possible; (iii) the mandatory PRS on glass beverage bottles which is under public consultation; and (iv) the municipal solid waste charging for which a public engagement will be conducted by the Council on Sustainable Development in 2013. EPD conducted research on these initiatives and the findings have been incorporated in the relevant public consultation documents.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB209

Question Serial No.

2498

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Has the Administration set any objectives for the green procurement policy to work out statistics on the positive environmental effects achieved through the green procurement policy, including controlling the emission of toxic materials, as well as reducing consumption of electricity, water and fuel? Please provide statistics of the past five years (2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13) and the estimates for this year (2013-14).

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

The Government has been taking the lead to adopt a green procurement policy. At present, the number of products on the Government's green procurement list has been expanded to 103 items. As bureaux and departments have been required to make annual report on their green procurement starting from March 2011, we do not have records on green procurement before then. In 2011, the Government spent about \$830 million on the green procurement of the 103 products. We are now compiling the data on Government's expenditure on green procurement in 2012 and do not have an estimated expenditure for green procurement in 2013-14.

The green specifications of products are determined on the basis of a range of factors, including the recyclability, recycled content, durability, impact on the environment (e.g. emissions), energy efficiency, toxicity etc. While green procurement generally helps to promote the use of environmentally friendly or energy saving products and recycled materials, it would be difficult to quantify the collective environmental benefits from green procurement. Currently our focus is to review regularly the green specifications of the products on the Government's green procurement list, expand the green procurement list wherever feasible and continue to promote green procurement policy in the Government. We would keep in view the types and extent of green procurement within the Government.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 21 March 2013

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

ENB210

2500

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the Administration's proposal to set up community green stations, please advise on the following:

- (a) What is the estimated expenditure for setting up community green stations in (five districts of) Hong Kong? By setting up community green stations in five districts, how much operating cost of the industry is estimated to be cut down?
- (b) What are the operational details of how the public can obtain green information at the recovery stations and take waste to the green stations for recovery, including the specific facilities, the green information provided and the estimated expenditure?
- (c) Has the Administration studied the reception of food waste at the community green stations? What are the themes and conclusions of the relevant research projects (if any)? If no, what are the reasons?
- (d) There are views that the community green stations have to be situated close to the residents in order to be effective and that at least 3 community green stations have to be set up in each district so as to play a supporting role. Has the Department considered such views? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (e) According to the Environmental Protection Department's website, waste separation bins (three-coloured bins) are placed at about 2 740 locations all over Hong Kong at present. Some of them also provide green information, but many are treated as rubbish bins. Has the Administration studied the reasons and taken improvement measures? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons? And
- (f) Does the Administration have any new policy initiatives to ensure and supervise the proper use of the community green stations? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

(a)-(d)

We plan to develop the five pilot community green stations by phases. Having taken into account the availability of suitable land and the need to maintain a geographical spread of the facilities across the territory, we have identified potential sites and will consult the District Councils concerned, with a view to commencing the construction programme as soon as the sites are available.

The green station operators, to be appointed by way of open tender, will collaborate with schools, property management and other relevant stakeholders or institutions on environmental education and coordination of recycling initiatives. Apart from accepting recyclables on-site, the green station operators will also reach out to the community to collect recyclables such as glass beverage bottles and waste electrical and electronic equipment for which there is outlet for proper recycling in Hong Kong but collection services by private recyclers are not available due to their low economic value. In view of the potential nuisance problem, the green stations will not accept food waste. Through the reaching out, the community green stations will be able to provide accessible and visible support for green living at the community level. The estimated expenditure of the capital works and operation services in 2013-14 are \$44 million and \$21 million respectively.

(e) 3-coloured bins have gained popularity since the first launch in 1998, and many people now use 3-coloured bins for recycling. However, there are still some people in the community who are not so conscious on recycling. They put garbage in 3-coloured bins just for convenience. In response, since 2010, a litter bin is placed next to every set of 3-coloured bins and starting from 2012, the 3-coloured bins in the street have been replaced in phases by “all-in-1 bins”, i.e. composite bins with compartments for receiving recyclables as well as garbage.

In parallel, the Government has been launching more promotion on recycling, such as face-to-face promotion in housing estates and in public places on recycling. Such promotion can help raise the general awareness of the community on waste reduction and recycling.

On the other hand, as a deterrent, littering in the recyclable collection bins is an offence and is liable to a fixed penalty of fine of \$1,500.

(f) Each of the green stations will be operated by an NGO to be selected through open tender. The Environmental Protection Department will monitor the performance of the community green stations including the operator’s site management to ensure that the facilities are properly used to serve their intended objectives.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 22 March 2013

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

ENB211

Question Serial No.

2502

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the air quality improvement measures, please advise on the following:

- (a) Has the Government reviewed the Action Blue Sky Campaign launched in 2006? If yes, what are the details? Does the Government have any plan to launch other programmes similar to the Action Blue Sky Campaign? If yes, what are the estimated expenditure and staffing provision? If no, what are the reasons?
- (b) What is the total number of Government vehicles at present? How many Government vehicles do not meet the qualifying standards for environment-friendly vehicles taking effect on 1 April 2013? How many of them have not installed catalytic converters? Does the Government have any plan to have all Government vehicles meeting the standards for environment-friendly vehicles? If yes, what are the details and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?
- (c) Are there any plans to lower the number and utilization of private cars? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons? and
- (d) As for implementing the requirements for local and river vessels to use ultra low sulphur diesel in Hong Kong waters, what are the estimated expenditure and staffing provision for enforcing the control of emissions from vessels?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) Since the launch of the Action Blue Sky, the Administration has been undertaking various publicity activities to promote public awareness of air pollution and appeal for their support in improving air quality. We released a new Clean Air Plan on 28 March 2013, which set out in detail the various measures to tackle air pollution from power plants, land and sea transport, and non-road mobile machinery, and to strengthen collaboration between Hong Kong and Guangdong to deal with regional pollution. The expenditure of the publicity activities will be absorbed under the existing provisions of the Air Programme of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD).
- (b) When acquiring vehicles, the Administration will give priority to environment-friendly (EF), subject to availability of suitable models on the market, the operational requirements of the users and resources constraints. When replacing vehicles in the government fleet, the Administration will take into account accumulated maintenance cost, vehicle age, mileage run and replacement cost of the

vehicles concerned. Replacing vehicles before they are due for replacement, would not be beneficial to the environment because the disposal of vehicles with considerable useful life may lead to wastage.

Under the above policy, out of the 6 343 vehicles in the government fleet (as at 31 December 2012), 2 032 are EF vehicles and they include vehicles meeting the qualifying standards for prevailing EF vehicles at the time of acquisition,, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicles and electric vehicles. In addition, the Administration has earmarked \$125 million for procuring 228 EF vehicles in 2013-14. Hence, the Administration will replace the vehicles in the government fleet by EF vehicles progressively.

Catalytic converters are a key emission reduction device for LPG and petrol vehicles. All government LPG and petrol vehicles are equipped with catalytic converters.

- (c) According to the data of the Transport Department, the growth rate of the private car fleet has been reduced since the increase of the First Registration Tax in 2011. The Administration will continue to closely monitor the size of the private car fleet and will take appropriate measures to manage the growth in car fleet as and when required.

- (d) Taking into account of findings of a trial and the views of the local marine trade, the EPD is working on a proposal to tighten the sulphur cap of marine diesel to be supplied for use by local and river vessels from 0.5% to 0.05%. The proposal has been considered by the Panel on Environmental Affairs of the Legislative Council at its meeting of 25 March 2013.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB212

Question Serial No.

2503

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Noise

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In connection with noise problems, please advise on the following:

- (a) What are the details on the provision of professional advice at the planning stage of policy and project development to pre-empt and mitigate noise problems by the Department in the past year (2012-13), including the name of the policies and projects, a summary of the advice and whether the advice was accepted?
- (b) In the past five years (2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13), with respect to the implementation of the Noise Control Ordinance, what was the distribution of prosecution cases by noise activity? How many noise abatement notices were served; and what were the follow-up actions and expenditure?
- (c) Is there any plan to disseminate noise information and strengthen noise control? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (d) Will the Administration study the enhancement of noise control on renovation construction works and TV advertisement devices installed in the compartments of public land transport? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (e) Is there regular monitoring and evaluation of the impact of noise on public health? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) To pre-empt and mitigate noise problems, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) provides input to major policies and development projects in accordance with the criteria and guidelines laid down in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines. Suitable mitigation measures are required to be incorporated into the design of development projects where necessary. For infrastructure projects that are governed by the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Ordinance, such as major roads and railways, project proponents are required to carry out EIA study to identify and incorporate adequate mitigation measures into project design according to the Technical Memorandum issued under the Ordinance. In 2012-13, major infrastructure projects for which advice were given include Shatin to Central Link, South Island Line, and Upgrading of Remaining Sections of Kam Tin Road and Lam Kam

Road. The necessary mitigation measures have been incorporated into the project design or as conditions in the Environmental Permit issued under the EIA Ordinance as appropriate.

- (b) The tables below show the prosecution figures for noise offences and noise abatement notices issued in the past 5 years compiled on a calendar year basis.

Numbers of prosecutions

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Industrial / Commercial	9	21	15	15	12
Construction	39	47	76	53	95
Others	0	0	2	0	2
Total	48	68	93	68	109

Numbers of noise abatement notices served

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Noise abatement notices served	60	46	60	52	40

For noise abatement notices issued, follow-up prosecutions would be instituted if the notices were not satisfactorily complied with. As the enforcement of Noise Control Ordinance (NCO) forms part of the EPD's routine integrated enforcement practices which cover a wide range of enforcement activities against different aspects of environmental pollution, it is not possible to provide a breakdown of expense specifically on tackling noise pollution problems.

- (c) EPD has prepared information on the traffic noise levels in various districts in the territory and disseminated the information through the EPD website. Since the enactment of the NCO in 1989, to enhance and improve the control on environmental noise, EPD has introduced the control on the use of specified powered mechanical equipment and/or the carrying out of prescribed construction work in designated areas; regulated the noise from intruder alarm systems; tightened the control on noise from percussive piling; and added provisions in the NCO to hold the management of bodies corporate personally liable for repeated offences under the NCO. EPD would continue to keep in view of the development of environmental noise control in the world and, taking into account the situation in Hong Kong, timely review the NCO and consider the need to amend the relevant provisions.
- (d) Noise from renovation construction work is controlled under the Noise Control Ordinance. Works using powered mechanical equipment or involving prescribed construction works between 7 pm to 7 am on weekdays or on public holidays is not allowed without a valid construction noise permit. This has in effect banned non-essential noisy construction works at the above periods in the built-up areas. Construction noise arising during other daytime periods is more effectively minimized through promoting quality construction equipment, quieter and more efficient construction methods and implementing better administrative measures by the construction and property management trades. To enhance the effectiveness, we have developed and deployed various partnership schemes, public

engagement tools and knowledge sharing platforms to raise the awareness of the construction and property management sectors. Seminars and workshops on the best available construction technologies and practices were conducted to brief the concerned operators and contractors. We have established a Quality Power Mechanical Equipment System to encourage the construction industry to use more advanced, efficient and quieter construction equipment. We have also prepared and promulgated practical construction noise mitigation measures and practices to facilitate the relevant trades to employ better designs and quieter alternatives, good management practices and effective abatement measures on renovation noise.

Broadcasting of audio-visual programmes in the compartments of public land transport is a service provided by the transport operators. There are often divergent views on whether the sound levels are too high or low. There is no objective standard which can satisfy all passengers. The Government will continue to encourage the transport operators to implement appropriate measures to maintain a comfortable travelling environment to satisfy the majority of the passengers.

- (e) The potential impact of environmental noise on public health is a subject still under research internationally. Environmental noise may cause annoyance and sleep disturbance, but there has not yet been any concrete international research results to show that environmental noise are directly causing health problems. In Hong Kong, we completed a study about the adverse impact of traffic noise on public health in early 2012 and the study report is available on the EPD website. In essence, the possible effects or health problems (e.g. sleep disturbance) associated with environmental noise are multi-factorial. It is uncertain whether or the extent to which they should be attributed to environmental noise.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB213

Question Serial No.

2504

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (5) Environmental Assessment and Planning

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

- Question:
- (1) Since the environmental impact assessment (EIA) mechanism was established, has the Administration examined, reviewed or assessed its effectiveness? Has any improvement been made to the EIA mechanism? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
 - (2) Please advise on the estimate and staff establishment allocated by the Department to the scrutiny of EIAs and the efforts to ensure compliance with the conditions attached to environmental permits; and
 - (3) Please provide the relevant figures in the following table:

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Number of environmental permits (EP) issued					
Number of cases where the EP conditions were violated					
Number of cases where warnings were given because of violation of EP conditions					
Number of cases where prosecutions were initiated because of violation of EP conditions					

Number of cases where the EPs were revoked because of violation of EP conditions					
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Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

- (1) As a continual improvement process, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) regularly reviews the operation of the environmental impact assessment (EIA) system with a view to enhancing its effectiveness and efficiency taking into account the experiences accumulated in implementing the system, professional developments as well as feedback from various stakeholders. We have implemented a series of improvement measures such as issuing guidance materials, providing advice at the early stage of EIA study, organizing training and seminars, etc. to enhance inter-departmental coordination in the EIA process and to facilitate compliance with the EIA Ordinance.
- (2) In 2013-14, the EPD will deploy 116 staff within its establishment to support the operation of the EIA mechanism, including the scrutiny of EIAs in accordance with the EIA Ordinance as well as providing inputs to land use planning process with a total expenditure of \$88.7 million. As for ensuring compliance with the conditions attached to environmental permits, the actions form part of the EPD's routine integrated enforcement practices that cover a wide range of enforcement activities against different aspects of environmental pollution and it is not possible to provide a breakdown of expense specifically on the enforcement of environmental permits under the EIA Ordinance.
- (3) Relevant figures are provided in the following table:

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Number of environmental permits (EP) issued	59	90	68	41	63
Number of cases where the EP conditions were violated	1	2	7	5	16
Number of cases where warnings were given because of violation ⁽¹⁾ of EP conditions	1	0	4	3	1
Number of cases where prosecutions were initiated because of violation of EP conditions ⁽²⁾	0	2	3	2	15

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Number of cases where the EPs were revoked because of violation of EP conditions	0	0	0	0	0

Remarks: ⁽¹⁾ These violations relate to technical breaches

⁽²⁾ This includes prosecutions for commencement of construction or operation of designated projects without environmental permits.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB214

Question Serial No.

3067

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the Kai Tak Development, please advise on the following:

- (a) Will the Administration conduct a feasibility study for “onshore electricity supply system” at Kai Tak Cruise Terminal this year? What are the estimated expenditure and research methodology? If no, what are the reasons? Has the Administration carried out any other related studies on this issue? If yes, what are the details?
- (b) Statistics on ocean-going vessels switching to cleaner fuel or using low-sulphur fuel while berthing in Hong Kong waters under the Port Facilities and Light Dues Incentive Scheme over the past five years (i.e. 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13). Has the Administration evaluated the effectiveness of the Scheme in reducing vessel emissions? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Che-cheung

Reply:

- (a) Onshore Power Supply (OPS) is a new emission control technology for vessels. The Government has reserved space at the Kai Tak Cruise Terminal for installing OPS. In July 2012, the International Electrotechnical Commission released the main part of a harmonised international standard for OPS. It is now working on the part related to the standard on communication protocol for communication link between the berthing ships and the onshore power supply. The Government is examining the technical details of OPS with a view to installing the facilities at Kai Tak Cruise Terminal for use by cruise vessels with such facilities.
- (b) The 3-year Port Facilities and Light Dues Incentive Scheme aims to encourage ocean going vessels (OGVs), including cruise liners, to use low sulphur fuel while berthing in Hong Kong waters. The scheme was launched in September 2012. As at end February 2013, 575 OGVs registered with the Incentive Scheme and a total of 1 208 OGV calls were granted with subsidies. The revenue forgone is about \$6,526,000. It is estimated that about 6 000 tonnes of low sulphur fuels were used, resulting in a reduction of about 90% of sulphur dioxide from these vessels that would otherwise be emitted during berthing.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB215

Question Serial No.

3068

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the impacts of reclamation on nature conservation, please advise on the following:

- (a) Has the Administration considered drawing up relevant measures to protect marine mammals (i.e. dolphins) and sea turtles? If yes, what are the details of the measures, including the estimated expenditure and staffing provisions? What are the themes and conclusions of the research projects conducted in this area (if any)? If no, what are the reasons?
- (b) The numbers of complaints about water pollution received and the numbers of complaints substantiated over the past five years ((i.e. 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13);
- (c) Has the Administration considered increasing the provision for enforcement of environmental legislations, as well as the expenditure and staffing provisions allocated for this purpose? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (d) Has the Administration considered formulating policies to reduce construction and domestic waste and encourage recycling? If yes, what are the details, including the estimated expenditure and staffing provisions? What are the themes and conclusions of the research projects conducted in this area (if any)? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) We have implemented various measures to protect important species in accordance with relevant international conventions and principles. Conservation programmes covering management measures, public education, research, enforcement actions and cross-boundary cooperation have been implemented. A continuous monitoring has been undertaken for over a decade for important marine species. The Sha Chau and Lung Kwu Chau Marine Park, located in the western waters, was set up in 1996 to help protect the Chinese white dolphin frequently sighted there. Moreover, all sea turtle species are protected under the Wild Animals Protection Ordinance (Cap. 170) and the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586). To effectively protect the nesting turtle and its habitat, the nesting beach Sham Wan is designated as a "Restricted Area" under the Wild Animals Protection Ordinance, which forbids entry during the green turtle nesting season from June to October every year.

In 2012-13, \$4.6 million and 4 staff had been deployed in the conservation of Chinese white dolphin and sea turtle.

All major reclamation projects are designated projects under the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Ordinance (Cap. 499). Through the EIA process which includes an ecological impact assessment, important marine species (e.g. Chinese white dolphin and sea turtles) and habitats affected by the proposed development are identified so that the impact on them can be avoided or minimized. Mitigating both the direct and indirect impact on ecological resources through a proper ecological impact assessment helps protect the general marine environment from excessive and detrimental changes and maintain ecological integrity and marine biological diversity. Relevant studies and mitigation measures would be carried out by the project proponent.

- (b) In connection with reclamation works, the number of water pollution complaints handled in the past five years includes: 2 cases in 2008-09, 1 case in 2009-10, 1 case in 2010-11, 1 case in 2011-12 and 1 case in 2012-13 (up to February 2013).
- (c) The overall quality of water in Hong Kong has an improving trend over the past years. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will continue to enforce the Water Pollution Control Ordinance against pollution incidents related to reclamations with the current level of resources allocated for this area of work.
- (d) To provide incentive for reduction of construction waste (including construction and demolition materials from domestic sources), the Administration is operating the Construction Waste Disposal Charging Scheme. EPD keeps the effectiveness of the charging scheme under review and the associated work is undertaken by EPD staff as part of their normal duties.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 2 April 2013

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

ENB216

Question Serial No.

3225

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please inform the Committee of the prosecution figures, conviction rates, penalties and the volume of waste disposed of illegally in respect of the following illegal deposit offences in the past five years (2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13):

- (a) chemical waste control offences;
- (b) clinical waste control offences;
- (c) livestock waste control offences;
- (d) marine dumping offences;
- (e) waste import/export; and
- (f) illegal deposit of waste offences.

What specific work has the Department done to reduce the number of the above offences? What are the Department's staff establishment and estimated expenditure involved in handling the above problem? Please provide a detailed breakdown.

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

(1) The information on the waste related offences are tabulated below:-

	Type of Offences	Details	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
(a)	Chemical Waste Control	No. of Prosecutions	21	0	21	11	18
		Conviction %	76%	0	90%	45%	100%
		Average fine (\$)	5,400	0	2,974	5,700	3,250
(b)	Clinical Waste Control	No. of Prosecutions	N/A#	N/A#	N/A#	0	1
		Conviction %	N/A#	N/A#	N/A#	0	100%
		Average fine (\$)				0	1,500

	Type of Offences	Details	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
(c)	Livestock Waste Control	No. of Prosecutions Conviction % Average fine (\$)	6 100% 6,083	4 100% 2,150	6 100% 6,167	7 86% 5,250	3 67% 2,500
(d)	Marine Dumping	No. of Prosecutions Conviction % Average fine (\$)	4 50% 12,500	0 0 0	0 0 0	1 0% 0	12 100% 6,250
(e)	Import / Export Waste	No. of Prosecutions Conviction % Average fine (\$)	115 60% 23,745	57 61% 26,114	43 70% 16,467	23 87% 20,650	16 88% 19,929
(f)	Illegal Deposit of Waste	No. of Prosecutions (Summonses) Conviction % Average fine (\$) No. of Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) issued* Estimated volume of waste involved (cubic metres)	28 100% 3,589 57 120	39 92% 2,411 77 110	55 93% 2,631 158 180	36 97% 3,086 166 300	47 96% 5,107 157 160

The Clinical Waste Control regulation commenced in August 2011.

* FPN issued by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) for minor waste dumping offences. The fine level of such notice is \$1,500.

- (2) To assist and facilitate compliance with the regulatory requirements, EPD has been taking a number of measures with trade and industry, including partnership with various trades to promote good practices, awareness raising activities for operators and workers in the trades through briefings and training, distribution of guidance materials and reminders, and making available compliance related information resources on the EPD website.

The above regulatory and compliance assistance activities form part of the EPD's routine integrated enforcement duties that cover different aspects of environmental pollution under the various programmes. We do not have separate accounts for staff and expenses involved in the handling of this specific area.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 20 March 2013

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

ENB217

Question Serial No.

3226

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding air quality monitoring and improvement measures, please advise on the following:

- (a) At present, there are 8 administrative districts in Hong Kong not yet provided with general air quality monitoring stations. Therefore, the air pollution indices (API) for these districts can only be obtained by projecting on and referring to the figures of the nearby districts. How can the Department ensure the accuracy of such projections?
- (b) Over the past five years (i.e. 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13), has the Department reviewed regularly the effectiveness of the air quality monitoring network and assessed the need for establishing new monitoring stations? If yes, please provide details;
- (c) The expenditures and staff provisions allocated to the operation of general air quality monitoring stations over the past five years (i.e. 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13); and
- (d) The functions, specific work, estimates and establishment of air monitoring laboratories, as well as their specific work and achievements over the past three years (i.e. 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13).

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) Hong Kong is a small and densely populated city with economic activities mainly in commercial and financial area. As such, vehicle emission is a key local source of air pollution and the levels of air pollution in different districts are mainly determined by their respective types and density of development. As the current air quality monitoring network has an adequate spatial distribution of general air quality monitoring stations (AQMSs) covering different land uses (commercial, residential, industrial and mixed) of the urban, new town and rural area, scientifically it is not necessary to set up a general AQMS in each district to capture district-based data. However, to facilitate the public understanding of air quality in different districts, we have provided advice on the Environmental Protection Department's (EPD's) website on how information in the districts without general AQMS can be referred from that of the relevant districts with monitoring stations.
- (b) The EPD reviews the air quality monitoring network annually to assess its adequacy and need for strengthening in respect of additional stations or air pollutants to be measured. The latest review was

completed in late 2012 which has recommended the setting up of a new AQMS each in Tuen Mun and Tseung Kwan O. We are now establishing a new AQMS in Tuen Mun, which will come into operation in the latter part of 2013. In addition, we are conducting a site search for setting up a new general AQMS in Tseung Kwan O. After confirming the site, we will make necessary preparations for setting up the station.

- (c) The expenditures on operation and maintenance of the EPD's air quality monitoring network comprising 14 AQMSs, including 11 general AQMSs and three roadside AQMSs in the past five years were:

Year	Expenditure (\$)
2008-09	16,000,000
2009-10	17,000,000
2010-11	19,000,000
2011-12	20,000,000
2012-13	22,000,000

Among the 14 AQMSs, eight are run by EPD's contractors while six are operated by EPD's staff. EPD has 35 staff members to operate the network including the management of contractors. They include eight staff at professional level and 27 at technician level.

- (d) To ensure that the data collected from our air quality monitoring network are accurate and reliable, we have adopted a stringent quality control (QC) and quality assurance (QA) system for the network, which conforms to international standards and is accredited by the Hong Kong Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (HOKLAS). The laboratory supports the operation of the AQMSs and the QA/QC activities, and has the following main functions -

- (i) calibration, testing, maintenance and repair of air monitors and instruments,
- (ii) conditioning and weighing of filter papers for particulates measurements, and
- (iii) supporting QA/QC activities in accordance with international standards and HOKLAS requirements

The manpower and recurrent costs of the laboratory are included in the expenditure for the operation of the network as detailed in (c) above.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB218

Question Serial No.

3279

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding installation of catalytic converters in vehicles, please advise on the following:

- (a) The specific details of working with the Transport Department to strengthen the control of emissions from petrol and liquefied petroleum gas vehicles;
- (b) The estimated expenditure and staff establishment for working with franchised bus companies on the programme of retrofitting selective catalytic reduction devices to reduce emission of nitrogen oxides, as well as the themes and conclusions of the research projects conducted in this area (if any);
- (c) The number of government vehicles not in compliance with the qualifying standards for environment-friendly vehicles effective from 1 April 2013 over the past five years (i.e. 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13), and among them, the number of vehicles without catalytic converters;
- (d) Is there any plan to promote installation of catalytic converters in all vehicles? If yes, what are the details? What are the themes and conclusions of the research projects conducted in this area (if any)? If no, what are the reasons? and
- (e) For the vehicles installed with catalytic converters, please advise on the number of cases in which the catalytic converters had to be replaced over the past five years (i.e. 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13). Does the Administration have any new measures to better monitor the situation so as to ensure that the catalytic converters installed are working well? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) The strengthened emission control for petrol and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicles has two key initiatives, i.e. subsidizing LPG/petrol taxis and light buses' owners to replace once the catalytic converters and oxygen sensors of their petrol/LPG taxis and light buses; and deploying roadside remote sensing devices and dynamometers for emission testing. As to the first initiative, the Transport Department (TD) has supported the consultation of the taxi and light bus trades by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD). Regarding the second initiative, the Commissioner for Transport have issued under the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap 374) a code of practice to stipulate the emission testing standard for the dynamometer emission test to be adopted by the vehicle emission testing centres, which

will be used to assess whether a petrol or LPG vehicle caught by roadside remote sensing devices has the excessive emission problem fixed. In addition, EPD has been working with TD to introduce the dynamometer emission test during annual inspections for petrol and LPG vehicles. These include the resolution of technical issues and resources requirements.

- (b) Together with the franchised bus companies, we have retrofitted a total of six Euro II and III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices (SCRs) for trial, for which the associated resources have been absorbed in existing provisions of the EPD. The SCRs have been in operation for over 12 months. We are now finalizing the trial report with the franchised bus companies. Subject to satisfactory trial results, the Government will fully fund the retrofit of Euro II and III franchised buses with the devices. To this end, \$550 million has been set aside for the retrofit programme. EPD and TD will cope with the associated workload for the large-scale retrofit programme partly by deploying existing resources and partly by creating four additional time-limited posts.
- (c) When acquiring vehicles, the Administration will give priority to environment-friendly (EF) vehicles, subject to availability of suitable models on the market, the operational requirements of departments and resources requirements. The numbers of EF vehicles in the government fleet in the past five years are as follows:

Year	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
No. of EF vehicles	635	1 125	1 261	1 678	2 032

Catalytic converters are a key emission reduction device for petrol and LPG vehicles. All government LPG and petrol vehicles are equipped with catalytic converters.

- (d) and (e)

Catalytic converters are a key emission reduction device for petrol and LPG vehicles. Since 1995, nearly all newly registered petrol and LPG vehicles are equipped with catalytic converters. As such, over 95% of the petrol and LPG vehicle fleet are equipped with catalytic converters. Catalytic converters need regular replacements, the frequency of which will depend on vehicle mileage and vehicle maintenance practices. To reduce emissions from petrol and LPG vehicles, EPD is making preparations to strengthen the emission control of petrol and LPG vehicles by deploying roadside remote sensing devices and dynamometers for emission testing. After subsidizing the relevant vehicle owners to replace once the catalytic converters and oxygen sensors of their petrol/LPG taxis and light buses, EPD will deploy roadside remote sensing devices to screen out those petrol and LPG vehicles emitting excessively for their owners to repair their vehicles. The efficacy of the repair will be ascertained by a dynamometer emission test. Failing to fix the problem within a prescribed period will be liable to vehicle licence cancellation. Moreover, EPD has been working with TD to introduce the dynamometer emission test during annual inspection for petrol and LPG vehicles. These include resolution of technical issues and resources requirements.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB219

Question Serial No.

4513

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In respect of the following environmental protection/waste reduction schemes, please advise on:

- (a) Regarding the preparation of legislative proposals relating to producer responsibility schemes (PRSs), the details on the extension of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags to cover all retailers, including the specific implementation timetables of various measures, the estimated expenditure and staffing provision involved, as well as the themes and conclusions of research projects conducted in this area (if any);
- (b) The specific implementation timetable of the mandatory PRS on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE), the estimated expenditure and staffing provision involved, as well as the themes and conclusions of research projects conducted in this area (if any); and
- (c) The respective trades of the enterprises or organizations participating in the voluntary recycling programmes, the numbers of their employees, the quantities and types of recycled items, as well as the resultant environmental benefits.

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) The legislative proposals for the extension of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags seek to apply the levy scheme across-the-board in the retail sector and the relevant proposals will be introduced into the Legislative Council within the current legislative session. The Government conducted a public consultation in 2011 and reported the proposed way forward to the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs in November 2011. During the preparation of the legislative proposals, a consultancy study (with contract cost of about \$0.5 million) was commissioned to look into food packaging methods and the findings of the study have been taken into account in drawing up the detailed proposals regarding food hygiene exemption. The associated work for the drafting and submission of legislative proposals will be undertaken by staff of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) as part of their normal duties, while other preparatory work, mainly for publicity and public education will also be undertaken with an estimated expenditure of \$6 million in 2013-14.

- (b) We are preparing the legislative proposals for the mandatory Producer Responsibility Scheme (PRS) on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) for introduction to the Legislative Council in the 2013-14 legislative session. The estimated expenditure for the mandatory PRS on WEEE in 2013-14, mainly for the relevant research and promotional work as well as the planning and development of a WEEE treatment facility, is \$4.5 million. At this stage, preparatory work for the PRS is undertaken by the EPD staff as part of their normal duties, which will not incur additional staffing resources in 2013-14. Longer term manpower requirements will be determined taking into account of the operational details that are being worked out. We conducted research on international PRS experience and the findings have been incorporated in the public consultation document issued in 2010. At this stage, our research mainly focuses on the contract preparation for the WEEE treatment facility and the findings will be taken into account in the related tender document.
- (c) EPD has been supporting and promoting voluntary PRSs on fluorescent lamps, computers, rechargeable batteries and glass beverage bottles that are operated and funded by the relevant trades which include manufacturers and suppliers for lighting equipment, computer, battery and electronic equipment industry as well as the hotel sector. We do not have the number of employees working on these programmes since staffing support is provided from within the relevant trades. These programmes have successfully recovered wastes which will otherwise end up in landfills and arranged proper recycling for such wastes which can be turned into resource thereby without causing adverse impacts on the environment.

The throughput of these programmes in the past 3 years is summarised below.

Quantity of recyclable items in past 3 years	Fluorescent Lamps Recycling Programme (Piece)	Computer Recycling Programme (Piece)	Rechargeable Battery Recycling Programme (Tonne)	Glass Container Recycling Programme for the Hotel Sector (Tonne)
2010	350 000	21 100	61	463
2011	470 000	18 300	68	635
2012	550 000	39 600	60	753

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB220

Question Serial No.

4514

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Water

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In connection with the sewerage master plans for Central and East Kowloon, West Kowloon, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Chung, Tuen Mun, Tsing Yi, the Outlying Islands, Hong Kong Island, North District and Tolo Harbour areas, please advise:

- (a) What were the provision, expenditure allocated and manpower involved, volume of sewage treated, operating hours, and proportion of domestic sewage and trade effluent in respect of various plans in the past five years (2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13)?
- (b) What are the remaining capacities of various plans? When are they expected to approach capacity?
- (c) What was the average total cost of treating one cubic metre of sewage under the plans in each of the past five years (2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13)?
- (d) Is there any plan to review and upgrade the sewerage system? If yes, what are the details, including the estimated expenditure and manpower involved, as well as the themes and conclusions of the research projects conducted in this area (if any)? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

(a) The approved project estimates and expenditures of the projects in connection with implementing the various sewerage master plans in the past five years are as shown below:

Sewerage Master Plans	(\$ million)					
	Approved Project Estimates	Actual Expenditure in 2008-09	Actual Expenditure in 2009-10	Actual Expenditure in 2010-11	Actual Expenditure in 2011-12	Revised Estimate in 2012-13
Central and East Kowloon	1,508.0	3.8	143.0	219.3	277.9	169.0
West Kowloon, Tsuen Wan and Kwai Chung	109.9	30.1	21.8	6.8	0.0	0.0

Sewerage Master Plans	(\$ million)					
	Approved Project Estimates	Actual Expenditure in 2008-09	Actual Expenditure in 2009-10	Actual Expenditure in 2010-11	Actual Expenditure in 2011-12	Revised Estimate in 2012-13
Tuen Mun and Tsing Yi	3,315.2	4.3	33.2	295.5	607.3	810.0
Outlying Islands	2,582.6	104.5	95.8	114.2	209.5	167.8
Hong Kong Island	2,453.5	129.1	147.0	116.3	37.9	48.7
North District and Tolo Harbour	3,759.1	120.9	209.3	320.9	332.7	401.1
Total	13,728.3	392.7	650.1	1,073.0	1,465.3	1,596.6

The overall manpower of the Drainage Services Department (DSD) involved in operation and maintenance of sewage collection, treatment and disposal facilities for the past five financial years are summarized as follows:

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 (Estimate)
Manpower (number of staff)	926	941	919	936	944
Operating hours of sewage treatment works	24 x 365 hrs				

The volume of sewage treated by DSD in the three main regions of Hong Kong for the past five years are summarized as follows:

Year \ Region	Hong Kong and Outlying Islands (million m ³)	Kowloon (million m ³)	New Territories (million m ³)	Total (million m ³)
2008	248	466	276	990
2009	254	456	268	978
2010	260	454	264	978
2011	266	451	262	979
2012	276	460	271	1 007

Note:

Since the sewage catchments of the treatment facilities do not totally match the boundaries of the sewerage master plans, the figures of sewage treated in the table above are listed under three regions namely Hong Kong and Outlying Islands, Kowloon and New Territories.

The proportion of domestic sewage and trade effluent for the respective sewage treatment plants is not available. However, in general, domestic sewage and trade effluent collected and treated are estimated at a ratio of approximately 6:4 by volume.

(b) The capacity and current flow of the major sewage treatment plants in Hong Kong are -

District/Catchment	Sewage treatment works (STW)	Current dry weather flow capacity (m ³ /d)	Current mean flow (m ³ /d)
Harbour Area Treatment Scheme (HATS)	Stonecutters Island STW	1 700 000	1 400 000
Tsuen Wan	Sham Tseng STW	17 000	8 000
Tuen Mun	Pillar Point STW	215 000	173 000
North	Shek Wu Hui STW	93 000	82 000
Tolo	Tai Po STW	100 000	96 000
Tolo	Sha Tin STW	340 000	225 000
Outlying Islands	Siu Ho Wan STW	180 000	50 000
Hong Kong Island (other than HATS catchment)	Stanley STW	12 000	8 000

Various sewerage upgrading works are being pursued as described in (d) below to meet population growth and development needs. Early action will be initiated accordingly to plan for upgrading/expansion of sewerage facilities before they reach their capacities.

(c) The average total cost of treating one cubic metre of sewage for the past five years is set out below:

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 (Estimate)
Unit Cost on Operation and Maintenance Expenditure (\$ per m ³)	1.04	1.13	1.20	1.23	1.23

(d) The Administration closely monitors the public sewerage system and is continuously upgrading it by pursuing various sewage treatment and sewerage projects to meet population growth and development needs. In 2013-14, the estimated expenditure of on-going and new sewerage projects is about \$4.6 billion. These include the upgrading and expansion of existing STWs such as the Stonecutters Island STW, Pillar Point STW and Tai Po STW, construction of new STWs such as the Yung Shue Wan STW and Sok Kwu Wan STW, and construction of new sewers and upgrading of existing sewers in various urban and rural areas of Hong Kong. The planning of the public sewerage system and overseeing of implementation of sewerage projects under the Environmental Protection Department (EPD)'s purview is mainly handled by a team of 19 professional staff in EPD who also provide relevant advice on development proposals by other government departments and private proponents.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB221

Question Serial No.

4515

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: With regard to the conservation of Chinese white dolphins, please advise:

- (a) What specific measures does the Government have to protect and conserve Chinese white dolphins in Hong Kong waters? If yes, what are the details? Please also provide information on the relevant expenditure and staff establishment. Have studies been conducted in this area? What are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (b) Have studies been conducted on developing marine eco-tourism. If yes, please what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) The Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) has put in place a variety of measures that are conducive for the protection and conservation of the Chinese white dolphins in Hong Kong waters. They include (a) conducting study to monitor the occurrence and distribution of the Chinese white dolphins in local waters, as well as to investigate dolphin strandings; (b) designation of important dolphin habitats as marine parks and subject them to proper management; (c) stipulating stringent requirements in Environmental Impact Assessments of coastal development projects to ensure that the potential impacts to dolphins are fully addressed; (d) implementation of fisheries management measures, such as the territory-wide trawl ban, which would benefit Chinese white dolphins whose prey food species are dependent on sustainable and healthy fish stocks; and (e) organising publicity and education programmes to raise public awareness of and solicit their support for the conservation of the Chinese white dolphins. In 2012-13, \$2.6 million and 2 staff had been deployed in the conservation of Chinese white dolphin.
- (b) In 2010, AFCD launched, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, a pilot scheme in Sai Kung and north-eastern New Territories to help fishermen venture into ecotourism. The scheme provides marine-based guided tours which cover the culture and practices of fisherman communities as well as the ecological and geological features of Hong Kong. Over 300 fishermen have received training under the pilot scheme. Drawing on the positive response to the pilot scheme, AFCD has extended the scheme to Lamma Island in 2011-12 and to the western waters (including Tuen Mun and Tai O) in 2012-13. It is hoped that the fishermen can gain the experience and skills needed to run the business in a commercially sustainable manner and help them switch to other forms of business apart from traditional fishing.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB222

Question Serial No.

5467

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the treatment of solid waste, please advise on the following:

- (a) On pursuing the extension of the three strategic landfills (i.e. the West New Territories Landfill, South East New Territories Landfill and North East New Territories Landfill), what is the estimated amount of waste to be treated by each facility in the next 5 years (i.e. 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18)? Of these, how much will be domestic waste and industrial/commercial waste?
- (b) The estimated expenditure and staffing provision for the extension of the above three strategic landfills, as well as the themes and conclusions of the research projects conducted in this area (if any);
- (c) The estimated expenditure and staffing provision for the scheme to recycle food waste into useful resources, as well as the themes and conclusions of the research projects conducted in this area (if any);
- (d) The details of measures implemented after the public consultation on municipal solid waste (MSW); including the estimated expenditure and staffing provision, as well as the themes and conclusions of the research projects conducted in this area (if any);
- (e) The plan to develop a large scale waste treatment facility for bulk reduction of MSW is withheld due to a judicial review. Does the Government have any other contingency plans? If yes, what are the details? What is the implementation timetable of the related measures?
- (f) The statistics on construction waste in the past five years (i.e. 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13).

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) In 2012, the total amount of solid waste disposed of at the three strategic landfills was 5.07 million tonnes, of which 2.30 million tonnes and 1.10 million tonnes were domestic waste and commercial/industrial waste respectively. Regarding the projection of waste to be disposed of at the landfills, we anticipate that there will be considerable uncertainties and year-to-year fluctuations in

waste quantities in the coming years. For budgetary purpose, a prospective amount of waste arising similar to that in 2012 has been allowed for in 2013.

- (b) The estimated capacities and capital costs of the three landfill extension projects (i.e. the South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill Extension, the North East New Territories (NENT) Landfill Extension and the West New Territories (WENT) Landfill Extension) are shown in the table below.

Landfill Extension	Estimated Capacity (million m³)	Latest Estimated Capital Cost (at September 2012 price level) (\$ million)
SENT	6.5	1,320
NENT	19	4,180
WENT	81	9,960
Total	106.5	15,460

The estimated expenditure involved in the preparatory works for the landfill extension projects in 2013-14 is \$6.4 million. The manpower required for developing and implementing the three landfill extension projects will be met through internal deployment of existing staff resources.

- (c) We plan to develop organic waste treatment facilities (OWTF) in phases to recycle food waste into useful compost products and biogas for energy recovery. The first phase of OWTF will be developed at Siu Ho Wan of North Lantau with a treatment capacity of 200 tonnes per day. Tender for the design, build and operation (DBO) of this facility was invited on 8 February 2013. Subject to Finance Committee's funding approval, we plan to award the DBO contract in early 2014 for commissioning the facility in 2016. The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for the study and tendering of the OWTF Phase 1 is \$1.3 million.

The second phase of OWTF will be developed at Sha Ling of the North District with a treatment capacity of 300 tonnes per day. The engineering investigation and EIA studies for this second phase facility were commenced in December 2011. We plan to complete the EIA study in 2013 with a view to commissioning the facility in 2017. The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for the study of the OWTF Phase 2 is \$2.1 million.

- (d) Following the public consultation in 2012, the Government has affirmed the direction of introducing quantity-based municipal solid waste (MSW) charging to help reduce waste in Hong Kong. The Government has invited the Council for Sustainable Development to conduct a public engagement on the implementation details in 2013. We would ride on the result of the public engagement exercise and the community's consensus over various implementation issues to formulate a quantity-based MSW charging proposal for Hong Kong. The resources required for carrying out the public engagement exercise will be absorbed in-house by the Sustainable Development Division of the Environment Bureau.
- (e) While the outcome of the judicial reviews against the Integrated Waste Management Facility Phase 1 project is awaited, we will continue to vigorously pursue the multi-pronged strategy to address the waste problem. We will focus on waste reduction at source, promoting reduction of food waste under the Food Wise Campaign, progressively implementing Producer Responsibility Schemes and the polluter-pays principle to boost the recovery and recycle rates of resource materials, developing the organic waste

treatment facilities to recycle food waste, developing the waste electrical and electronic equipment treatment facility and pursuing extension of the three strategic landfills.

- (f) The quantities of construction waste disposed of at the three strategic landfills in the past 5 years (calendar year) are provided in the table below.

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Quantity of construction waste disposed of at landfills (million tonnes)	1.13	1.14	1.31	1.22	1.26

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB223

Question Serial No.

1317

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the illegal deposit of waste offences in 2012-13, would the Administration provide the following information:

1. The types and quantity of waste dumped, and the number of cases with the dumped waste was considered hazardous;
2. The numbers of cases of depositing waste on private land and government land;
3. Please provide the respective numbers of warning letters issued and successful prosecutions leading to convictions;
4. The staffing provision and operational expenditure for 2012-13, and the estimated staffing provision and operational expenditure for 2013-14; and
5. What new measures will be implemented to combat illegal deposit of waste?

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-kwok

Reply:

1. The 47 offences on illegal deposit of waste involved construction and demolition waste (34 cases), household waste (5 cases) and other trade waste (8 cases). The quantity of waste dumped was on average 3 cubic meters per case. None of the cases involved hazardous waste.
2. There were 45 cases on government land, and the remaining 2 cases on private land.
3. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) would take prosecution action against illegal waste dumping acts whenever they are spotted, without recourse to the issue of warning to offenders. Out of the 47 prosecutions initiated, 45 cases led to successful conviction.
4. The enforcement actions form part of EPD's routine integrated enforcement practices that cover a wide range of enforcement activities against different aspects of environmental pollution. It is not possible to provide a breakdown of the staffing provision and expense specifically on this area.

5. EPD is working on a legislative proposal to enhance the control of illegal deposition of construction waste on private land under the Waste Disposal Ordinance.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 20 March 2013

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

ENB224

Question Serial No.

1318

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14, it is mentioned that the Administration will continue to promote reduction of food waste under the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign. Please provide the following information:

- 1) What were the staffing provision and expenses incurred by the Campaign in 2012-13?
- 2) What are the staffing provision and expenses estimated to be incurred by the Campaign in 2013-14?
- 3) What is the latest progress of the Campaign? When will an effectiveness review be conducted? and
- 4) Apart from the Campaign, does the Administration have any other plans to strengthen public education for reduction of food waste?

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-kwok

Reply:

1), 2) & 3)

To take forward the Chief Executive's pledge to promote food waste reduction, the Government announced on 3 December 2012 the setting up of the Food Wise Hong Kong Steering Committee, which is chaired by the Secretary for the Environment and with members drawn from the relevant sectors and relevant government departments. The Steering Committee is tasked with formulating and overseeing the implementation strategies of the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign, which aims to promote public awareness of food waste problems in Hong Kong and co-ordinate efforts within the Government and public institutions to lead by example in food waste reduction. The objectives of the Campaign also include instilling behavioural change at the individual and household levels to help reduce food waste generation, drawing up and promoting good practices of food waste reduction at commercial and industrial establishments, and facilitating food donation to charitable organizations from establishments with surplus food.

The Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign would be launched shortly, with a series of activities to be rolled out, including public education initiatives through for instance TV and radio APIs, the launch of good practice guides, roving exhibitions and community events, a dedicated website, and food waste

reduction workshops for various sectors, etc. We will keep in view the effect of the campaign on the food waste reduction after the activities are rolled out, and would work with stakeholders to conduct suitable surveys to gauge their effectiveness. The manpower for the campaign is absorbed from the existing establishment. The planned budget for the campaign in the year 2013-14 is around \$10 million.

- 4) Apart from the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign, we have been supporting and implementing various projects, educational programmes in the past years for promoting food waste reduction and recycling, summarized as follows:
- (a) initiating and supporting public education programmes such as the “Save Food Day” and “Green Lunch Charter” for food waste avoidance and reduction;
 - (b) through the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF), rolled out the Food Waste Recycling Scheme that supports food waste reduction and on-site food waste recycling projects in private housing estates;
 - (c) implementing a Food Waste Recycling Partnership Scheme in 2010 with the commercial and industrial (C&I) sectors. Under this Partnership Scheme, education programmes are being conducted to train the management and frontline staff of the C&I establishments about good food waste management practices. Source separated food waste collected by the establishments is sent to Environmental Protection Department’s pilot composting plant in Kowloon Bay for recycling to useful compost products;
 - (d) initiating collaboration with the district councils, community organization and commercial establishments such as major shopping malls, to promote food waste reduction and recycling. We have collaborated with the Kwun Tong District Council and the property management company of the APM shopping mall in 2011 for a joint campaign to promote food waste reduction and recycling in the Kwun Tong District, and teamed up with the Tsuen Wan District Council and the property management company of Discovery Park Shopping Centre in December 2012 for a similar campaign to promote food waste reduction and recycling in the Tsuen Wan District; and
 - (e) through the ECF, supporting the procurement and installation of food waste treatment equipment by schools, elderly centers and charitable organizations for food waste recycling. The ECF also supports schools to conduct retrofitting works and install facilities necessary for implementing on-site meal portioning.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB225

Question Serial No.

2463

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14, it is mentioned that Hong Kong will “continue to implement measures under the air quality management plan to improve regional air quality and operate the joint air quality monitoring network for the Pearl River Delta (PRD) Region in collaboration with the Guangdong authorities”. In this connection, please advise this Committee:

- (a) What specific plans or measures does the Administration have to achieve the 2015 and 2020 emission reduction targets set by the Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection? What are the provision and manpower involved in the financial year 2013-14?
- (b) Will the Administration set aside provision and manpower for allocating resources to joint efforts with the Mainland authorities in conducting studies, developing new technologies and carrying out educational and publicity activities for improving air quality? If yes, what are the provision and manpower involved? If no, what are the reasons?
- (c) Does the Administration have any plans to discuss with the Central Government our participation in the work to address air pollution nationwide? If yes, what is the provision for that? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. MA Fung-kwok

Reply:

- (a) To achieve the emission reduction targets set for 2015 and 2020 respectively, both HKSAR and Guangdong governments will implement additional measures focusing on major emission sources with a view to bringing continuous improvement to regional air quality. Key emission reduction measures to be implemented by Hong Kong include:
- tightening of vehicle emission standards;
 - phasing out heavily polluting diesel commercial vehicles;
 - retrofitting Euro II and Euro III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices;
 - strengthening emission control of petrol and liquefied petroleum gas vehicles;
 - requiring ocean-going vessels to switch to low sulphur fuel while berthing;
 - tightening the cap on the sulphur content of local marine diesel;

- controlling emissions from non-road mobile machinery;
- further tightening emission caps on power plants; and
- controlling Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) contents of solvents used in printing and construction industry.

The above measures are part and parcel of the established Air Programme and the related expenditure will be covered by the provision for the Programme as and when appropriate.

- (b) The governments of Hong Kong and Guangdong have collaborated in research on air quality improvement work and regional air quality monitoring. The two sides have jointly completed studies on the Pearl River Delta (PRD) emission reduction plan up to 2020 and major air pollutant emission inventories of PRD region. The two governments are also in discussion to carry out a joint study on PM2.5 pollution control. In respect of public education on environmental matters, topical fora and seminars including on Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement, Regional Co-operation Plan on Quality Living Area, Cleaner Production, and combating climate change were jointly organised for different sectors of community. Furthermore, both sides have been in support of the Cleaner Production Partnership Programme, which promotes the adoption of advanced cleaner production technologies by Hong Kong-owned factories in the PRD. We provided some \$93 million for the Programme from 2008 to 2012, and committed a sum of \$50 million to extend the Programme by two years from 2013 to 2015. These work is mainly taken forward by the Cross-boundary and International Division and Air Policy Division of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD), and the necessary resources are being met by funding provided under Head 44 – EPD.
- (c) EPD has worked with the Guangdong authority in recent years on the setting up of regional air quality monitoring network and making the air monitoring data public. Both sides have also formulated emission inventories and measures for reducing emissions of pollutants such as respirable suspended particulates and VOC. In addition, we are exploring with Guangdong authorities on requiring ocean going vessels to switch to low sulphur fuel when berthing in PRD ports. We will continue to carry out exchanges with the relevant authorities in the Mainland, which helps bring improvements to regional air quality. Resources required for undertaking such work are met from the existing provision.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB226

Question Serial No.

2595

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: (a) With regard to the Environmental Protection Department's plan to establish large scale organic waste treatment facilities to recycle food waste into useful resources, what is the estimated expenditure for the treatment facilities? How will the Administration strike a balance between cost-effectiveness and the overall benefits of the community?

(b) With regard to the development of a waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) treatment facility and the 5 community green stations, please advise on the estimated capacity of the facility in handling WEEE products. What are the concrete details of the other 5 community green stations?

Asked by: Hon. MA Fung-kwok

Reply:

(a) Tender for the design, build and operation of the Phase 1 of the organic waste treatment facility (OWTF) was invited on 8 February 2013. The cost of developing the first phase of OWTF will depend on the returned tender price of the winning tender.

We plan to develop OWTF in phases to recycle food waste into useful compost products and biogas for energy recovery. The first phase of OWTF will be developed at Siu Ho Wan of North Lantau with a treatment capacity of 200 tonnes per day. We completed a feasibility study in 2010 to evaluate and confirm the technical feasibility, environmental acceptability, the cost-effectiveness and the environmental benefits of the OWTF Phase 1. We have set out the environmental and operational performance requirements in the tender document and have adopted a competitive and open tendering process to ensure cost-effectiveness and the overall benefits to the community.

(b) According to our planning, the WEEE treatment facility will have a designed capacity of 30 000 tonnes per annum in support of the future mandatory producer responsibility scheme which will cover television sets, washing machines, refrigerators, air conditioners and computer products.

As regards the five community green stations, they are pilot facilities to be developed in different parts of the territory to provide accessible and visible support for green living at the community level. Each of these green stations will be operated by a non-government organisation (NGO) to be selected through open tender. Leveraging on the NGO operators' local connections, the green stations will collaborate with schools, property management and other relevant stakeholders or institutions with in

their respective catchment on environmental education and coordination of recycling initiatives. In addition to holding publicity and educational programmes, the green stations will support recycling efforts at community level, including reaching out to the community for the collection of recyclables, supporting the Community Recycling Network and conducting other measures to promote the separation of waste at source. We have identified potential sites and will consult the District Councils concerned, with a view to commencing the construction programme as soon as the sites are available. We aim to commission the stations in phases from late 2013.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB227

Question Serial No.

2596

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: It is mentioned in paragraph 125 of the 2013-14 Budget that a provision of \$5 billion will be injected into the Environment and Conservation Fund to further enhance public awareness of environmental protection, conduct related scientific research, and encourage public participation in environmental protection activities. Please advise on the provisions allocated for enhancing public awareness of environmental protection, conducting scientific research and promoting public participation in environmental protection activities in each of the past three years (i.e. 2010-11 to 2012-13). How effective were these projects? Could they achieve the targets?

Asked by: Hon. MA Fung-kwok

Reply:

We append below a table on the funding approved under the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) for projects of different categories:

Categories of projects approved for <u>funding support by the ECF</u>	<u>Amount approved (\$ million)*</u>		
	<u>2010-11</u>	<u>2011-12</u>	<u>2012-13</u> (up to Dec 2012)
Environmental Campaign Committee Programmes	25.35	25.24	18.93
Environmental Education and Community Action - General Projects	6.11	23.21	3.6
Environmental Education and Community Action - Minor Works Projects	79.33	54.91	47.86
Nature Conservation Management Agreement Projects	0	14.79	7.77
Research, Technology Demonstration and Conference Projects	10.41	10.90	8.72

Categories of projects approved for funding support by the ECF	<u>Amount approved (\$ million)*</u>		
	<u>2010-11</u>	<u>2011-12</u>	<u>2012-13</u> (up to Dec 2012)
Waste Reduction and Recycling Projects	61.84	65.59	28.55
Energy Conservation Projects	232.70	132.31	106.17
Others	13.24	13.45	3.3
Total:	428.98	340.40	224.90

* Some of the funded projects may straddle more than one year.

The ECF provides funding support for educational, research, technology demonstration and other projects and activities in relation to environmental protection and conservation matters, with the objective of promoting behavioural and life style changes to protect the environment and achieve sustainable development. We have conducted surveys of participants who had taken part in the ECF-funded projects to find out the effectiveness of these activities and projects. Feedbacks were highly positive; over 85% of the respondents considered that their environmental knowledge and awareness were enhanced, whereas around 80% expressed that they would put the knowledge into practice in their daily life and put across green messages to their families and friends.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB228

Question Serial No.

4505

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding “continuing to monitor the operation of the EcoPark in Tuen Mun Area 38”, would the Administration provide the following information:

1. Has the Administration compiled any statistics on the traffic flow of heavy vehicles on the roads near the EcoPark (e.g. Lung Mun Road) and assessed the impact of the traffic flow? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
2. Does the Administration plan to expand the EcoPark? If yes, what are the details? What is the relevant expenditure?
3. As the Policy Address proposes to carry out reclamation in Lung Kwu Tan for development of housing projects, and the site chosen for one of the major waste treatment facilities is also adjacent to Tuen Mun district, has the Administration worked out a long-term layout plan for Tuen Mun district and assessed the impacts of the above facilities on the residents nearby? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. MAK Mei-kuen, Alice

Reply:

1. Before the implementation of the EcoPark project, the Administration conducted a traffic impact assessment (TIA) to assess the possible impact of additional traffic flow due to the construction and operation of EcoPark. The TIA concluded that the additional 43 vehicles per hour (VPH) to be incurred due to construction and operation of EcoPark would have no significant impact on the existing road network including Lung Mun Road. In the past 5 years, the average traffic flows attributed to the EcoPark operation is only about 11 VPH, which is lower than the assessed limit in the TIA.
2. We would continue to monitor the operation of the EcoPark and review the need for expansion in the light of development.
3. In respect of individual projects and where relevant, the concerned project proponent will conduct necessary Environmental Impact Assessment to ensure that the proposed waste treatment facilities would not pose unacceptable cumulative impact in accordance with the provisions of the legislation.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB229

Question Serial No.

1750

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: What are the details of the prosecution cases of contravening the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance involving the import of products containing ingredients from bear gall bladders (such as places of origin, types and number of products involved, penalties, etc.) over the past three years (2010, 2011, 2012)?

Asked by: Hon. MO, Claudia

Reply:

In 2012, two prosecutions were instituted for the import of products containing ingredients from bear gall bladders in contravention of the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance (Cap. 586). The two cases involved respectively the import of three bottles and one bottle of wine containing ingredients from bear gall bladders from the Mainland of China. One case was convicted with a fine of \$1,000, while the trial of the other case is still pending. There were no prosecution cases in 2010 and 2011.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 19 March 2013

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

ENB230

Question Serial No.

1764

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please provide details on the injection of \$5 billion into the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) in 2013-14.

Asked by: Hon. MO, Claudia

Reply:

We propose to inject \$5 billion to the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF) to generate investment returns for long term sustained support for community green actions; this represents our long-term commitment to environmental protection and conservation. The ECF was set up in 1994 under the ECF Ordinance to provide funding support for educational, research, technology demonstration and other projects and activities in relation to environmental protection and conservation matters, and projects in question must be non-profit making in nature. The major areas of projects to be supported under the ECF include waste reduction and recovery (particularly food waste), energy conservation, research on environmental technologies, nature conservation, and environmental education programmes related to the above areas. Applications for funding support are considered by the ECF Committee in accordance with the established funding criteria publicly promulgated. We will consult the Environmental Affairs Panel on the details and seek funding approval from Finance Committee in the next few months.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB231

Question Serial No.

1775

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please list the average annual total cost of handling one tonne of Municipal Solid Waste in the past three years (2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13), including the cost for transfer of waste and the disposal cost in landfills.

Asked by: Hon. MO, Claudia

Reply:

A breakdown of the average annual costs for transfer and disposal of municipal solid waste at landfills is provided below :

	Actual 2010-11 (\$/tonne)	Actual 2011-12 (\$/tonne)	Projected 2012-13 (\$/tonne)
Transfer	192	202	207
Disposal at landfills	147	168	179
Total cost per tonne	339	370	386

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 19 March 2013

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

ENB232

Question Serial No.

1776

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The number of days with a roadside air pollution index (API) not exceeding 100 was 193 in 2011, whereas the number was 224 in 2012. Though there has been improvement, we are still far short of the target. What are the reasons? Please also advise on the estimated expenditure for measures to improve air quality so as to increase the number of days with an air pollution index not exceeding 100 in 2013-14.

Asked by: Hon. MO, Claudia

Reply:

As compared with 2011, the concentrations of sulphur dioxide, respirable suspended particulates and nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) at the roadside dropped by 17%, 13% and 2% respectively in 2012. As a result of the reduction in air pollutant levels, the number of days with roadside API not exceeding 100 increased from 193 days in 2011 to 224 days in 2012. As the concentrations of NO₂ at the roadside are still high, we have yet to meet the target of having 365/366 days with roadside API not exceeding 100.

To tackle the roadside NO₂ problem, we are taking forward a number of policy initiatives to reduce vehicle emissions. These include a plan to retrofit Euro II and III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices (SCR), strengthening the emission control of petrol and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicles and adopting an incentive-cum-regulatory approach to phase out pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles (including light buses, goods vehicles and coaches). In parallel, we will continue to work with Guangdong Authorities to reduce the emissions in the Pearl River Delta Region so as to reduce the regional ozone level, which could promote the formation of NO₂ at roadsides. These measures will help improve roadside air quality.

Improving air quality is part and parcel of the Air Programme of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) and the related expenditure is covered by the provision for the Air Programme. As for the above policy initiatives, the Government has set aside \$550 million for the SCR retrofit programme for Euro II and III franchised buses, \$150 million for the replacement of catalytic converters for petrol and LPG taxis and light buses and \$10 billion for phasing out pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB233

Question Serial No.

1777

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Water

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please inform this Committee of the progress of Harbour Area Treatment Scheme (HATS) Stage 2B in 2013 and the estimated expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. MO, Claudia

Reply:

The Environmental Protection Department has commissioned a review of HATS Stage 2B as regards the water quality trends, population growth, sewage flow build-up and other relevant issues and is examining the review findings. The review is conducted through consultancy services. The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for hiring consultants' services is \$1.25 million.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 19 March 2013

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

ENB234

Question Serial No.

5012

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: What are the details on the consultation and implementation timetable on the introduction of the producer responsibility scheme for electronic equipment? What is the estimate amount of money required for completion of the task? Is there any performance indicator for reference? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

The Environmental Protection Department completed the public consultation in 2010 on introducing legislation to implement a mandatory Producer Responsibility Scheme (PRS) on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) and reported the way forward to the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs at its meeting in November 2011. Since then, we have been preparing legislative proposals and our target is to introduce such proposals into the Legislative Council in the 2013-14 legislative session. The estimated expenditure for the preparation of the mandatory PRS on WEEE in 2013-14, mainly for the relevant research and promotional work as well as the planning and development of a WEEE treatment and recycling facility, is \$4.5 million.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB235

Question Serial No.

5013

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Government states in the Policy Address that, to encourage carbon reduction actions, the Environment Bureau will set up a carbon footprint repository for listed companies to disclose their carbon audit findings. What are the estimated resources and total expenditure incurred for the Administration in setting up this repository? Apart from for development, will resources be earmarked for promotion, publicity and education (for listed companies and the public respectively)? What are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

With a view to encouraging private sector companies to adopt regular carbon auditing practice, the Government plans to set up a carbon footprint repository in mid 2013 in the form of a dedicated webpage for listed companies, primarily to facilitate disclosure of carbon audit findings, and sharing of carbon management experience and practices. About \$900,000 has been set aside in 2013-14 to cover the initial setting up cost. The Administration will promulgate the repository through Environmental Protection Department's webpage, newsletters and other means as appropriate, and related expenditure will be met by existing funding provision.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB236

Question Serial No.

5027

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the provision by the Government to set up waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) processing facilities and five community green stations, has the Government assessed their impacts including environmental ones? If yes, what are the details of their performance indicators? Meanwhile, will the Government consider subsidizing and encouraging local enterprises to export WEEE to eligible overseas recyclers for recycling? If yes, what are the details of the expenditure? What are the estimated performance indicators? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. MOK, Charles Peter

Reply:

The waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) treatment facility will have a designed capacity of 30 000 tonnes per annum in support of the future mandatory producer responsibility scheme (PRS) which will cover television sets, washing machines, refrigerators, air conditioners and computer products. Regarding the five community green stations, the operators will collaborate with schools, property management and other relevant stakeholders or institutions on environmental education and coordination of recycling. Both the WEEE treatment facility and the community green stations will not be engaged in processing or activities that will pose significant impact to the environment. In any case, these facilities will be operated in strict compliance with the applicable environmental legislation.

For WEEE, the PRS will include import/export control to ensure that locally generated WEEE is properly treated in Hong Kong. Without prejudice to this objective and subject to relevant licencing conditions, WEEE may be exported when, for instance, no competent facilities are available in Hong Kong to provide for necessary treatment in an environmentally sound manner.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB237

Question Serial No.

4614

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Environmental Protection Department's revised estimate for the programme on air was \$553.3 million in 2012-13, 11.7% lower than the original estimate of \$626.7 million. However, the estimated provision for the programme in 2013-14 is \$801.1 million, an increase of \$247.8 million (44.8%) compared with the revised estimate for 2012-13. This is a significant change. In this connection:

- (a) Please explain in detail why the revised estimate for 2012-13 was 11.7% lower than the original estimate. Would the Administration list item by item the number of projects and the manpower resources involved, as well as the actual distribution of expenditure? If no, what are the reasons?
- (b) Notwithstanding that reasons have been given for the increase in provision for 2013-14, would the Administration list item by item the number of projects, manpower resources and financial arrangements involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. QUAT, Elizabeth

Reply:

- (a) The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has revised downward the estimated expenditure of the Air Programme for 2012-13 mainly due to reduced cash flow requirements for the following non-recurrent projects –
 - i. one-off grant to encourage early replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles: EPD has revised the estimated expenditure from \$150 million to \$120 million for 2012-13 given a smaller number of applications received;
 - ii. trial of hybrid buses: The franchised bus companies placed orders for six hybrid buses in 2012 and the hybrid buses will be delivered in 2014. As such, the expenditure for the trial in 2012-13 was only \$3.3 million which only included the first installment payment instead of the original estimated provision of \$29.7 million; and
 - iii. the Pilot Green Transport Fund (Fund): Under the Fund's disbursing arrangements, subsidies will be released in stages to the Fund recipients having regard to the progress of the trials. The decrease in estimate from \$32 million to \$12.2 million for 2012-13 was mainly due to the fact

applicants needed more time to prepare for the approved trials, thereby causing the postponement in disbursing subsidies.

- (b) The increase in expenditure for the Air Programme in 2013-14 is mainly due to the following –
- i. increased cash flow requirements for non-recurrent projects including the one-off subsidy to assist petrol and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) taxis and light buses owners to replace once the catalytic converters and oxygen sensors of their vehicles, the operation of the Fund and the trials of hybrid and electric buses by franchised bus companies;
 - ii. increases in operating expenses for strengthening EPD's vehicle emission testing programmes, air quality monitoring activities and enhanced activities to combat climate change; and
 - iii. a net increase of five posts for strengthening control on vehicle emissions including the enforcement of the prohibition of idling vehicles running their engines and phasing out of pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB238

Question Serial No.

3560

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Will the Administration inform this Committee the timetable as well as the financial provision and manpower to be allocated for 2013-14 to implement the various recommendations of Director of Audit's reports No. 59 and Report No. 59 of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) on improving air quality? Please provide a breakdown to indicate.

Asked by: Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply:

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has been following up on the recommendations in Director of Audit's report No. 59 and Report No. 59 of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) on improving air quality. In accordance with the established practice, EPD will report to the Legislative Council in May 2013 on the Administration's response to the PAC report and the latest progress of implementing the recommendations. A timetable for implementing the key recommendations of the PAC is at Annex.

The EPD will absorb the expenditure and manpower for implementing the above recommendations by the existing provisions of its Air Programme in 2013-14.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

Major Recommendations in the PAC report No. 59	Actions and Timetable
Updating of Air Quality Objectives (AQOs).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Air Pollution Control (Amendment) Bill 2013 was scheduled for first and second readings in the Legislative Council (LegCo) on 20 March 2013. • Subject to approval of the LegCo, the new AQOs will take effect on 1 January 2014.
Updating of Air Pollution Index (API).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation on the new Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) and the preparatory work for replacing the existing API with the AQHI are underway. • The LegCo Environmental Affairs Panel was briefed of the progress of the initiative in February 2013. The plan is to launch the AQHI to tie in with the commencement of the new AQOs in 2014.
Setting up a general air-quality monitoring station each in Tseung Kwan O and Tuen Mun, and compile a general API for each of the two districts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A general air quality monitoring station was built in Tuen Mun and is now on trial run. It will come into operation in the latter part of 2013. • For Tseung Kwan O station, we will consult the Sai Kung District Council on the potential sites for setting up the station later this year.
Expediting the replacement of pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are consulting the transport trades and other stakeholders on the mandatory retirement proposal for Pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles. We will take their views into account together with other views collected during the consultation, when working out the final proposal for consideration by the LegCo.
Accelerating the replacement of diesel public light buses by Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) ones.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to encourage owners of diesel public light buses to replace their vehicles by LPG ones, we will continue to expand the LPG filling network by requiring suitable new petrol filling stations on the land sales programme to provide LPG filling facilities, subject to safety requirements being met. In 2012, we also set a minimum requirement for LPG filling facilities at 25% of the nozzles on future petrol-cum-LPG filling stations, subject to fulfillment of the necessary safety requirements.

Major Recommendations in the PAC report No. 59	Actions and Timetable
<p>Expediting measures to prevent excessive emissions from LPG vehicles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subsidizing owners of LPG/petrol taxis and light buses to replace catalytic converters and oxygen sensors of their vehicles once; • Deploying roadside remote sensing devices to catch vehicle emitting excessively and use dynamometers to assess whether emission problem of a vehicle caught has been rectified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The catalytic converter replacement will, subject to the progress of the tender exercise, commence in the third quarter of 2013 and is expected to be completed in 9 months. • The roadside remote sensing surveillance will commence in 2014 after the completion of the replacement programme.
<p>Introducing new legislation to mandate fuel switch at berth.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan to introduce new legislation in the 2013-14 legislative session after consulting the relevant stakeholders.
<p>Setting a new sulphur limit lower than the existing 0.5% for local and river-trade vessels.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan to introduce new legislation in the 2013-14 legislative session after consulting the relevant stakeholders.
<p>Expediting legislative amendment for giving legal backing to the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) 2010 Standards.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport and Housing Bureau (THB) and Marine Department (MD) will consult the LegCo Panel on Economic Development on the legislative proposals by June 2013.
<p>Adopting the Ringelmann Chart as a reference to measure dark smoke emissions in the law.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • THB and MD will consult the LegCo Panel on Economic Development on the legislative proposals by June 2013.
<p>Setting fine suspended particulates (PM_{2.5}) emission limit and lower limits of nitrogen oxides (NOx) for power plants.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPD is exploring the setting of PM_{2.5} emission caps for power plants in the next review of the Technical Memorandum (TM) in 2014. • For NOx emissions, EPD will continue exploring the scope to further reduce the NOx emission caps in future TM reviews in light of the development in future fuel mix to reduce the reliance on electricity generation from coal and advancement in control technology on emissions from power plants.
<p>Coming up with measures expeditiously to better regulate emissions from in-use Non-Road Mobile Machinery (NRMM).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan to introduce new legislation in the 2013 for implementing the proposed NRMM emission-control system.

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

ENB239

Question Serial No.

3561

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Under matters requiring special attention in 2013-14, the Department will continue to take forward the updating of Air Quality Objectives (AQOs) through legislation; meanwhile, in Report no. 59 of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), the PAC has urged the Administration to provide the timetable for implementing the new AQOs. In this connection, will the Administration inform this Committee what is the latest progress of the law-drafting work? Will it be able to introduce the amendment bill to the Legislative Council to update the AQOs by the end of the 2012-13 legislative session?

Asked by: Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply:

The Air Pollution Control (Amendment) Bill 2013 was scheduled for first and second readings in the Legislative Council on 20 March 2013. Our plan is to bring the proposed new Air Quality Objectives into force with effect from 1 January 2014.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB240

Question Serial No.

3562

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Under matters requiring special attention in 2013-14, the Department will continue to raise public awareness and enhance community participation on waste reduction, recovery and recycling. In this connection, will the Administration inform this Committee the plan to implement this work for 2013-14? Please provide the details including the manpower and financial provision to be allocated, ways to foster such work as well as the targets it aims to attain.

Asked by: Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply:

In 2013-14, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will continue to encourage the public to reduce waste and separate waste at source for recycling through publicity and education programmes including recognition schemes, media advertisements and broadcasts, workshops, forums and exhibitions. Invitation to owners' committees and property management companies of housing estates will be made to enlist their greater participation. We will also step up joint efforts with government departments, all district councils, schools, green groups and social services organizations to set up more community recycling points. Efforts will also be made to launch new programmes for promoting food waste reduction and recycling, the proposed mandatory Producer Responsibility Scheme for waste electrical and electronic equipment, recycling of glass beverage containers and the extension of the Environmental Levy Scheme for plastic shopping bags. EPD will also take forward new pilot community green stations in 2013-14, with an estimated expenditure of \$44 million and \$21 million for the capital works and operational services respectively.

The EPD plans to spend about \$39.53 million in 2013-14 for the above promotion work. A total of 43 officers will be involved.

In addition, we propose to inject \$5 billion into the Environment and Conservation Fund to generate investment income for taking forward work that would help raise awareness and enlist support from different sectors in undertaking community green actions.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB241

Question Serial No.

5069

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: According to the Targets under Programme (2), the annual average air pollution index measured at roadside stations failed to meet the target in the past two years (i.e. 2011 and 2012). In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) The annual average air pollution index measured at the three roadside stations respectively in the past 10 years (i.e. 2003-04 to 2012-13);
- (b) Has the Administration assessed the numbers of vehicle travelled (especially regarding different types of diesel vehicles) recorded on the roads in areas with busy traffic and high pedestrian flow (e.g. Central, Causeway Bay, Mongkok, Sham Shui Po, Kwai Chung, Kwun Tong, Tsim Sha Tsui, Yau Ma Tei) and the relevant emissions in the past 5 years? If yes, what are the details as well as the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?
- (c) What measures will the Administration take to meet the targets? Please provide details on the measures, expected effectiveness, as well as the associated manpower and expenditure.

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

- (a) The annual average air pollution index measured at the three roadside air quality monitoring stations of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) in the past 10 years are tabled below:

Roadside Air Quality Monitoring Station	Annual Average Air Pollution Index									
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Causeway Bay	66	66	66	68	65	67	71	78	83	79
Central	65	71	65	66	66	68	74	83	83	77
Mong Kok	65	71	62	64	69	66	74	76	79	80

- (b) In the past five years, the EPD conducted a number of traffic count surveys (focusing on the types of vehicles travelling on individual road segments and their driving modes) at busy roads, including those in Central, Causeway Bay and Mong Kok to supplement the Annual Traffic Census conducted by the Transport Department (TD) for compiling the emission inventory for vehicles. Based on the findings from these surveys and the Annual Traffic Census of TD, the EPD estimated for 2010 the respective contributions of various vehicle types to the vehicular emissions of respirable suspended

particulates (RSP) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x) in the planned pilot low emission zones (LEZ) at Causeway Bay, Central and Mong Kok, which are given in the table below. This assessment was a one-off exercise and no similar assessment was done within the past five years. The manpower and resources associated with this task is absorbed in the resources provision of the Air Programme of the EPD.

Vehicle Class	Contribution to Vehicular Emissions and Vehicle Flow in Pilot LEZs in 2010 (%)								
	Causeway Bay			Central			Mong Kok		
	RSP	NO _x	Vehicle Flow	RSP	NO _x	Vehicle Flow	RSP	NO _x	Vehicle Flow
Franchised Buses	60	85	40	45	70	30	35	70	20
Diesel Commercial Vehicles	40	5	10	55	10	10	60	10	15
Diesel Non-Commercial Vehicles	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5
Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) Vehicles	<5	10	35	<5	20	30	<5	20	40
Petrol Vehicles	<5	<5	15	5	<5	25	5	<5	20

Remarks: Totals might not add up to 100% due to rounding up of figures.

- (c) The Government took a number of air quality improvement measures to reduce vehicle emissions in the past years. These initiatives have led to an improvement in roadside air quality. As compared with 2005, the roadside concentrations of sulphur dioxide and RSP in 2012 reduced by 55% and 29% respectively. However, the concentrations of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) at the roadside increased by 24% during the same period, which is the primary reason for the average annual API for roadside air quality stations not meeting the target of not exceeding 50.

To tackle the roadside NO₂ problem, we are taking forward a number of policy initiatives to further reduce vehicle emissions. These include a plan to retrofit Euro II and III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices (SCR), strengthening the emission control of petrol and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicles and adopting an incentive-cum-regulatory approach to phase out pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles (including light buses, goods vehicles and coaches). In parallel, we will continue to work with Guangdong authorities to reduce the emissions in the Pearl River Delta region so as to reduce the regional ozone level, which could promote the formation of NO₂ at roadsides. These efforts will help improve roadside air quality.

Improving air quality is part and parcel of the Air Programme of the EPD and the related expenditure is covered by the provision for the Air Programme of EPD. As for the above policy initiatives, the Government has set aside \$550 million for the SCR retrofit programme for Euro II and III franchised buses, \$150 million for the one-off replacement of catalytic converters for petrol and LPG taxis and light buses as part of the measure to strengthen the emission control for petrol and LPG vehicles and \$10 billion for phasing out pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles.

Name in blockletters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB242

Question Serial No.

5070

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the one-off subsidy for the replacement of catalytic converters and oxygen sensors of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) taxis and light buses, would the Administration provide the following information:

- (a) According to a paper submitted to the Panel on Environmental Affairs, Legislative Council by the Environment Bureau, the Administration is inviting tenders for parts supply and replacement contractors. Would the Administration state in detail the work progress and related expenditure? Has the Administration required the contractors to make any performance pledge? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (b) Would the Administration state in detail the mode of subsidy, and to whom the subsidy will go? What is the expenditure involved as estimated by the Administration?
- (c) What is the effectiveness of the replacement scheme as estimated by the Administration? Would the Administration state in detail the specific objectives?
- (d) After the completion of the replacement scheme, the Administration plans to work with the Transport Department in strengthening emission control on petrol and LPG vehicles. Would the Administration state in detail the specific details (such as tightening the emission standards) as well as the timetable, relevant manpower and expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

(a) & (b)

In April 2012, Finance Committee approved \$150 million for subsidizing a one-off replacement of catalytic converters and oxygen sensors of all petrol/liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) taxis and light buses. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is now vetting the tenders for the supply of the replacement parts, and the replacement services for taxis and light buses. If the tender assessment is smooth, the EPD aims to award the contracts in mid 2013 at the earliest for commencing the replacement exercise in the following quarter. The replacement of converters will take about nine months to complete. To guard against abuses, payments under the programme will be made directly to

the parts and service contractors after the replacements are completed. The payment of the subsidy in 2013-14 is estimated to be \$100 million.

Under the proposed contracts, the parts and service contractors will need to supply the parts and complete the replacement within 45 days on vehicles that have been approved by the EPD. In addition, the replacement part contractors will have to provide a warranty of twelve months for their parts while the replacement service contractors will provide three months warranty for the workmanship of the replacement.

- (c) Petrol and LPG vehicles rely heavily on their catalytic converters to reduce emissions. EPD has estimated that some 80% of petrol/LPG taxis and 45% petrol/LPG light buses might have their catalytic converters worn out, causing the emissions of individual vehicle to increase by 10 or more times. In busy roads, petrol/LPG taxis and light buses could account up to 40% of the vehicle emission of nitrogen oxides, which are one of the major causes of the roadside air pollution. Replacing the aged catalytic converters of petrol and LPG vehicles can help to reduce their emissions by 90%. The emission improvement could be accompanied by a fuel consumption reduction (which could be about 15% in the case of LPG taxis) and better driving performance.
- (d) Immediately after the completion of the above replacement scheme, EPD will deploy roadside remote sensing devices to screen out petrol/LPG vehicles with excessive emissions and will ask the vehicle owners concerned to fix the excessive emission problem. These vehicles will need to pass an emission test done with the aid of a dynamometer at a designated vehicle emission testing centre to ascertain the rectification of the problem. In this regard, the Commissioner for Transport has issued under the Road Traffic Ordinance (Cap 374) a code of practice to stipulate the emission testing standard for the dynamometer emission test. In addition, EPD has been working with TD to introduce the dynamometer emission test during annual inspections for petrol and LPG vehicles. These include the resolution of technical issues and resources requirements. The resources required by the EPD will be absorbed by the existing provisions of the Air Programme.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB243

Question Serial No.

5076

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding reduction of emissions from diesel commercial vehicles, would the Government provide the following information:

1. Please provide the numbers of diesel commercial vehicles in the past five years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2012-13);

		Year	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Types of vehicles							
Light goods vehicles	Pre-Euro/ Euro I						
	Euro II						
	Euro III						
	Euro IV						
	Euro V						
	Total						
Medium goods vehicles	Pre-Euro/ Euro I						
	Euro II						
	Euro III						
	Euro IV						
	Euro V						
	Total						

2. In the following table, please list the numbers of buses currently owned by each franchised bus company, and of them, the number of buses which have been retrofitted with selective catalytic reduction devices.

Franchised bus company	Pre-Euro/ Euro I		Euro II		Euro III		Euro IV		Euro V		Total
	No.	Est. Retirement Year	No.	Est. Retirement Year	No.	Est. Retirement Year	No.	Est. Retirement Year	No.	Est. Retirement Year	
KMB											
LW											
NWFB											
CTB											
NLB											

(Remarks: Suggest to revise the headings of the table as highlighted above.)

3. Please provide details on the results and effectiveness of trial programmes on retrofitting Euro II and Euro III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices, as well as the manpower and expenditure involved. Please also provide the estimated expenditures (by franchised bus company and type of vehicles) incurred by retrofitting Euro II and Euro III franchised buses with selective catalytic reduction devices, as well as the relevant timetable;
4. If the Administration retrofits all diesel commercial vehicles in Hong Kong with selective catalytic reduction devices in order to expedite the improvement of roadside air quality, what are the estimated expenditure and effectiveness? Comparing this with the provision of \$10 billion for early replacement of old diesel commercial vehicles as proposed in the Policy Address earlier, which one is more efficient in achieving the expected target of improving roadside air quality?

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

1. According to the Transport Department (TD), the numbers of registered diesel commercial vehicles (excluding franchised buses) in the past three years (i.e. 2010 to 2012), classified by emission standards, are summarized in the **Annex**. Data for 2008 and 2009 has been archived by TD and is not currently available.
2. The numbers of buses owned by each franchised bus company as at 31 December 2012, classified by emission standards, are summarized in the table below.

Franchised bus company	Euro I		Euro II		Euro III		Euro IV		Euro V		Total
	No.	Last Year of Retirement	No.	Last Year of Retirement	No.	Last Year of Retirement	No.	Last Year of Retirement	No.	Last Year of Retirement	
KMB	653	2015	1 533 (1)	2019	1 097 (2)	2026	106	2029	429	2030	3 818 (3)
LW	0	N.A.	84	2018	17	2026	32	2028	32	2030	165
NWFB	55	2015	479 (1)	2019	75	2020	38	2027	57	2030	704 (1)
CTB	156	2015	517 (2)	2018	10	2020	28	2027	237	2030	948 (2)
NLB	0	N.A.	6	2014	67	2020	17	2022	18	2025	108

Remarks:

- (i) KMB stands for The Kowloon Motor Bus Company (1933) Limited; LW for Long Win Bus Company Limited; NWFB for New World First Bus Services Limited; CTB for Citybus Limited and NLB for New Lantao Bus Company (1973) Limited.
- (ii) The figure in “()” denotes the number of buses retrofitted with selective catalytic reduction (SCR) devices.
- (iii) All pre-Euro buses have been phased out.
- (iv) The last year of retirement shown in the above table indicates the estimate for the last year for the respective bus fleet to be retired. The retirement year is estimated on the assumption that the buses of all franchised bus companies except NLB will be replaced upon reaching the age of 18 years. The buses of NLB are all single deck buses which would normally be replaced upon reaching the age of 13 years.

3. Together with the franchised bus companies, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) have retrofitted a total of six Euro II and III franchised buses with SCRs for trial, for which the associated resources of the total have been absorbed by existing provisions of the EPD. The SCRs have been in operation for over 12 months. EPD is now finalizing the trial results with the franchised bus companies. Subject to satisfactory trial results, the Government will fully fund the retrofit of Euro II and III franchised buses with the devices, and will further discuss with franchised bus companies regarding the detailed arrangements of large-scale retrofit, including the number and type of buses and timetable, etc. \$550 million has been set aside for the large-scale retrofit programme.

4. In-use diesel vehicles are of a wide variety of models as well as very diverse operational modes. Retrofitting them with SCR devices would require extensive trials on each vehicle model and operational mode. This would be very complicated, time-consuming and resources demanding. There is also a wide range of technical problems to overcome for such retrofitting works, including space constraints to accommodate the devices and potential incompatibility of the new system with the existing engine. Moreover, most pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles are of 10 years old and their vehicle frames could have been subject to considerable wear and tear over use. Therefore, we do not consider that retrofitting in-use diesel vehicles with SCR devices is practicable and cost-effective for reducing their emissions.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

Numbers of registered diesel commercial vehicles in 2010 to 2012

Types of vehicles		end of 2010	end of 2011	end of 2012
Light goods vehicles	Pre-Euro/ Euro I	23 164	21 625	20 268
	Euro II	14 655	13 727	12 681
	Euro III	17 729	17 665	17 608
	Euro IV	15 218	18 335	20 887
	Euro V	484	1 596	3 448
	Total	71 250	72 948	74 892
Medium goods vehicles	Pre-Euro/ Euro I	12 056	10 943	10 138
	Euro II	8 569	7 656	6 645
	Euro III	9 728	9 689	9 670
	Euro IV	7 712	8 542	8 538
	Euro V	539	2 147	4 279
	Total	38 604	38 977	39 270
Heavy goods vehicles	Pre-Euro/ Euro I	1 036	1 007	994
	Euro II	1 065	975	882
	Euro III	519	517	516
	Euro IV	700	979	982
	Euro V	20	272	972
	Total	3 340	3 750	4 346
Non-franchised Buses	Pre-Euro/ Euro I	466	388	332
	Euro II	1 979	1 568	1 013
	Euro III	2 811	2 759	2 687
	Euro IV	2 002	2 103	2 110
	Euro V	311	751	1 470
	Total	7 569	7 569	7 612
Light Buses	Pre-Euro/ Euro I	1 169	1 080	1 030
	Euro II	901	887	915
	Euro III	550	546	545
	Euro IV	363	454	481
	Euro V	166	217	371
	Total	3 149	3 184	3 342

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

ENB244

Question Serial No.

1812

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: To meet the 2015 and 2020 emission reduction targets, the Government will set aside \$10 billion as subsidies to owners of over 80 000 heavily polluting pre-Euro and Euro 1 to III diesel commercial vehicles in order to replace these vehicles having regard to their pollution level. In this connection, please list out the following:

- a) What are the numbers of heavily polluting registered pre-Euro and Euro I to III diesel commercial vehicles at present?
- b) How will the Administration assess the pollution level of diesel commercial vehicles?
- c) What are the amounts of subsidies for different types of vehicles mentioned above according to the Administration's estimate?
- d) What is the number of diesel commercial vehicles expected to be replaced?
- e) What is the estimated timetable for phasing out heavily polluting diesel commercial vehicles?

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Pei-chun, James

Reply:

As at end-2012, the number of registered pre-Euro, Euro I, Euro II and Euro III diesel commercial vehicles (including light buses, coaches and goods vehicles) were 19 500, 13 300, 22 100, and 31 200 respectively. In 2011, they emitted about 85% of respirable suspended particulates (RSP) and 43% of nitrogen oxides (NOx) from all vehicles. The Administration has set aside \$10 billion as proposed ex-gratia payment for eligible vehicle owners for phasing out all these diesel commercial vehicles before 2019. In addition, the Administration proposes to introduce legislative proposals to mandate non-renewal of the vehicle licences of these vehicles by specified dates. Below are the details of the proposed ex-gratia payment level and timetable for non-renewal of their vehicle licences -

Proposed Ex-gratia Payment Levels

	Age of Scrapped vehicles and Ex-gratia Payment Level as a percentage of the taxable values of new vehicles				
	18 years or above	16 years - below 18 years	13 years - below 16 years	10 years - below 13 years	Below 10 years
Those who do not seek replacement by newly registered vehicles	10%	12%	14%	16%	18%
Those who replace them with newly registered vehicles of the same class	18%	21%	24%	27%	30%

Proposed Timetable for Non-renewal of Licences for Pre-Euro IV Diesel Commercial Vehicles

	Pre-Euro II	Euro II	Euro III
Date after which the vehicle licence will not be renewed	1 Jan 2016	1 Jan 2017	1 Jan 2019
Range of age of the vehicles by the proposed date of non-renewal of vehicle licence	Over 18 years	16 to 19 years	13 to 18 years

We are consulting the relevant transport trades and other stakeholders about the proposal before reporting to the Legislative Council Panel on Environmental Affairs on the findings and the way forward. Subject to the support of the Legislative Council, our aim is to put it in place as soon as possible.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB245

Question Serial No.

3035

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please list by District Council districts the current number of collection points where waste separation bins are placed. What is the estimated number of collection points in 2013?

How does the Government assess whether the collection points are sufficient for public use? Did the districts achieve such targets between 2008 and 2012? Please list the figures by District Council districts.

Please list by year the recovery rate and weight of paper, plastic, metal and glass between 2008 and 2012, as well as the estimated recovery rate and weight in 2013.

Asked by: Hon. TIEN Puk-sun, Michael

Reply:

The Government has placed about 16 000 sets of waste separation bins throughout Hong Kong at public places, schools, public/private housing estates, government quarters/offices and hospitals/clinics. Management companies and owners associations of housing estates would also provide additional bins to suit the needs of the residents. Out of the 4 660 sets of waste separation bins placed in public places including roadsides, public transport interchanges, refuse collection points, leisure/cultural venues and country parks, their distribution in the 18 District Council districts are shown in the table below:

District	No. of waste separation bins (sets)
Hong Kong Island	
Eastern	233
Southern	252
Wan Chai	180
Central and Western	210

Kowloon	
Kowloon City	111
Yam Tsim Mong	191
Sham Shui Po	133
Wong Tai Sin	69
Kwun Tong	87
New Territories	
Tai Po	472
Tuen Mun	244
Yuen Long	397
North	332
Sai Kung	672
Sha Tin	324
Tsuen Wan	339
Kwai Tsing	177
Islands	237
Total	4 660

Government departments including the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, Leisure and Cultural Services Department and Agriculture Fisheries and Conservation Department would adjust the number and locations of the bins in public places, taking into account factors such as street conditions, pedestrian circulation, quantity of recyclables recovered, bin-overfilling frequency, and demand from local residents.

Collection and recovery of recyclables is not limited to the use of waste separation bins only. For example, some residents or cleaners would sell recyclables directly to recyclers, carry out recovery through other means such as waste exchange or deliver recyclables to community recycling centres operated by NGOs. Data gathered from waste recovery surveys and export quantity of recyclables compiled by the Census and Statistics Department reflect more comprehensively the overall situation of municipal solid waste recovery. Available information on the quantities of major recyclables recovered, and percentages of recovery in 2008-2011 are detailed in the table below:

		2008	2009	2010	2011
Waste paper	Total recovery quantity ('000 tonnes)	1 091	1 027	1 195	1 278
	Percentage of recovery (%)	58	58	62	64
Plastics	Total recovery quantity ('000 tonnes)	1 023	1 211	1 577	843
	Percentage of recovery (%)	62	66	69	58
Metals	Total recovery quantity ('000 tonnes)	933	834	720	782
	Percentage of recovery (%)	92	93	92	92
Glass	Total recovery quantity ('000 tonnes)	1	3	5	5
	Percentage of recovery (%)	1	2	3	5

Note:

1. Relevant data for 2012 are still being compiled.
2. Percentage of recovery = Total recovery quantity / (Total recovery quantity + Quantity disposed of in landfills) × 100%.
3. Disposal quantity and recovery percentage are calculated on a wet weight basis.
4. Compared with 2010, the quantity of waste plastics recycled in 2011 decreased by about 730 000 tonnes (47%), whereas the quantity of disposal decreased by 90 000 tones (13%). So far, there is insufficient information to establish the cause of such phenomenon.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB246

Question Serial No.

2302

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Environmental Protection Department will pursue the extension of the three strategic landfills in the coming financial year. What are the maximum capacity and current capacity of each of the landfills, the expenditure and manpower required for extension, as well as the respective implementation timetables? What is the estimated increase in the capacity of each of the landfills after extension? By how long will the life span of each of the landfills be extended?

Asked by: Hon. TSE Wai-chuen, Tony

Reply:

The total design capacity of the three strategic landfills in Hong Kong (i.e. the South East New Territories (SENT) Landfill, the North East New Territories (NENT) Landfill and the West New Territories (WENT) Landfill) is 139 million cubic metres (Mm³) and the remaining capacity is less than 40% of the total design capacity. The design and the remaining filling capacities for individual landfills are shown in the table below. It is estimated that the three landfills will be fully exhausted one by one in the years to come and likely to be exhausted before 2020.

	Design Filling Capacity (Mm ³)	Remaining Filling Capacity (as of end 2011) ^{Note 1} (Mm ³)
SENT Landfill	43	8
NENT Landfill	35	19
WENT Landfill	61	33
Total	139	60

Note 1: The remaining filling capacities of the three landfills at end 2012 are not available yet.

The estimated capacities, life spans and capital costs of the three landfill extension projects are shown in the table below. We plan to seek funding approval from the Legislative Council later this year with a view to commissioning the landfill extensions before they are exhausted.

Landfill Extension	Estimated Capacity (Mm³)	Estimated Life Span to be extended (years)	Latest Estimated Capital Cost (at September 2012 price level) (\$ Million)
SENT	6.5	6	1,320
NENT	19	8	4,180
WENT	81	15	9,960
Total	106.5	--	15,460

The manpower required for developing and implementing the three landfill extension projects will be met through internal deployment of existing staff resources.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB247

Question Serial No.

2308

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In respect of encouraging the transport trades to try out innovative green transport technologies, please list the number of applications for the Pilot Green Transport Fund received by the Department in 2012-13, with a breakdown by transport operators and transport modes. How many of them were approved and rejected respectively? What are the amount of subsidy and the green technologies involved in each of the approved applications? How many applications is the Department expected to receive in 2013-14 and how many transport modes and vehicles will be granted subsidies? It is the estimated the Fund has a balance of \$287.85 million at present. What is the earliest time that it will be used up?

Asked by: Hon. TSE Wai-chuen, Tony

Reply:

In 2012-13, the Pilot Green Transport Fund (the Fund) received 40 applications, 18 of which were subsequently withdrawn. A breakdown of the remaining 22 applications is as follows –

Total no. of applications		No. of applications and the proposed transport technologies				
		Electric coach	Electric taxi	Electric goods vehicle	Hybrid light bus	Solar air-conditioning in coach
Approved	15	1	6	6	2	-
Rejected	-	-	-	-	-	-
Being processed	7	-	-	6	-	1
Total	22	1	6	12	2	1

The amount of approved subsidy for the above 15 trials ranged from \$0.2m to \$5.8m. The Fund requires the successful applicant to procure the trial products through tendering. To avoid affecting the tender exercise, we do not release the subsidy approved for individual application.

For the applications to be received in 2013-14, we do not have an estimate on the number, the transport mode or vehicles. We do not have an estimate on when the Fund will be used up because it will depend on the response of the transport trades. However, we will continue to encourage the transport trades and transport product suppliers to make use of the Fund to conduct trial on green innovative transport technologies.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 19 March 2013

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

ENB248

Question Serial No.

2309

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the impact of ocean-going vessels berthing in Hong Kong on our air quality, has the Administration formulated specific targets and alert indicators for this? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons? What specific measures were taken by the Department in 2012-13? What were the expenditure, manpower and effectiveness involved in each measure? What new measures are expected to be taken in 2013-14? What are the expenditure, manpower and implementation timetable involved? How will the Department secure the support and cooperation of the relevant Mainland authorities?

Asked by: Hon. TSE Wai-chuen, Tony

Reply:

Following the vigorous efforts in reducing the emissions of power plants and vehicles, marine vessels became the largest source of respirable suspended particulates, nitrogen oxides and sulphur dioxide in 2011. To further improve air quality, reducing the emissions of the marine sector has become a priority of the Administration.

Ocean-going vessels (OGVs) account for about 40% to 80% of emissions (depending on various air pollutants) from the marine sector. The Administration launched in September 2012 a 3-year incentive scheme which reduces by half the Port Facilities and Light Dues for OGVs that use fuel with sulphur content less than 0.5% while berthing in Hong Kong waters. As at 28 February 2013, a total of 1 208 ocean going vessel calls were granted with the subsidy and the revenue forgone was about \$6,526,000. To maximize the environmental benefits, we are consulting the relevant trades and other stakeholders about a proposal to mandate all OGVs to use low sulphur fuel while berthing. Our plan is to complete the legislative process in the 2013-14 legislative session. In parallel, we are exploring with the mainland authority to pursue fuel switch at berth in Pearl River Delta ports.

The associated expenditure in 2013-14 will be absorbed by the provision for the Air Programme of the Environmental Protection Department.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB249

Question Serial No.

1647

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Under the 16-month green procurement pilot scheme launched in January 2012, the Correctional Services Department, the Hong Kong Police Force, the Drainage Services Department, the Marine Department and the Environmental Protection Department are expected to use 3.5 million litres of B5-Diesel. How much B5-Diesel is each of the departments expected to use? What is the percentage of B5-Diesel used under the new scheme in the diesel consumption of each of the departments? How much public expenditure is expected to be involved? What is the difference in expenditure between B5-Diesel and the diesel originally used?

Asked by: Hon. TSE Wai-chun, Paul

Reply:

To support the government policy for promoting use of biofuels and combat climate change, starting from January 2012, the Environmental Protection Department commissioned a 16-month pilot scheme to use B5 diesel (a blend of 95% Euro V diesel and 5% biodiesel) in some government vehicles, vessels and machinery. The estimated contract value is \$25,084,300. At the time of contract award in late 2011, the unit price of B5 diesel is around 8% higher than that of Euro V diesel under the bulk contract for use by government departments¹.

The forecast consumption and percentage of B5 diesel used as compared with the departments' total diesel consumption are estimated as follows.

Department	Application	Contractual forecasted consumption (Litres)	% of B5 diesel used as compared with the departments' total diesel consumption
Drainage Services Department	Dual fuel engines of Sewage Treatment Works	770 000	21%
Correctional Services Department	Boilers of prisons, rehabilitation centres, reception centres, laundry	1 213 000	29%

¹ The contract unit rate shall be subject to the price variation clause stipulated in the contract.

Department	Application	Contractual forecasted consumption (Litres)	% of B5 diesel used as compared with the departments' total diesel consumption
Hong Kong Police Force (Transport Division and Marine Region)	Vehicles and vessels	1 453 200	8%
Marine Department	Vessel	80 000	11%
Environmental Protection Department	Vessel	16 800	13%

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB250

Question Serial No.

1648

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: It is mentioned in paragraph 123 of the Budget Speech that environmental protection is one of the major policy areas in the Policy Address.

In reply to my question on 23 January 2013 regarding "gutter oil", the Secretary for the Environment stated that the Environmental Protection Department encouraged restaurants to pass their used cooking oil to reputable recyclers. In this connection, will the Government advise this Committee on:

1. What policies and measures will the Government adopt in the new financial year 2013-2014 to implement the above work?
2. The public expenditure and manpower resources estimated to be involved in the work?
3. Whether performance indicators can be established for the 16-month green procurement pilot scheme to evaluate the cost effectiveness of the scheme and expenditure mentioned above?

Asked by: Hon. TSE Wai-chun, Paul

Reply:

From an environmental perspective, used cooking oil is suitable to be recycled and is internationally regarded as a reusable commodity like other "green waste" and therefore proper treatment of used cooking oil is largely encouraged.

Environmental Protection Department (EPD) encourages restaurants to reduce waste and pass their used cooking oil to reputable recyclers for recycling into bio-diesel or other materials. In addition, the Government proactively supports the environmental and recycling industries; there is a tenant in the EcoPark undertaking the recycling of used cooking oil collected in Hong Kong, turning it into bio-diesel that meets international standards. Furthermore, the Government adopts green procurement and among other things takes the lead in using bio-diesel. In this connection, the EPD commissioned a 16-month pilot scheme to use B5 diesel (a blend of 95% Euro V diesel and 5% biodiesel) in some government vehicles, vessels and machinery. This is to pioneer the use of bio-diesel in Hong Kong enabling its wider adoption progressively.

The above measures are part and partial of EPD's work in respect of promotion of waste recycling and green procurement, as well as the management of EcoPark. Relevant resources are absorbed under Programme (1) (Waste) under Head 44 –EPD.

As the scheme to use of B5 diesel is still in its pilot phase, we are developing the performance indicators at this stage taking into account technical performance, cost effectiveness in achieving different environmental benefits, etc.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 19 March 2013

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

ENB251

Question Serial No.

0176

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: On engaging "agency workers", please provide the following information:

	2012-13 (up to the latest situation)
Number of contracts of engaging employment agencies	()
Contract sum paid to each employment agency	()
Total amount of commission paid to each employment agency	()
Length of contract for each employment agency	()
Number of agency workers	()
Breakdown of positions held by agency workers	()
Monthly salary range of agency workers	
● \$30,001 or above	()
● \$16,001 to \$30,000	()
● \$8,001 to \$16,000	()
● \$6,501 to \$8,000	()
● \$6,240 to \$6,500	()
● \$6,240 or below	()
Length of service of agency workers	
● 15 years or longer	()
● 10 - 15 years	()
● 5 - 10 years	()
● 3 - 5 years	()
● 1 - 3 years	()
● less than 1 year	()
Percentage of agency workers among the total number of staff in the Department	()
Percentage of amount paid to employment agencies among the total departmental staff cost	()
Number of workers with remunerated meal break	()
Number of workers without remunerated meal break	()
Number of workers on 5-day week	()
Number of workers on 6-day week	()

() denotes percentage of increase or decrease compared with the same period of 2011-12

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

	2012-13 (up to the 30.9.2012)	
Number of contracts of engaging employment agencies	Others	9 (+50%)
	T-contract (Note 1)	1 (-) (as at Mar 2013)
Contract sum paid to each employment agency	Others	0.10 to 1.17 (-7%)
	T-contract	22.46 (+25%) (full year provision)
Total amount of commission paid to each employment agency	The contracts contain the total service fee payable to the employment agencies and do not normally provide a breakdown of total service fee into commission and wages of agency workers. The information is therefore not available.	
Length of contract for each employment agency	Others	3 months to 12 months
	T-contract	12 months
Number of agency workers	Others	32 (+19%)
	T-contract	57 (+10%) (as at Mar 2013)
Breakdown of positions held by agency workers	Agency workers are deployed for a variety of duties; mostly meeting short-term manpower gap. Duties include general office support service, customer service, general project management works, etc.	
Monthly salary range of agency workers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● \$30,001 or above ● \$16,001 to \$30,000 ● \$8,001 to \$16,000 ● \$6,501 to \$8,000 ● \$6,240 to \$6,500 ● \$6,240 or below 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● \$30,001 or above ● \$16,001 to \$30,000 ● \$8,001 to \$16,000 ● \$6,501 to \$8,000 	Others 1 (+100%) 0 (-100%) 25 (+19%) 6 (+20%)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● \$30,001 or above ● \$16,001 to \$30,000 	T-contract (Note 2) 41 (+11%) 16 (+ 7%) (as at Mar 2013)

	2012-13 (up to the 30.9.2012)	
Length of service of agency workers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 15 years or longer ● 10 - 15 years ● 5 - 10 years ● 3 - 5 years ● 1 - 3 years ● less than 1 year 	The employment agencies may assign different agency workers during the contract period such that the service as pledged can be maintained. Hence, information on length of services of agency workers is not available.	
Percentage of agency workers among the total number of staff in the Department	Others	1.76% (+17%)
	T-contract	3.2% (+10%) (as at Mar 2013)
Percentage of amount paid to employment agencies among the total departmental staff cost	Others	0.45% (+18%)
	T-contract	2.3% (+21%) (as at Mar 2013)
Number of workers with remunerated meal break Number of workers without remunerated meal break	The information is not available as whether meal breaks are included as paid time is a matter for agreement between the employment agencies and the agency workers when the employment contract is signed.	
Number of workers on 5-day week	Others	32 (+19%)
	T-contract	57 (+10%) (as at Mar-2013)
Number of workers on 6-day week	Others	NIL
	T-contract	NIL

Note 1 T-contract refers to term contract centrally administered by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer.

Note 2 The salary range quoted for T-contract includes both salaries and commissions.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 19 March 2013

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

ENB252

Question Serial No.

0177

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: On engaging "outsourced workers", please provide the following information:

	2012-13 (up to the latest situation)
Number of outsourced service contracts	()
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	()
Length of contract for each outsourced service provider	()
Number of workers engaged through outsourced service providers	()
Details of the positions held by outsourced workers (e.g. customer service, property management, security, cleansing and information technology)	()
Monthly salary range of outsourced workers	
• \$30,001 or above	()
• \$16,001 to \$30,000	()
• \$8,001 to \$16,000	()
• \$6,501 to \$8,000	()
• \$6,240 to \$6,500	()
• \$6,240 or below	()
Length of service of outsourced workers	
• 15 years or longer	()
• 10 - 15 years	()
• 5 - 10 years	()
• 3 - 5 years	()
• 1 - 3 years	()
• less than 1 year	()
Percentage of outsourced workers in the total number of staff in the Department	()
Percentage of amount paid to outsourced service providers in the total departmental staff cost	()
Number of workers with paid meal break	()
Number of workers without paid meal break	()
Number of workers working 5 days a week	()
Number of workers working 6 days a week	()

() denotes percentage of increase or decrease compared with the same period of 2011-12

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

	2012-13 (as at 28.2.2013)
Number of outsourced service contracts	15(15%)
Total amount paid to outsourced service providers	\$9.6M (+13%)
Length of contract for each outsourced service provider	3 to 24 months
Number of workers engaged through outsourced service providers	For most of the outsourced service contracts, Environmental Protection Department (EPD) only specifies the types and level of services to be delivered by the service providers, rather than the number of staff to be employed for the services. The outsourced contracts mainly provide services including cleansing, information technology, sampling and laboratory testing. Information about the number of outsourced workers engaged and their positions is not available.
Details of the positions held by outsourced workers (e.g. customer service, property management, security, cleansing and information technology)	
Monthly salary range of outsourced workers	The contracts of EPD entered into with the service providers specify the service level and fee to be charged by the latter in providing the services. EPD normally does not specify the number and salaries of the outsourced workers. As long as the procuring requirements (in terms of types and level of services) are satisfied, the service providers may arrange any of their employees to provide the service during the contract period. Information about the monthly salary and length of service of the outsourced works is not available.
Length of service of outsourced workers	
Percentage of outsourced workers in the total number of staff in the Department	
Percentage of amount paid to outsourced service providers in the total departmental staff cost	0.97%
Number of workers with paid meal break Number of workers without paid meal break	The information requested is not available as we do not have access to employment information of the service providers and their workers.
Number of workers working 5 days a week Number of workers working 6 days a week	

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 19 March 2013

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

ENB253

Question Serial No.

0178

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the employment of non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff, please provide the following information:

	2012-13 (up to the latest situation)
Number of NCSC staff	()
Distribution of posts taken up by NCSC staff	()
Salary expenditure for NCSC staff	()
Monthly salary range of NCSC staff	
● \$30,001 or above	()
● \$16,001 to \$30,000	()
● \$8,001 to \$16,000	()
● \$6,501 to \$8,000	()
● \$6,240 to \$6,500	()
● \$6,240 or below	()
Length of service of NCSC staff in years	
● 15 years or longer	()
● 10 - 15 years	()
● 5 - 10 years	()
● 3 - 5 years	()
● 1 - 3 years	()
● less than 1 year	()
Number of staff converted to civil servants	()
Number of staff failed to be converted to civil servants	()
Percentage of NCSC staff in the total number of staff in the Department	()
Percentage of payment for NCSC staff in the total staff costs of the Department	()
Number of workers with paid meal break	()
Number of workers without paid meal break	()
Number of workers working 5 days a week	()
Number of workers working 6 days a week	()
Number of workers applying for paternity leave	()
Number of workers granted approval	()

() denotes percentage of increase or decrease compared with the same period of 2011-12

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

The figures on the employment of NCSC staff in 2012-13 are as follows -

	2012-13
Number of NCSC staff *	108 (-13.6%)
Distribution of posts taken up by NCSC staff	
• Comparable to Environmental Protection Officer (EPO) or equivalent	34
• Comparable to Assistant Environmental Protection Officer (AEPO) or equivalent	34
• Comparable to Environmental Protection Inspector (EPI) or equivalent	16
• Comparable to ranks below EPI or equivalent	24
Salary expenditure for NCSC staff #	\$35.3M (+2.6%)
Monthly salary range of NCSC staff	
• \$30,001 or above	34 (-2.9%)
• \$16,001 to \$30,000	34 (-17.1%)
• \$8,001 to \$16,000	40 (-18.4%)
Length of service of NCSC staff in years	
• 10 to 15 years	1
• 5 to 10 years	13 (-7.1%)
• 3 to 5 years	18 (-30.8%)
• 1 to 3 years	25 (-32.4%)
• Less than 1 year	51 (+6.3%)
Number of staff converted to civil servants [^]	3
Number of staff failed to be converted to civil servants ^{^^}	29
Percentage of NCSC staff in the total number of staff in the Department	5.9%
Percentage of payment for NCSC staff in the total staff costs of the Department#	3.6%
Number of workers with paid meal time	107
Number of workers without paid meal time	1
Number of workers working 5 days a week	108
Number of workers working 6 days a week	0
Number of workers applying for paternity leave	1
Number of workers granted approval	1

() denotes percentage of increase or decrease compared with the same period of 2011-12

* Position as at 31 December 2012.

As the actual expenditure in 2012-13 has yet to be concluded, the figure in 2012-13 is derived based on the revised estimate of the year.

[^] The figure here refers to NCSC staff in EPD who were appointed as EPI/AEPO/EPO through open recruitment exercises.

^{^^} The figure here refers to NCSC staff in EPD who failed to be appointed as EPI/AEPO/EPO through open recruitment exercises.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 19 March 2013

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

ENB254

Question Serial No.

3935

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Administration encourages ocean-going vessels (OGVs) to take part in the Port Facilities and Light Dues Incentive Scheme and use low sulphur fuel when berthing in Hong Kong waters. In this connection, please provide the following information:

- (a) How many applications have been received in total by the Administration since the Scheme was launched? What are the participation rate and the expenditure involved?
- (b) Has the Administration set any target for the Scheme? If yes, what is the target; and what are the measures to meet the target, and the relevant expenditure? If no, what are the reasons?
- (c) The Kai Tak Cruise Terminal will be commissioned in mid-2013, but the installation of on-shore power supply facilities will take several years to complete. Besides, legislation to mandate the switch to cleaner fuels for OGVs at berth in Hong Kong waters is still in progress. To avoid East Kowloon and both shores of Victoria Harbour being affected by air pollution in this vacuum period, does the Administration have any specific measures to control emissions from cruise vessels? What are the staff establishment and expenditure for such measures?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

- (a) We launched a 3-year Port Facilities and Light Dues Incentive Scheme (the Incentive Scheme) on 26 September 2012 to encourage ocean-going vessel (OGVs) to use low sulphur fuel while at berth in Hong Kong. As at 28 Feb 2013, a total of 1 208 OGVs calls were granted port dues reduction. The participation rate was about 12%. The revenue forgone was about \$6.5 million.
- (b) The Incentive Scheme is a voluntary one and hence, we have not set any target for the participation rate. We will continue to encourage OGV operators to participate in the Incentive Scheme. To maximize the environmental benefits, we are consulting the shipping trade and other stakeholders on the proposal to mandate all OGVs to use low sulphur fuel while berthing. Our plan is to complete the legislative process in the 2013-14 legislative session. In parallel, we are exploring with the Mainland authorities of requiring fuel switch at berth in ports in the Pearl River Delta region.

(c) The Incentive Scheme is also applicable to cruise vessels. We will encourage cruise operators to take part in the Incentive Scheme to switch the fuel of their cruise vessels berthing in the Kai Tak cruise terminal to low sulphur fuel. The associated initiatives will be implemented by existing staff and provisions for the Air Programme of the Environmental Protection Department.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB255

Question Serial No.

3936

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding consulting the maritime sector on mandating ocean-going vessels to switch fuel at berth in Hong Kong, please provide the following information:

1. When will the consultation commence? What is the specific timetable? What are the manpower and expenditure involved?
2. Please provide details of the consultation. Will the trade also be consulted on the control of lead content in the fuel? What is the drafted list of people and groups to be consulted?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-kin

Reply:

1. On the proposal to mandate ocean-going vessels to switch to low-sulphur fuel while at berth in Hong Kong waters, we started the consultation with the shipping trade in February 2013. We aim to complete the consultation exercise in the second quarter of this year and plan to complete the legislative process in the 2013-14 legislative session. The associated expenditure of the consultation exercise will be absorbed by the provision for the Air Programme of the Environmental Protection Department.
2. We are consulting the relevant stakeholders, including the shipowners, ship liners, shipping agencies, cruise vessel operators, cargo vessel operators, vessel terminals, fuel suppliers and other relevant bodies including the Shipping Consultative Committee and the Advisory Council on the Environment, on the proposal to require all ocean-going vessels to switch from heavy fuel oil to low sulphur diesel while berthing in Hong Kong waters for their auxiliary engines, generators and boiler. The consultation focuses on the limit of sulphur content of the marine diesel to be used as well as the details of the scheme. It does not include the control of lead content which is already very low in diesel fuel.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB256

Question Serial No.

0983

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In respect of the implementation of the Motor Vehicle Idling (Fixed Penalty) Ordinance, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) Since the implementation of the Ordinance, how many prosecutions have been initiated? What are the types of vehicles involved?
- (b) What measures will be taken to help drivers comply with the above Ordinance in summer? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Pik-wan, Helena

Reply:

- (a) The Motor Vehicle Idling (Fixed Penalty) Ordinance empowers Traffic Wardens and Environmental Protection Inspectors to issue fixed penalty notices to drivers of idling vehicles with running engines. From its commencement in December 2011 to end February 2013, the law enforcement staff timed 1 440 vehicles with idling engines in accordance with the Ordinance. Most of the drivers switched off the engines within three minutes but nine did not. We issued fixed penalty notices to these nine drivers accordingly. The classes of the vehicles involved are as follows:

Class of the Vehicles	No. of Fixed Penalty Notices Issued
Coach	2
Private Car	2
Light Goods Vehicle	2
Medium Goods Vehicle	1
Public Light Bus	1
Taxi	1

- (b) To help drivers foster their green driving habit of stopping the engines of idling vehicles, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has been undertaking both enforcement and publicity activities. These include distributing leaflets and posters, broadcasting reminders through television and radio stations, and displaying messages on parking metres and banners. These publicity activities will be stepped up before the summer. The associated expenditure is absorbed by the existing provision for the Air Programme in the EPD.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB257

Question Serial No.

0984

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the recovery of food waste, please inform this Committee of the following:

- a) What are the expected work plan, estimates and staffing provision for the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign in 2013-14? What is the targeted quantity of food waste to be reduced under the Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign?
- b) What are the details of and estimates for the large scale organic waste treatment facilities expected to be established according to the work targets?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Pik-wan, Helena

Reply:

- a) The Food Wise Hong Kong Campaign would be launched shortly, with a series of activities to be rolled out, including public education initiatives through for instance TV and radio APIs, the launch of good practice guides, roving exhibitions and community events, a dedicated website, and food waste reduction workshops for various sectors etc. The manpower for the campaign is absorbed from the existing establishment.
- b) We plan to develop the Organic Waste Treatment Facilities (OWTF) in phases. The first phase of OWTF will be developed at Siu Ho Wan of North Lantau with a treatment capacity of 200 tonnes per day. Tender for the design, build and operation (DBO) of this facility was invited on 8 February 2013. Subject to Finance Committee's funding approval, we plan to award the DBO contract in early 2014 for commissioning the facility in 2016. The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for the study of the OWTF Phase 1 is \$1.3 million.

The second phase of OWTF will be developed at Sha Ling in the North District with a treatment capacity of 300 tonnes per day. We are now carrying out the engineering investigation and environmental impact assessment (EIA) studies for this facility. We plan to complete the EIA study in 2013 with a view to commissioning the facility in 2017. The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for the study of the OWTF Phase 2 is \$2.1 million.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 19 March 2013

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

ENB258

Question Serial No.

0986

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Under this Programme, the amount of waste estimated to be received by strategic landfills in 2013-14 is similar to that in 2012-13. Please advise this Committee:

- (a) What policies for reduction of solid waste were and will be implemented in 2012-13 and 2013-14 respectively? And how much solid waste will be reduced under these policies? (Please list by policy)
- (b) What are the estimated increases in solid waste in 2013-14? (Please list by waste type)

Asked by: Hon. WONG Pik-wan, Helena

Reply:

- (a) The Government has adopted a “reduction first” waste management strategy and will continue to enhance the efforts in promoting waste reduction and recovery. In 2012-13 and 2013-14, the Government has been taking or would take the following actions for the progressive implementation of mandatory Producer Responsibility Schemes (PRSs) through legislative means:
 - (i) we are preparing legislative proposals for the extension of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags. Based on the experience of the current scheme, we expect that the extended scheme may reduce the excessive use of plastic shopping bags by up to 90% in the retail outlets not covered in the first phase;
 - (ii) we are preparing legislative proposals for the PRS on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE). With a WEEE treatment plant to be developed in the EcoPark, we expect that the PRS may collect about 30 000 tonnes of locally generated WEEE for proper treatment every year; and
 - (iii) we are conducting public consultation on a new PRS on glass beverage bottles. Subject to the outcome of the consultation, we expect that the PRS may collect about 38 500 tonnes of waste glass beverage bottles for proper treatment a year upon successful implementation of the PRS.

Municipal solid waste (MSW) charging is another key initiative in the pipeline. Following the public consultation in 2012, the Government has affirmed the direction of introducing quantity-based MSW charging to help reduce waste in Hong Kong. The waste reduction impact of MSW charging will

depend on the operational details which will be explored through a public engagement to be conducted by the Council for Sustainable Development.

Moreover, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will continue to encourage the public to reduce waste and separate waste at source for recycling through publicity and education programmes including recognition schemes, media advertisements and broadcasts, workshops, forums and exhibitions. Invitation to owners' committees and property management companies of housing estates will be made to enlist their greater participation. We are also planning to launch Food Wise Campaign shortly to promote reduction of food waste. We will also step up joint efforts with government departments, all district councils, schools, green groups and social services organizations to set up more community recycling points. In addition, EPD will take forward new pilot community green stations in 2013-14, with an estimated expenditure of \$44 million and \$21 million for the capital works and operational services respectively.

The EPD plans to spend about \$39.53 million in 2013-14 to further raise public awareness and enhance community participation on waste reduction, separation and recycling. We propose to inject \$5 billion into the Environment and Conservation Fund to generate investment income for taking forward work that would help raise awareness and enlist support from different sectors in undertaking community green actions.

- (b) Notwithstanding the continuous efforts to reduce waste, for budgetary purpose, we still need to take a prudent approach to ensure that there is sufficient funding reserved to finance a proper waste management service for the community. Therefore, the projected amount of waste required to be disposed of in 2013 is similar to that in 2012, with a similar breakdown of MSW, construction waste, dewatered sludge and other waste as 3.40, 1.26, 0.34 and 0.07 million tonnes respectively.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 2 April 2013

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

ENB259

Question Serial No.

0988

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Noise

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the handling of noise problem, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) The numbers of complaints on traffic noise, construction noise and other types of noise received by the Administration in 2012-13;
- (b) The projects to improve the noise problem commenced or completed in 2012-13?
- (c) The projects to improve the noise problem to be commenced in 2013-14.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Pik-wan, Helena

Reply:

- (a) The complaint statistics are compiled on a calendar year basis. The numbers of complaints in 2012 on traffic noise, construction noise and other types of noise received by the Environmental Protection Department and the Police are listed in the table below:

Noise complaints statistics 2012

Year	Road Traffic Noise	Construction Noise	Noise Pollution other than Road Traffic Noise and Construction Noise	
2012	161	1 485	5	210

- (b) To tackle noise impact of existing roads on neighbouring residents, we have commenced noise barrier retrofitting works on Tai Po Tai Wo Road (near Po Nga Court) and completed the works on Fanling Highway (Po Shek Wu Road to MTR Fanling Station) in 2012-13. Low noise road surfacing material has also been applied to a total of 4 road sections in 2012-13. They are the Pak Wo Road (from Choi Yuen Road to Po Wing Road), Tung Tau Tsuen Road (from Shatin Pass Road to Tai Shing Street), Long Yuet Street (from San Ma Tau Street to Kwei Chow Street) and Siu Lek Yuen Road (from Chap Wai Kon Road to Tai Chung Kiu Road).

- (c) Subject to progress, we plan to resurface 7 road sections with low noise surfacing material in 2013-14. The 7 road sections are listed in the table below.

Resurfacing works to be commenced in 2013-14

Ref.	Road Section
1	Aberdeen Main Road (From Aberdeen Praya Road to Aberdeen Reservoir)
2	Sai Chuen Road (From Fu Sing House to Fu Wan House)
3	Sha Tin Wai Road (From Sha Tin Road to Ngan Shing Street)
4	Sung On Street (From Bailey Street to Chi Kiang Street)
5	Wan Hoi Street (From Dyer Avenue to Tak On Street)
6	Ngan Shing Street (From Siu Lek Yuen Road to Tak Wing Street)
7	Tin Sam Street (From Che Kung Miu Road to Hung Mui Kuk Road)

Moreover, the noise barrier or enclosure retrofitting works being undertaken for 8 road sections will continue in 2013-14.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 19 March 2013

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

ENB260

Question Serial No.

0990

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air (3) Noise

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the enforcement of legislation related to the motor vehicle repair trade, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) The number of cases of breach of the law (e.g. Air Pollution Control Ordinance, Noise Control Ordinance) involving the motor vehicle repair trade received in the past five years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2012-13), with a breakdown by district, together with the number of convictions after investigation and prosecution;
- (b) The number of routine inspections on the motor vehicle repair trade conducted in the past five years, with a breakdown by district;
- (c) Will there be any measures to handle the complaints continually received from the public (e.g. complaints from districts with a high concentration of motor vehicle repair shops, such as Kowloon City)? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Pik-wan, Helena

Reply:

- (a) The prosecutions on non-compliance by the motor vehicle repair trade involved mainly repair yards and service premises in the New Territories. The prosecutions taken in the past 5 years (2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012) against breach of pollution control laws by the motor vehicle repair trade are tabulated below. All prosecution cases were convicted.

District	No. of Prosecutions				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Tuen Mun	0	1	0	0	0
Yuen Long	1	0	0	0	1
Sha Tin	0	0	9	0	0
Kwai Tsing	0	0	0	0	1
Total	1	1	9	0	2

- (b) Environmental Protection Department (EPD) does not keep inspection statistics of individual trades down to district level. The overall numbers of inspections on the motor vehicle repair trade conducted in the past five years (2008-2012) are summarized in the following table.

	Year				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
No. of Inspections	477	961	1 111	1 647	1 203

- (c) The EPD operates four regional offices to carry out enforcement and related activities in the districts, including the investigation of pollution complaints launched by the general public. All pollution complaint reports, including complaints from districts with a high concentration of motor vehicle repair shops, would be followed up by EPD staff. Inspections on the reported pollution sources will be conducted on need basis. To assist the motor vehicle repair operators to comply with the pollution control laws, the EPD has set up partnership programmes with the motor vehicle repair trade since the year 2000 to promote good environmental practice through organization of environmental awareness activities and dissemination of guidance and publicity materials.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 20 March 2013

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

ENB261

Question Serial No.

2223

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (6) Nature Conservation

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: With regard to overseeing the implementation of the measures to protect country park enclaves, would the Administration inform this Committee of the following:

- 1) What are the details of the measures implemented by the Administration in the past year (2012-13) to oversee better protecting country park enclaves? What are the expenditure and manpower involved?
- 2) What are the latest situation, budget and staffing establishment of the work involved in 12 priority sites of ecological value identified for enhanced conservation?
- 3) Apart from the above 12 sites of ecological value, will the Administration include more areas of ecological value for enhanced conservation? If yes, what are the specific work plans? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

- (1) In 2012-13, three sites, namely Tai Long Sai Wan, Yuen Tun and Kam Shan, were assessed and considered suitable for inclusion in Country Parks. We initiated relevant statutory process under the Country Parks Ordinance in 2012-13 and the process is still going on.

In 2012-13, the expenditure and manpower involved within the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) for the incorporation of enclaves into Country Parks as well as the strengthening of patrol and enforcement relating to the country park enclaves were \$4.26 million and 12 staff.

- (2) Under the New Nature Conservation Policy (NNCP) promulgated in 2004, we have identified 12 priority sites (Priority Sites) of high ecological importance for enhanced conservation. The Fung Yuen Priority Site, Long Valley and Ho Sheung Heung Priority Site, Ramsar Site Priority Site and Deep Bay Wetland outside Ramsar Site Priority Site have been managed under the Management Agreement (MA) Scheme funded under the Environment and Conservation Fund. We are processing application of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) project for Sha Lo Tung. As regards the PPP proposal for Fung Lok Wai, which covers areas located within the Ramsar Site Priority Site and Deep Bay Wetland outside Ramsar Site Priority Site, at present, the project proponent is pursuing the town planning and land matters for the development. In 2012, for the implementation of the MA projects and the proposed PPP pilot projects, the resources incurred by the AFCD were absorbed under Programme (2) ("Nature Conservation and

Country Parks Programme”) under Head 22 – AFCD.

The EPD oversaw AFCD’s works on (1) and (2) and relevant resources were absorbed under Programme (6) (“Nature Conservation”) under Head 44 – EPD.

- (3) The 12 Priority Sites were identified using a scoring system drawn up by an expert group which comprised key academics with expertise in ecology, major green groups and other professionals. The criteria used in the scoring system include naturalness, habitat diversity, non-recreatability, species diversity and richness and species rarity/endemism. We do not have plan to include more areas as Priority Sites under the NNCP. Nonetheless, to further enhance the conservation of Country Parks, the MA Scheme has been extended to cover the private land within Country Park enclaves and those inside Country Parks. In parallel, we would continue to review the suitability of other Country Park enclaves that have yet to be covered by statutory plans for inclusion in the Country Parks.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB262

Question Serial No.

2235

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will continue to encourage ocean-going vessels to use low-sulphur fuel through the Port Facilities and Light Dues Incentive Scheme and will consult the maritime sector on mandating ocean-going vessels to switch fuel at berth in Hong Kong. Please inform this Committee of the following:

1. How many ocean-going vessels have enrolled in the Scheme per month to apply for the incentive since the inception of the Scheme? What is their percentage in the number of ocean-going vessels visiting Hong Kong in the same period? How many tonnes of fuel are involved? What are the impacts on air quality?
2. Has the Government assessed the average cost increase incurred to vessels which switch to low-sulphur fuel? How will the Government assess the effectiveness of the Incentive Scheme? Will other incentives for emission reduction be offered before a decision is made by the Legislative Council?
3. When will the Government start to consult the sector on fuel switch while berthing in Hong Kong? When is the consultation expected to be completed? When will legislative procedures be launched to introduce control?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

- (1) The 3-year Port Facilities and Light Dues Incentive Scheme aims to encourage the use of low sulphur fuel while berthing by ocean going vessels (OGV). The scheme was launched on 26 September 2012. As at 28 February 2013, a total of 1 208 OGV calls, representing a participating rate of about 12%, was granted the incentives. It is estimated that the fuel switch reduced the use of about 6 000 tonnes of heavy fuel which has led to a reduction of about 90% of the sulphur dioxide that would otherwise be emitted during the berthing from each of the participating OGVs.
- (2) According to some ocean-going vessel operators, the subsidies under the incentive scheme cover about 35-50% of the extra fuel cost arising from the fuel switch. We will continue to encourage ocean-going vessel operators to participate in the incentive scheme. To help achieve greater environmental benefits, we are pursuing a proposal to mandate the switch to low sulphur fuel for ocean-going vessels berthed in Hong Kong waters. We are now consulting the trades on this initiative. In parallel, we are exploring with the Guangdong authorities to require fuel switch at berth in the Pearl River Delta ports.

(3) We are consulting the relevant trades about the fuel switch proposal with a view to submitting our legislative proposal to Legislative Council in the next legislative session.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB263

Question Serial No.

2236

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Chief Executive has announced in the Policy Address 2013 that the Government plans to seek funding approval from Legislative Council for the installation of on-shore power supply (OPS) facilities at Kai Tak Cruise Terminal to reduce air pollution. Has Environmental Protection Department assessed the health impact on the nearby residents before the installation of OPS facilities? Given that the Budget 2013-14 has given no account of this plan, when does the Government expect to seek funding approval from Legislative Council and to install the facilities? Before completing OPS installation, what control measures have been implemented by the Government to reduce the impact of cruise emission on the nearby residents?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

Onshore power supply (OPS) is a new emission control technology for vessels. In July 2012, the International Electrotechnical Commission released the main part of a harmonised international standard for OPS. It is now working on the part related to the standard on communication protocol for communication link between the berthing ships and onshore power supply. The Government is examining the technical details of OPS with a view to installing the facilities at Kai Tak Cruise Terminal for use by cruise vessels with such facilities.

To help reduce vessel emissions, we launched in September 2012 a 3-year incentive scheme under which ocean-going vessels that switch to low sulphur fuel while berthing in Hong Kong waters will enjoy 50% reduction in port facilities and light dues. The incentive scheme is applicable to cruise vessels. We will encourage cruise operators to take part in the incentive scheme.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB264

Question Serial No.

2238

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the establishment of low emission zones in Causeway Bay, Central and Mong Kok, please inform this Committee of the following:

- Over the past three years (2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13), has any research been done on the impacts of various types of vehicles (e.g. franchised buses and diesel commercial vehicles) on the air pollution (including various types of pollution sources) in these districts? If yes, please provide the relevant data;
- Apart from requesting franchised bus companies to use cleaner buses running in these districts, are there any plans to impose restrictions on other vehicles? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

- The Government plans to set up pilot low emission zones for franchised buses (LEZ) at the busy corridors in Causeway Bay, Central and Mong Kok. We estimated that the respective contribution of various vehicle types to the emissions of respirable suspended particulates (RSP) and nitrogen oxides (NOx) by vehicles in the pilot LEZs in 2010 are as below –

	Contribution to the Vehicular Emissions in the pilot LEZs in 2010 (%)					
	Causeway Bay		Central		Mong Kok	
	RSP	NOx	RSP	NOx	RSP	NOx
Franchised Buses	60	85	45	70	35	70
Diesel Commercial Vehicles	40	5	55	10	60	10
Diesel Non-Commercial Vehicles	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5
Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) Vehicles	<5	10	<5	20	<5	20
Petrol Vehicles	<5	<5	5	<5	5	<5

Remarks: Totals might not add up to 100% due to rounding up of figures.

2. As shown above, franchised buses are a major emissions source in the pilot LEZs. Requiring franchised buses companies to deploy low emission buses to operate in the pilot LEZs can improve significantly the roadside air quality. As for other diesel commercial vehicles, we are consulting the transport trades and the relevant stakeholders about a proposal which comprises an incentive-cum-regulatory approach with a subsidy of \$10 billion to phase out pre-Euro IV vehicles by specified dates. These vehicles account for about 90% of the RSP and 63% of the NO_x emissions from all diesel vehicles. This proposal can substantially benefit the roadside air quality all over Hong Kong and not just the LEZs.

LPG vehicles with worn-out catalytic converters are also a major emission source. In this regard, we are making preparation to subsidise petrol/LPG taxi and light bus owners to replace once the catalytic converters and ancillary parts. After the completion of the replacement exercise, we will strengthen the emission control of LPG and petrol vehicles by deploying roadside remote sensing devices and dynamometers for emission testing.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB265

Question Serial No.

2239

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the emissions of franchised buses, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) Please provide the number of in-service buses owned by each franchised bus company, with a breakdown by bus type:

Franchised bus company	Euro II or older models	Euro III	Euro IV	Euro V	Euro II or III retrofitted with catalysts

- (2) The franchised bus companies have been deploying more low emission buses (i.e. those meeting Euro IV or above emission standards) to routes serving the three pilot low emission zones (LEZs) in Causeway Bay, Central and Mong Kok. What are the percentages of such buses in the pilot LEZs in 2012-13 and 2013-14?

- (3) What are the progresses of the trials of hybrid buses and electric buses, as well as the provision involved? And what are the action plans for 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

- (1) The numbers of buses owned by each of the five franchised bus companies as at 31 December 2012, classified by emission standards, are shown in the following table.

Franchised bus companies	Euro II or older models	Euro III	Euro IV	Euro V	Euro II or III retrofitted with selective catalytic reduction (SCR) devices on trial
KMB	2 186	1 097	106	429	3
CTB	673	10	28	237	2
NWFB	534	75	38	57	1
LW	84	17	32	32	0
NLB	6	67	17	18	0

The six buses retrofitted with SCRs are under a trial programme jointly conducted by the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) and the relevant franchised bus companies.

- (2) As at end of 2012, around 26% of buses deployed to routes serving the three pilot low emission zones in Causeway Bay, Central and Mong Kok are low-emission buses (i.e. those meeting Euro IV or above emission standards). According to the projections of the relevant franchised bus companies, the proportion will be increased to about 48% by the end of 2013.
- (3) The franchised bus companies have already placed orders for the procurement of six hybrid buses and are making preparations to procure 36 electric buses for testing out their performance in local conditions. Both trials are expected to commence in 2014 and will last for two years, with a mid-term review to be conducted about one year after commencement of trial. The approved funding for the procurement of the six hybrid buses and 36 electric buses are \$33 million and \$180 million respectively.

Name in blockletters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB266

Question Serial No.

2240

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: With regard to the waste disposal offences and the relevant legislative matters under this Programme, please inform this Committee of :

- 1) The details of the 12 marine dumping prosecutions and convictions. Has the Administration studied why the number of the relevant indicators has increased significantly? If yes, what are the reasons?
- 2) The details of prosecution and conviction of the 47 illegal waste deposit cases. Please also list out the locations where these 47 offences took place, broken down by 18 District Council districts.
- 3) The progress of the amendment of the Waste Disposal Ordinance and the timeframe for submission to the Legislative Council for scrutiny.

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

- 1) The 12 prosecutions under the Dumping at Sea Ordinance (DASO) arose from a single case in which four parties were found to be involved in three incidents of loading rock materials into barges for dumping at sea without a permit. The four parties were convicted on all 12 offence counts. This particular case involving multiple parties and incidents led to a higher number of prosecutions reported in 2012. There is no indication that there is an increase in non-compliance.
- 2) Details of the 47 illegal waste deposit cases are tabulated as follows:

District	Number of prosecutions	Number of convictions	Location
Central & Western	1	1	Bowen Road
Eastern	0	0	NA
Islands	1	0	Sheung Ling Pei, Lantau
Kowloon City	0	0	NA
Kwai Tsing	3	2	Tai Loong Street, Kwai Chung

District	Number of prosecutions	Number of convictions	Location
			Tsing Luk Street, Tsing Yi Yip Shing Street, Kwai Chung
Kwun Tong	0	0	NA
North	4	4	Hung Kiu San Tsuen, Sheung Shui Lei Uk Nai Road, Ta Kwu Ling Luk Keng Road, Sha Tau Kok (2)
Sai Kung	14	14	Chun Cheong Street, Tseung Kwan O (2) Luk Mei Tsuen Road, Sai Kung. Pik Sha Road, Sai Kung (2) Po Lo Che Road, Sai Kung (2) Shek Kok Road, Tseung Kwan O (3) Wan Po Road, Tseung Kwan O (4)
Sha Tin	1	1	Sha Mei Street, Fo Tan
Sham Shui Po	0	0	NA
Southern	0	0	NA
Tai Po	0	0	NA
Tsuen Wan	0	0	NA
Tuen Mun	21	21	Siu Lang Shui Road (20) Tsang Tsui Road
Wan Chai	0	0	NA
Wong Tai Sin	0	0	NA
Yau Tsim Mong	1	1	Bedford Road, Mong Kok
Yuen Long	1	1	San Sang San Tsuen
Total	47	45	

- 3) Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is finalizing the legislative proposal with a view to introducing the Amendment Bill into the Legislative Council within 2012-13 legislative session.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 20 March 2013

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

ENB267

Question Serial No.

3273

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: It is mentioned in the Brief Description under this Programme that the Environmental Protection Department will “implement a multi-pronged approach of waste reduction, recycling, timely development of waste treatment facilities, and introduction of modern waste treatment technology”. In this connection, please advise this Committee:

- (a) Do the so-called waste treatment facilities include incinerators or other facilities? Please list out the types of facilities that the Government plans to develop. When does the Government expect to brief the Legislative Council on these plans? And what are the estimated manpower and expenditure involved?
- (b) Why does the estimated number of “illegal deposit of waste offences” show a rebound compared with 2009 and 2011? What were the numbers of complaints, prosecutions and convicted offenders regarding illegal deposit of waste in each of the past five years?
- (c) Does the Government identify any black spots regarding complaints on waste offences? If yes, what are the details? If no, is there any location against which more than one complaint was received in the past five years? If yes, please list the location(s), the types of waste deposited and the relevant figures of complaints/prosecutions?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

- (a) The details of the waste treatment facilities under planning are as follows:
 - (i) Organic Waste Treatment Facilities (OWTF) Phase 1
Tender for the design, build and operation of this facility was invited on 8 February 2013. We plan to complete the tendering work and seek funding approval from the Public Works Subcommittee and Finance Committee of Legislative Council in the fourth quarter of 2013. Subject to funding approval, we plan to commission the facility in 2016. The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for the study of the OWTF Phase 1 is \$1.3 million.
 - (ii) Organic Waste Treatment Facilities Phase 2
The engineering investigation and environmental impact assessment (EIA) studies for this facility commenced in December 2011. We plan to complete the EIA study in 2013 with a view to commissioning the facility in 2017. The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for the study of the

OWTF Phase 2 is \$2.1 million.

(iii) Integrated Waste Management Facilities (IWMF) Phase 1

We are awaiting the outcome of the judicial review against the IWMF Phase 1 project. The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for relevant preparatory work is \$0.9 million.

(iv) Landfill Extension Projects

We plan to seek funding approval from the Legislative Council Finance Committee later this year with a view to commissioning the landfill extensions before they are exhausted. The estimated expenditure involved in the preparatory work for the landfill extension projects in 2013-14 is \$6.4 million. The estimated capital costs for the SENT Landfill Extension, NENT Landfill Extension and WENT Landfill Extension, are \$1,320 million, \$4,180 million and \$9,960 million at September 2012 price level respectively. The manpower required for developing and implementing the three landfill extension projects will be met through internal deployment of existing staff resources.

(v) Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) treatment facility

The Government plans to develop a WEEE treatment facility. According to our planning, the facility will have a designed capacity of 30 000 tonnes per annum in support of the future mandatory producer responsibility scheme (PRS) which will cover television sets, washing machines, refrigerators, air conditioners and computer products.

We consulted the Panel on Environmental Affairs on the PRS during the public consultation in January 2010 and briefed the Panel on the proposed way forward, including the Government's plan in respect of the WEEE treatment facility in November 2011. Currently, the prequalification exercise for the potential tenderers of this facility is in progress. We plan to invite tender by mid 2013 and seek funding approval from the Finance Committee as soon as practicable afterwards. We are also preparing the legislative proposals for the mandatory PRS with a view to introducing into the Legislative Council in the 2013-14 legislative session. Subject to funding approval, we plan to commission the facility in 2016. The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 for the planning of the WEEE treatment facility is \$2.9 million.

(b) The required statistics concerning illegal deposit of waste are set out below:

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
No. of public complaints	3 167	3 499	3 079	2 887	2 707
No. of prosecutions	28	39	55	36	47
No. of convictions	28	36	51	35	45

The estimated number of prosecutions for 2013 has adopted the actual figure in 2012.

(c) Based on the public complaints and our enforcement data, the Government has compiled a list of black spots on illegal deposit of construction and demolition waste including concrete, rubble, demolition materials on government land. In 2012, the list contained 27 black spots as shown in the Annex and 22 prosecutions on illegal deposit of waste at these locations were made.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

List of Black Spots on
Illegal Deposit of Construction and Demolition Waste on Government Land

District	Location
Islands	Area behind Silvermine Beach Hotel, Mui Wo
Kowloon City	Wan On Street (roundabout)
Kwai Tsing	Hing Wah Street West and Lai Po Road (adjacent) near roundabout (No.7A)
Kwai Tsing	Tam Kon Shan Road, pavement besides Public Toilet, Tsing Yi
North	Kiu Tau Road, Wo Hop Shek, Fanling
North	Near Refuse Collection Point at Chau Tau
North	Public carpark, Choi Fat Street, Sheung Shui
Sham Shui Po	Apliu Street
Sham Shui Po	Hing Wah Street West near roundabout 7A (L/P AA8194)
Sham Shui Po	Junction between Shek Kip Mei Street and Ki Lung Street (near CLP Substation)
Sham Shui Po	Lai Chi Kok Road (adjacent to L/P E8171)
Sham Shui Po	Near Refuse Collection Point at Wing Hong Street
Shatin	Access Road to Whitehead from Lok Wo Sha between L/P EA8618 & CE2229
Shatin	Shan Mei Street Children's Playground Car Park
Shatin	Tai Po Road, Shatin to Kowloon Section
Shatin	Portion of Carpark and near refuse collection point at Tai Shui Hang Village
Tai Po	On Pong Road
Tai Po	Pak Shing Street (Car Parking)
Tai Po	Tai Po Tau
Tsuen Wan	Near Refuse Collection Point at Lo Wai
Tuen Mun	San On Street
Tuen Mun	Siu Lang Shui Road
Tuen Mun	Tsang Tsui Road
Yuen Long	Access Road at Western Side of Fung Kong Tsuen
Yuen Long	Government land near DD111, Ha Che, Pat Heung
Yuen Long	Kam Tai Road (near Tai Kong Po)
Yuen Long	Shui Mei Tsuen

Total number of locations = 27

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

ENB268

Question Serial No.

4594

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14, it is mentioned that Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will “develop a waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) treatment facility to handle the WEEE locally generated”. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

1. How many tonnes of WEEE were exported to other countries in each of the past five years (2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13)? What were their percentages in the total annual quantities of WEEE?
2. Has EPD compiled statistics on the locations where the WEEE generated locally were stored before being exported from Hong Kong and the average storage period? Has it assessed the impacts on the environment?
3. Does the Government know the number of WEEE recycling organisations in Hong Kong at present? If yes, what are the details? Please list the types of recycled items and the amount of WEEE treated each year.
4. How does the Government ensure that the planned development of the WEEE treatment facility can meet the actual operational needs of the trade? When will funding approval be sought? And when is the facility expected to be commissioned?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

1. The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) have collected data of the quantities of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) generated and disposed of in Hong Kong through consultancy studies and landfill surveys, and have accordingly estimated that 80% to 90% of WEEE is recycled. Such WEEE is mostly sold through second-hand dealers and recyclers, usually to developing countries, for re-use and recovery of valuable materials. The relevant figures between 2007 and 2011 are set out in the table below:

Year	Generation (Thousand tonnes)	Disposed (Thousand tonnes)	Recycled (Thousand tonnes)
2007	70.1	11.1	59.0
2008	71.4	12.6	58.8

Year	Generation (Thousand tonnes)	Disposed (Thousand tonnes)	Recycled (Thousand tonnes)
2009	72.0	7.7	64.3
2010	74.0	13.1	60.9
2011	75.4	8.7	66.7

Data for 2012 is not yet available.

2. Though we do not have the statistics on the WEEE storage sites and the average storage time involved before exporting, we estimate that there are about 100 Open Storage Areas (OSAs) used for temporary storage of WEEE. The OSAs are mainly located in the remote areas in Yuen Long and the North District, and their actual number and mode of operation may change from time to time. Like other business establishments, they have to comply with prevailing environmental legislation where applicable.
3. There are two main WEEE recycling organizations in Hong Kong, namely St James' Settlement and Caritas Hong Kong, and they are running two recycling programmes for WEEE and computer products respectively. In general, items collected will be repaired for reuse as far as practicable, or dismantled for materials recovery. The total number of WEEE and computer items collected is 113 600 units in 2012.
4. We have reserved an area of three hectares in EcoPark for the development of the WEEE treatment facility. The facility will have a designed capacity of 30 000 tonnes per annum in support of the future mandatory Producer Responsibility Scheme which will cover television sets, washing machines, refrigerators, air conditioners and computer products. It will be a "Design, Build and Operate" project so that the WEEE management contractor, to be appointed by open tender, will be responsible for the design, construction and operation of the facility and will ensure that the facility will be able to meet the operational requirements of the scheme. Currently, the prequalification exercise for the potential tenderers of this treatment facility is in progress. We plan to invite tender by mid-2013 and seek funding approval from the Finance Committee as soon as practicable afterwards. Subject to funding approval, we plan to commission the facility in 2016.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB269

Question Serial No.

4607

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: With regard to the second-stage public engagement on the implementation details of municipal solid waste (MSW) charging, when does the Administration expect to launch the public consultation? When is the consultation expected to be completed? When is the legislative work expected to be commenced upon completion of the consultation? As the legislative process takes time, what measures will the Government adopt prior to the enactment of the legislation to encourage reduction of MSW? Please list out the measures already implemented and planned to be implemented.

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

The Administration has engaged the Council for Sustainable Development (SDC) to proceed with a second-stage public engagement on municipal solid waste (MSW) charging in 2013. The Government will consider the way forward upon receipt of SDC's recommendations and prepare legislative proposals as appropriate.

The Administration adopts a "reduction first" strategy and implements a multi-pronged approach of waste reduction, recycling, timely development of waste treatment facilities, and introduction of modern waste treatment technology. We will continue to enhance the efforts on promoting waste reduction and recovery. We will also expedite the implementation of producer responsibility schemes (PRS). New proposals being developed include (i) the extension of the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags for which the legislative proposals will be introduced into the Legislative Council (LegCo) within the 2012-13 legislative session, (ii) the mandatory PRS on waste electrical and electronic equipment for which the legislative proposals are under preparation for introduction into the LegCo as soon as possible; and (iii) the mandatory PRS on glass beverage bottles which is under public consultation.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB270

Question Serial No.

4611

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Noise

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14 that the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will continue to tackle noise impact of existing roads through the retrofitting programme. What measures did the EPD and government departments take to mitigate the traffic noise problem in the past three years? What plans does the Government have for the next three years (2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16)? Please list the details of the plans (such as when and on which road sections will noise barriers be retrofitted or resurfacing with low noise material be carried out).

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

We tackle noise impact of existing roads through the noise barrier retrofitting programme and the low noise road surface trial programme. In the past 3 years (i.e. 2010-11 to 2012-13), we have completed 2 noise barrier retrofitting works at Tsing Tsuen Bridge (Tsuen Wan and Tsing Yi) and Fanling Highway (Po Shek Wu Road to MTR Fanling Station). Low noise road surfacing material has also been applied to the following 14 road sections:

1. Java Road (from Tong Shui Road to Tin Chiu Street)
2. Kornhill Road (from King's Road (East Junction) to King's Road (West Junction))
3. Fung Tak Road (from Lung Poon Street to Sheung Yuen Street)
4. Lai Chi Kok Road (west bound only) (from Tai Nam West street to Cheung Mau Street)
5. Chuk Yuen Road (from Ma Chai Hang Playground to Nga Chuk Street)
6. Yeung Uk Road (from Tai Ho Road to Chung On Street)
7. Ngan O Road (from Pui Shing Road to Chiu Shun Road)
8. Sha Tin Wai Road (from Ngan Shing Street to Ngau Pei Sha Street)
9. Pak Wo Road (from So Kwun Po Road to Pak Wo Road Roundabout)
10. Lei Yue Mun Road (from Ko Chiu Road (North Junction) to Ko Chiu Road (South Junction))
11. Pak Wo Road (from Choi Yuen Road to Po Wing Road)
12. Tung Tau Tsuen Road (from Shatin Pass Road to Tai Shing Street)
13. Long Yuet Street (from San Ma Tau Street to Kwei Chow Street)
14. Siu Lek Yuen Road (from Chap Wai Kon Road to Tai Chung Kiu Road)

In the next 3 years (2013-14 to 2015-16), noise barrier retrofitting works will continue at 8 locations for anticipated completion by 2014. We plan to commence retrofitting noise barriers on Tuen Mun Road Town Centre Section for anticipated completion in 2017. We are also planning to resurface additional 10 road sections with low noise road surfacing material. The concerned retrofitting works and resurfacing works are listed below:

Retrofitting works

1. Tuen Mun Road (Tsuen Wan)
2. Tuen Mun Road (Yau Kom Tau)
3. Tuen Mun Road (Castle Peak Bay)
4. Tuen Mun Road (Anglers' Beach)
5. Tuen Mun Road (Sham Tseng)
6. Tuen Mun Road (Tsing Lung Tau)
7. Fanling Highway (MTR Fanling Station to Wo Hing Road)
8. Tai Po Tai Wo Road (near Po Nga Court)
9. Tuen Mun Road Town Centre Section

Resurfacing works

1. Aberdeen Main Road (from Aberdeen Praya Road to Aberdeen Reservoir)
2. Sai Chuen Road (from Fu Sing House to Fu Wan House)
3. Sha Tin Wai Road (from Sha Tin Road to Ngan Shing Street)
4. Sung On Street (from Bailey Street to Chi Kiang Street)
5. Wan Hoi Street (from Dyer Avenue to Tak On Street)
6. Ngan Shing Street (from Siu Lek Yuen Road to Tak Wing Street)
7. Tin Sam Street (from Che Kung Miu Road to Hung Mui Kuk Road)
8. Wong Tai Sin Road (from Nga Chuk Street to Ma Chai Hang Road)
9. Sau Mau Ping Road (from Sau Hong House to Sau Lok House)
10. Queen's Road West (from Dex Voeux Road West to Hill Road)

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB271

Question Serial No.

2091

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Environmental Protection Department will encourage the wider use of cleaner vehicles, fuels and technologies that can help reduce air pollution. In this connection, please advise this Committee on the progress of the relevant work and the plan for such work in 2013-14. What are the measures to further promote the use of electric vehicles? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. YICK Chi-ming, Frankie

Reply:

To improve air quality, the Government has been encouraging the wider use of cleaner vehicles, fuels and technologies by the following means –

- (a) offering tax concessions to vehicle owners who purchase environment-friendly vehicles in order to encourage the wider use of these vehicles. As at end February 2013, about 50 700 applications for environment-friendly petrol private cars were approved, which represent 22% of all newly registered private cars since the launch of the scheme in April 2007. For environment-friendly commercial vehicles, about 15 000 applications were approved, representing 46% of all newly registered commercial vehicles since the launch of the scheme in April 2008. As a standing arrangement, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) reviews the qualifying standards of environment-friendly vehicles annually in the light of technological advancement such that the tax incentive is available only to vehicles of outstanding environmental performance. EPD has recently completed the review and will tighten the qualifying standards with effect from 1 April 2013;
- (b) offering tax incentives to promote the wider use of electric vehicles (EVs). In this connection, we have already extended the waiver of First Registration Tax for EVs for a period of five years till end March 2014. We have also accelerated the tax deduction for capital expenditure on EVs such that enterprises can enjoy a 100% profits tax deduction in the first year of procurement. The Government has also been taking the lead in procuring and using more EVs. In terms of infrastructural development, there are now some 1 000 standard EV chargers, covering all 18 districts, and some 10 quick chargers, in Hong Kong. So far, there are already some 18 models of EVs available in Hong Kong. They are of various vehicle types ranging from private cars and motorcycles to goods vehicles and buses. We have more than 430 EVs on our road, up from 74 in end 2010 and 242 in end 2011. In the coming year, we will continue to liaise closely with EV dealers to encourage them to introduce their EVs into the Hong Kong market, and launch publicity activities to promote the wider adoption of EVs. We will also closely monitor the growth in the number of EVs and consider the need to further

expand the charging network in a timely manner. About \$8.4 million has been reserved in 2013-14 for promoting the use of EVs through various channels, including the provision for the dedicated support team in Electrical and Mechanical Services Department and other publicity efforts;

- (c) setting up a \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund (the Fund) in March 2011 to encourage the transport trades to test out green and low-carbon transport technologies, including EVs. As of 11 March 2013, 44 fund recipients have put or are making preparations for putting on trial a total of 79 vehicles (including 14 electric taxis, 11 electric coaches, 18 electric goods vehicles, 24 hybrid goods vehicles and 12 hybrid light buses). About \$76 million or 25% of the Fund has been committed for these trials. The Fund will continue to receive applications for trial of these green transport technologies in 2013-14; and
- (d) subsidizing fully the franchised bus companies to purchase six hybrid buses and 36 electric buses for trial runs to assess their operational efficiency and performance under the local conditions with the ultimate policy objective to have zero emission buses running across the territory. The approved funding for the procurement of six double-deck hybrid buses and 36 single-deck electric buses are \$33 million and \$180 million respectively. The franchised bus companies have already placed orders for the procurement of six hybrid buses and are making preparations to procure 36 electric buses for trial. Both trials are expected to commence in 2014 and will last for two years, with a mid-term review to be conducted about one year after commencement of trial.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB272

Question Serial No.

2092

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In 2013-14, the Environmental Protection Department will expedite early replacement of old diesel commercial vehicles through incentive and regulatory means. Would the Administration inform this Committee of the details of the relevant work and the amount of resources involved? Also, please advise on the latest progress of the scheme for subsidizing the replacement of Euro II diesel commercial vehicles. Upon completion of this scheme in June 2013, will it be followed immediately by the scheme to grant \$10 billion as subsidies for the replacement of pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles as proposed by the Chief Executive in his Policy Address earlier this year? What are the progress and implementation timetable of the scheme so far?

Asked by: Hon. YICK Chi-ming, Frankie

Reply:

To improve roadside air quality and protect public health, the Administration has set aside \$10 billion to phase out some 86 000 pre-Euro IV (i.e. pre-Euro, Euro I, Euro II and Euro III) diesel commercial vehicles (including goods vehicles, light buses and non-franchised buses) through an incentive-cum-regulatory proposal. Specifically, the Government proposes to:

- (a) offer an ex-gratia payment up to 30% of the taxable values of new vehicles to vehicle owners for phasing out their pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles. Ex-gratia payment will also be provided to vehicle owners who scrap their pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles without replacement by new vehicles. The payment level will be correlated inversely with the age of the vehicle to be scrapped;
- (b) stop the renewal of licences for pre-Euro IV diesel commercial vehicles in phases, with the banning of the most polluting pre-Euro and Euro I vehicles on 1 January 2016, and Euro II on 1 January 2017 and Euro III on 1 January 2019 respectively; and
- (c) set a statutory retirement age of 15 years for newly registered diesel commercial vehicles to provide a long term solution to the pollution problem caused by aged diesel commercial vehicles.

We are consulting the relevant transport trades and other stakeholders about the proposal. We would report to the Panel on Environmental Affairs of the Legislative Council on the consultation feedback and the recommended way forward. Subject to the approval of the legislative proposals and funding application, we aim to launch the programme in early 2014.

As at end February 2013, the participation rate of the voluntary replacement scheme for Euro II vehicles was about 18%, or 5 000 vehicles. The scheme will end on 30 June 2013.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB273

Question Serial No.

2093

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In 2013-14, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) will subsidise owners of petrol and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) taxis and light buses on a one-off basis to replace the catalytic converters in their vehicles, and upon the completion of the replacement exercise, work with the Transport Department to strengthen the control of emissions from petrol and LPG vehicles, with the use of roadside remote sensing equipment and dynamometers for emission testing. Please inform this Committee of the latest progress and the latest implementation timetable of the scheme. Has a consensus on the relevant arrangement been achieved with the industry so as to facilitate the smooth implementation of the replacement of converters? What are the details of the replacement arrangement?

Asked by: Hon. YICK Chi-ming, Frankie

Reply:

We are now vetting the tenders for the supply of catalytic converters and ancillary parts, and the replacement services for LPG taxis and light buses. If the tender assessment is smooth, we aim to award the contracts by mid 2013 at the earliest for commencing the replacement exercise in the following quarter. The replacement of converters will take about nine months to complete. After the completion of the replacement exercise, we will deploy remote sensing equipment on roads as part of the strengthened regulatory control on emissions of LPG or petrol vehicles.

We have taken into account the views of taxi and light bus trades on the replacement services before launching the tendering exercise. We plan to have a good distribution of replacement service contractors in different regions of Hong Kong (i.e. Hong Kong Island, Kowloon, New Territories East and New Territories West) to make the replacement source more convenient for eligible vehicle owners. To facilitate garages that are servicing taxis and light buses to participate in the replacement exercise, we have prepared the relevant tender documents in both English and Chinese and briefed them about the tender exercise. We will provide more details to taxi and light bus trades on the detail arrangements for the replacement programme (such as locations of the replacement garages, appointment procedures, etc.) after the award of the contracts.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB274

Question Serial No.

2094

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Since the \$0.3-billion Pilot Green Transport Fund was open for application on 30 March 2011, the balance as of now has stood at \$287,845,000, with only 4% of the fund granted. Please inform this Committee of the latest position of the applications for the Fund. Does the Administration have any measures to further encourage the transport trade to make use of the Pilot Green Transport Fund to try out innovative green transport technologies?

Asked by: Hon. YICK Chi-ming, Frankie

Reply:

The Pilot Green Transport Fund (the Fund) was launched in March 2011. As of 11 March 2013, 44 applicants were approved and the fund recipients have launched or are making preparations for the launch of trial of a total of 79 vehicles (including 14 electric taxis, 11 electric coaches, 18 electric goods vehicles, 24 hybrid goods vehicles and 12 hybrid light buses). About \$76 million or 25% of the Fund have been committed for these trials. Under the Fund disbursing arrangements, the subsidies will be released in stages to the recipients having regard to the progress of the trials.

Since the launch of the Fund, we have been encouraging the transport trades and transport product suppliers to make use of the Fund to conduct trial on green innovative transport technologies. We will continue to step up the publicity and promotion activities by reaching out more potential applicants.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 21 March 2013

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

ENB275

Question Serial No.

2095

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In 2013-14, the Environmental Protection Department will introduce a regulation to control the emissions of non-road mobile sources. Please inform this Committee of the details, timetable and estimated expenditure of the work.

Asked by: Hon. YICK Chi-ming, Frankie

Reply:

Non-road mobile machinery (NRMM) includes a wide range of mobile or transportable machinery powered by internal combustion engines and used primarily off the road, such as at the airport, container terminals and construction sites. To reduce the air pollutant emissions from NRMM, we proposed all new NRMM to be supplied for local use to meet emission limits on par with international standards. The proposal has been presented to the Panel on Environmental Affairs in 2012 and received support of the Panel. We are working on the legislative proposals and aim to submit the draft legislation to the Legislative Council later this year.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB276

Question Serial No.

2096

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In order to encourage ocean-going vessels to use low-sulphur fuel when berthing in Hong Kong waters, a Port Facilities and Light Dues Incentive Scheme for ocean-going vessels which switched to low-sulphur fuel was implemented last year. Please advise how many ocean-going vessels have been granted incentive since the implementation of the Scheme. What is the amount of money forgone because of the incentive? What is the average amount of incentive for each vessel, and what is its percentage in the costs incurred to each vessel in switching to low-sulphur fuel? Will consideration be given to increasing the incentive in 2013-14? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons? Regarding the efforts to explore with the governments of the Pearl River Delta (PRD) Region on the feasibility of mandating fuel switch for ocean-going vessels berthing in PRD waters, please advise on the relevant work plans.

Asked by: Hon. YICK Chi-ming, Frankie

Reply:

We launched the 3-year Port Facilities and Light Dues Incentive Scheme on 26 September 2012. As at 28 Feb 2013, a total of 1 208 ocean going vessel calls were granted port dues reduction. The revenue forgone is about \$6,526,000, averaging about \$5,400 per vessel call. According to the estimates of ocean-going vessel operators, the incentive scheme could cover about 35-50% of the extra fuel cost incurred by the fuel switch.

While we do not have any plan to increase the subsidy under the incentive scheme, we are consulting the relevant trades on mandating the use of low sulphur fuel for ocean-going vessels while at berth in Hong Kong waters. For achieving greater environmental benefits, we are also exploring with the Mainland authorities on making the fuel switch mandatory for ocean-going vessels berthed in the Pearl River Delta ports.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB277

Question Serial No.

2097

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Air

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In 2013-14, the Environmental Protection Department will continue to study, in collaboration with the relevant trades, ways to improve the quality of vessel fuels sold locally to reduce vessel emissions. In this connection, please advise on the details of the action plan and the estimated expenditure involved.

Asked by: Hon. YICK Chi-ming, Frankie

Reply:

In collaboration with the local marine trade, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD), together with Marine Department and Transport Department, completed in March 2013 a study on the technical feasibility of tightening the cap on the sulphur content of local marine diesel from 0.5% to 0.05%. The outcome of the study is positive. We will brief the Panel of Environmental Affairs of the Legislative Council at its meeting on 25 March 2013 about the details of the study findings and the way forward. We plan to introduce the tightened sulphur cap in 2014. The associated expenditure in 2013-14 will be absorbed by the provision for the Air Programme of the EPD.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB278

Question Serial No.

2165

Head: 44 Environmental Protection Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Waste

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In view of the fact that the three existing landfills will be full within seven years, the Policy Address has advocated waste reduction and recycling. Currently, landfill gas is recovered from Shuen Wan Landfill and North East New Territories Landfill as fuel for town gas production. This not only prevents waste of useful resources, but also reduces greenhouse gas emissions. However, this is only a voluntary measure. Will the Government allocate resources to promote energy-from-waste in landfills by providing incentives or setting objectives for businesses?

Asked by: Hon. YIU Si-wing

Reply:

The Government encourages landfill contractors to put landfill gas into beneficial uses. Under the contractual requirements of existing landfill contracts, landfill contractors are obliged to recover and treat the landfill gas (LFG) collected on site to reduce the impact of LFG on the environment. All along, landfill contractors have been utilizing LFG for electricity and heat generation to support the daily operation of the landfill sites without having to use external power supplies. To promote further recovery and utilization of LFG as much as possible, as an incentive to the landfill contractors under the contracts, they are also allowed to sell recovered LFG for other off-site beneficial uses, subject to prior consent by and royalty payment to the Government.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 22 March 2013

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

ENB279

Question Serial No.

4643

Head: 48- Government Laboratory

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Advisory and Investigative Services

Controlling Officer: Government Chemist

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

The air pollution monitoring samples on which tests were performed averaged 70 000 in the past two years (2011-12 and 2012-13). Where and which area did these samples mainly come from? Which area took the largest share of the samples?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK, Dennis

Reply:

The air pollution monitoring samples were submitted by the Environmental Protection Department. These consisted mainly of high volume filters, air canisters, puff/filters and depositions. The number of tests conducted in 2011-12 and the estimated number in 2012-13 are tabulated as below:-

Year	Number of tests (by category)			
	High volume filters	Air canisters	Puff/filters	Depositions
2011-12	32 345	21 825	8 396	5 476
2012-13*	36 218	18 785	9 542	7 045

Note:

*Figures projected from the actual number of tests performed in the period from 1 April 2012 to 28 February 2013.

Name in block letters: Dr. LAU Chau-ming

Post Title: Government Chemist

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB280

Question Serial No.

4644

Head: 48- Government Laboratory

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Advisory and Investigative Services

Controlling Officer: Government Chemist

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

The number of testing for air pollution samples performed for litigation purposes is on the rise? What is the nature of these litigations? What is the number of cases involved?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK, Dennis

Reply:

The numbers of tests conducted for air pollution samples submitted by the Environmental Protection Department for litigation purposes were 2 437 and 2 961 in 2011 and 2012 respectively. The nature of the tests performed are as below:-

Test/ sample nature	Number of tests conducted	
	2011	2012
Motor vehicle fuel	2 012	2 352
Asbestos containing material	336	524
Restricted liquid fuel	9	39
Volatile organic compounds	80	46

Name in block letters: Dr. LAU Chau-ming

Post Title: Government Chemist

Date: 2.4.2013

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

Reply Serial No.

ENB281

Question Serial No.

0180

Head: 60 - Highways Department

Subhead (No. & title): -

Programme: (1) Capital Projects

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Has the Administration engaged any consultant in the implementation of the detailed design for retrofitting of noise barriers on Tuen Mun Road Town Centre Section? If so, what is the expenditure in 2013-14? Is the expenditure for public consultation of residents nearby included? How much is such expenditure out of the consultant fee?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply:

The Administration has engaged consultants in the implementation of the detailed design for retrofitting of noise barriers on Tuen Mun Road Town Centre Section. The expenditure on consultant fee in 2013-14 is estimated to be \$1.3 million. It has included the anticipated expenditure of about \$0.2 million for public consultation of local residents.

Name in block letters:

K K LAU

Post Title:

Director of Highways

Date:

28.3.2013

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2013-14

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

Reply Serial No.

ENB282

Question Serial No.

3064

Head: 60 - Highways Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Capital Projects

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: _

Please list out the noise barrier works to be carried out in the New Territories (including off-shore islands) in 2013-14 and the related details.

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Che-cheung

Reply:

Noise barrier works in the New Territories (including islands) in 2013-14:

Extent/Location (Length : approx.)	Start Date	Tentative Completion Date	Estimated Total Cost/ \$ million
Tuen Mun Road - near Anglers' Beach (0.9km) - near Sham Tseng (0.6km) - near Yau Kom Tau (1km) - near Tsing Lung Tau (0.9km) - near Tsuen Wan (2.2km) - near Castle Peak Bay (0.5km)	Jan 2009	Nov 2014	1,257
Fanling Highway (MTR Fanling Station to Wo Hing Road) (1.6km)	Nov 2010	Nov 2013	247
Tuen Mun Road (Town Centre Section) (1.5km)	Feb 2010	Apr 2014	967
Tai Po Tai Wo Road fronting Po Nga Court (0.2km)	Mar 2012	May 2014	97
Sections of Hung Tin Road and Yuen Long Highway near Tin Shui Wai West Interchange (0.4km)	Sep 2013 (tentative)	Apr 2014	27
Sections of Tolo Highway between Island House Interchange and Tai Hang (9.8km)	Aug 2009	Jun 2014	540
Kam Pok Road (0.5km)	Jul 2011	Jun 2013	22

Name in block letters:

K K LAU

Post Title:

Director of Highways

Date:

28.3.2013

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

ENB283

Question Serial No.

2100

Head: 100 Marine Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Port Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Marine

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

It is estimated that 11 000 tonnes of floating refuse will be collected in 2013, similar to the actual amounts collected in 2011 and 2012. Please advise this Committee on: the manpower and expenditure involved in the collection of floating refuse; and whether the Government will allocate more resources for stepping up work on the sea so that the navigation of vessels will not be affected by floating refuse. If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. YICK Chi-ming, Frankie

Reply:

The Marine Department (MD) has fully outsourced the provision of marine cleansing services since 2005. The existing marine refuse scavenging and collection services are provided under a five-year contract commencing October 2011 and ending in September 2016. The total cost of the five-year contract is about \$190 million. The contractor operates about 70 vessels, including three sea cleaner class scavenging vessels chartered from the Government, motor boats fitted with mechanical scoop, motorised sampans and refuse reception vessels, to provide marine refuse cleansing services in Hong Kong waters. The services include scavenging of marine refuse at sea, clean up of refuse accumulated at foreshore areas and free of charge refuse collection services to visiting and local vessels in anchorages and typhoon shelters.

MD has introduced a cleanliness index system (from 0 to 10) in the marine refuse cleansing contract for measuring the performance of the contractor. MD's pollution control staff perform daily patrol duties to monitor the cleanliness condition of the sea and the contractor's cleansing work. When the cleanliness index of a particular area falls below 7 (the "satisfactory" level), the contractor is required to restore the cleanliness condition within the specified time frame.

To maintain a good level of cleanliness of Hong Kong waters, MD will continue to, in collaboration with other government departments and private organisations, carry out promotional activities to enhance public awareness and support cleansing efforts of other departments by participating in cleaning operations along foreshores and in littoral areas. In addition, MD conducts law enforcement actions, and in 2012 two persons who committed offence in marine littering were issued with Fixed Penalty Notices and a coxswain of a local vessel was prosecuted by summons for dumping refuse into the sea.

MD is member of the Working Group on Clean Shorelines (the Working Group) coordinated by the Environment Bureau and set up in November 2012 with a view to strengthening inter-departmental co-operation in handling marine refuse to keep our shorelines clean. The Working Group will identify the sources of marine refuse, review the existing measures to keep the shorelines clean and formulate strategic policies to prevent and reduce marine refuse. The Working Group will also identify priority shore areas

that require attention and formulate other improvement measures. Moreover, the Working Group will organise public engagement activities to promote public awareness of keeping the shorelines clean.

Name in block letters: FRANCIS H. P. LIU

Post Title: Director of Marine

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB284

Question Serial No.

3218

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Would the Administration inform this Committee of the estimated manpower and expenditure for extending the charging network for electric vehicles (EVs) to all 18 districts? Will the Government consider providing some subsidies for first-time buyers of EVs when introducing more electric private cars in the future to promote energy-saving green traffic?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Chi-chuen

Reply:

The Government has been actively promoting the wider use of EVs. To encourage the procurement of EVs, we have already extended the waiver of First Registration Tax for EVs for a period of five years till end March 2014. We have also accelerated the tax deduction for capital expenditure on EVs such that enterprises can enjoy a 100% profits tax deduction in the first year of procurement. The Government has also been taking the lead in procuring and using more EVs.

In terms of infrastructural development, there are now some 1 000 standard EV chargers, covering all 18 districts, and some 10 quick chargers, in Hong Kong. Furthermore, through granting concessions on Gross Floor Areas for carparks, we have been encouraging developers to put in place at the building construction stage the basic infrastructure required to facilitate future installation of EV standard charging facilities having regard to the needs of carpark users. We will closely monitor the growth in the number of EVs and consider the need to further expand the charging network in a timely manner.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB285

Question Serial No.

2818

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Administration has indicated that it will promote wider application of renewable energy. In this connection, please advise on the following:

- a) What is the percentage of renewable energy in the two power companies' fuel mix for power generation? When will the review on fuel mix be completed? Does the Administration expect that there will be an increase in the percentage of renewable energy in fuel mix after the review? What will be the impact on electricity tariffs?
- b) Apart from trying out wind power, have the two power companies developed any other renewable energy projects (e.g. solar energy)? If yes, what are the details?
- c) Has the Administration earmarked provisions for conducting studies on the use and development of renewable energy in this year (i.e. 2013-14)?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

(a) and (b)

Electricity generation accounts for two-thirds of the total greenhouse gas emission in Hong Kong and is also a major source of air pollution. To effectively combat climate change and improve our air quality, apart from actively promoting energy efficiency on the demand side, we also proposed in 2010 to improve the fuel mix for power generation by substantially reducing the reliance on coal and increasing the share of natural gas, renewable energy and imported nuclear energy from the Mainland in 2020. Following the Fukushima incident, various sectors in the community have different views on the application of nuclear energy. While various fuel sources each have its own merits and demerits, we will review the overall fuel mix and consult the public on the best option for Hong Kong that would seek to strike a balance among the competing energy policy objectives of safety, reliability, environmental protection and affordability.

Notwithstanding the physical and geographical constraints of Hong Kong, the Government has been promoting the development and application of renewable energy. To encourage the two power companies to develop renewable energy generation facilities, the Scheme of Control Agreements stipulate a higher rate of return for investment in these facilities. One of the power companies has already installed a wind turbine and photovoltaic systems at its power plants, which generates about

880 000 kWh and 620 000 kWh of electricity annually respectively. Both power companies are also studying the feasibility of developing offshore wind farms.

- (c) The Environment and Conservation Fund provides support for eligible environmental technology-related R&D projects and other projects/activities in relation to environmental and conservation matters. The exact amount of funding to be devoted to the development of renewable technology will depend on the project proposals received and approved.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB286

Question Serial No.

3263

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: With regard to the continued promotion of use of electric vehicles, please advise on the following :

- a) The number of electric vehicles in Hong Kong. Among them, how many were purchased by government departments or public organizations?
- b) The types, countries of origin and prices of electric vehicles purchased by government departments, as well as the respective departments which have been allocated with such vehicles.
- c) Ever since the electric vehicles purchased by the government departments began operation, what frequency of breakdown has been noted? What are the details of breakdowns? What is the annual expenditure for maintenance?
- d) What is the provision earmarked by the Administration for the procurement of electric vehicles by various government departments in 2013-14? How many electric vehicles will be procured?
- e) What is the distribution of charging stations for electric vehicles among the 18 districts in Hong Kong? What is the average utilisation rate of the stations?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

- a) At present, more than 430 units of electric vehicles (EVs) are in use on the road, up from 74 in end 2010 and 242 in end 2011. For the Government fleet, we now have 75 units, and about 150 units are being delivered in 2013.
- b) The information on the types, countries of origin, prices and relevant user departments of the EVs purchased by the Government is provided in Annex 1.
- c) The breakdown rate of EVs is at a level similar to that of petroleum or hybrid vehicles. The annual maintenance cost for each unit of EVs is around \$6,300 on average.
- d) The Government will continue to take the lead in using more EVs. We are currently reviewing with the user departments the number of EVs that would be procured in 2013-14 having regard to the

availability of equivalent EV models in the market and operational requirements of the user departments.

- e) There are now some 1 000 standard EV chargers, covering all 18 districts, and some 10 quick chargers, in Hong Kong. The geographical distribution of the chargers is provided in Annex 2.

Furthermore, through granting concessions on Gross Floor Areas for carpark, we have been encouraging developers to put in place at the building construction stage the basic infrastructure required to facilitate future installation of EV standard charging facilities having regard to the needs of carpark users.

Regarding the 500 standard chargers in Government carparks, based on the electricity consumption of the chargers, we estimate that the average number of charging is about 15 each month per carpark. As regards the quick chargers, the number of charging per month is about 35 per charger.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 27 March 2013

Details of EVs in the Government fleet

Year of purchase	Vehicle type	Model	Country of origin	Unit price (\$)	User Departments
2008-09	Motorcycle	Vectrix Maxi Scooter	USA	93,000	♦ Hong Kong Police Force
2009-10	Saloon car	Mitsubishi iMiEV	Japan	490,000	♦ Chief Secretary for Administration's Office ♦ Chief Executive's Office ♦ Electrical and Mechanical Services Department ♦ Environment Bureau / Environmental Protection Department ♦ Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ♦ Hong Kong Police Force ♦ Water Supplies Department
2010-11	Saloon car	Nissan LEAF	Japan	420,000	♦ Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department ♦ Environment Bureau / Environmental Protection Department ♦ Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ♦ Post Office ♦ Lands Department ♦ Leisure and Cultural Services Department ♦ Transport Department ♦ Water Supplies Department
2011-12	Saloon car	Renault Fluence ZE	France	370,000	♦ Chief Secretary for Administration's Office ♦ Civil Aviation Department ♦ Civil Engineering and Development Department ♦ Customs and Excise Department ♦ Electrical and Mechanical Services Department ♦ Environment Bureau / Environmental Protection Department ♦ Government Logistics Department ♦ Hong Kong Police Force ♦ Independent Commission Against Corruption ♦ Leisure and Cultural Services Department ♦ Office of the Communications Authority ♦ Social Welfare Department ♦ Water Supplies Department

Year of purchase	Vehicle type	Model	Country of origin	Unit price (\$)	User Departments
	Motorcycle	Brammo Eertia+	USA	114,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Hong Kong Police Force ♦ Water Supplies Department
	Van	Smith Edison	UK	1,400,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Radio Television Hong Kong
2012-13	Saloon car	Renault Fluence ZE	France	360,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department ♦ Architectural Services Department ♦ Buildings Department ♦ Civil Engineering and Development Department ♦ Correctional Services Department ♦ Department of Health ♦ Electrical and Mechanical Services Department ♦ Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ♦ Home Affairs Department ♦ Hong Kong Police Force ♦ Highways Department ♦ Housing Department ♦ Labour Department ♦ Lands Department ♦ Social Welfare Department
	Saloon car	Nissan LEAF	Japan	340,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Post Office
	Motorcycle	Zero S - ZF9	USA	140,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department ♦ Hong Kong Police Force ♦ Leisure and Cultural Services Department ♦ Transport Department

Geographical distribution of public EV chargers by districts

District	No. of Charging Points	District	No. of Charging Points
Central & Western	166	Islands	12
Eastern	116	Kwai Tsing	23
Southern	6	North	38
Wan Chai	109	Sai Kung	30
Kowloon City	5	Sha Tin	63
Kwun Tong	54	Tai Po	15
Sham Shui Po	43	Tsuen Wan	47
Wong Tai Sin	56	Tuen Mun	21
Yau Tsim Mong	153	Yuen Long	43

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

ENB287

Question Serial No.

4231

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In respect of electric vehicles, what is the number of electric vehicles used in the government and the private sector? How will the Administration continue to promote the use of electric vehicles in 2013-14 and what is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Government has been actively promoting the wider use of electric vehicles (EVs). To encourage the procurement of EVs, we have already extended the waiver of First Registration Tax for EVs for a period of five years till end March 2014. We have also accelerated the tax deduction for capital expenditure on EVs such that enterprises can enjoy a 100% profits tax deduction in the first year of procurement. The Government has also been taking the lead in procuring and using more EVs. In terms of infrastructural development, there are now some 1 000 standard EV chargers, covering all 18 districts, and some 10 quick chargers, in Hong Kong.

At present, 18 EV models are available in Hong Kong. They are of various vehicle types, including private cars, motorcycles, goods vehicles and buses. More than 430 units of EVs are in use on the road, up from 74 in end 2010 and 242 in end 2011. For the Government fleet, we now have 75 units, and about 150 units are being delivered in 2013.

In addition, the Government will fully fund the procurement of 36 electric buses for testing out their operational efficiency and performance under local conditions by franchised bus companies with the ultimate policy objective of having zero emission buses running across the territory. The franchised bus companies are making preparations to procure the electric buses for commencing the trial in 2014. As for public transport operators and goods vehicle owners, the Government set up in March 2011 a \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund to encourage them to test out green and innovative transport technologies, including electric vehicles. Successful applicants will be required to share the trial findings with their peers to promote the use of successful technologies. As of 11 March 2013, approval has been given to put 43 electric vehicles on trial, including 14 electric taxis, 11 electric coaches and 18 electric goods vehicles.

In the coming year, we will continue to liaise closely with EV dealers to encourage them to introduce EVs into the Hong Kong market, and launch publicity activities to promote the wider adoption of EVs. We will also closely monitor the growth in the number of EVs and consider the need to further expand the charging network in a timely manner. About \$8.4 million has been reserved in 2013-14 for promoting the use of

EVs through various channels, including the provision for the dedicated support team in Electrical and Mechanical Services Department and other publicity activities.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB288

Question Serial No.

4690

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Sustainable Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please advise on the criteria for the operation and use of the Sustainable Development Fund. What were the funded projects and the expenditure of each project in 2012-13? What is the estimated expenditure of the Fund in 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) provides funding support to projects which help develop a strong public awareness of the concept of sustainable development (SD) and encourage sustainable practices in Hong Kong. The Education and Publicity Sub-committee (EPSC) established under the Council for Sustainable Development (SDC) provides advice on the awards of grants from the SDF. Approved projects are monitored by the SDC Secretariat (i.e. the Sustainable Development Division of the Environment Bureau) in accordance with the established mechanism, including vetting progress reports, financial statements, and schedule of activities; and conducting on-site visits to project activities as appropriate to ensure the projects are implemented within the timeframe and in the manner as stipulated in the approved proposals. Evaluation reports will also be submitted to the EPSC. A total of six projects were approved in 2012 with a total grant of \$6,963,119, details of which are as follows–

Project name	Amount of funding awarded (\$)
Cultural Sustainable Project Through a Group of Cultural Service-Learning Ambassadors	1,200,144
“Upcycling - Action for Kwun Tong Community” – a project to promote the concept of upcycling business and encourage community participation in sustainable model of industrial production in Kwun Tong	385,850
“3-Tree Sustainable Leadership Project” – a project to raise awareness of traditional culture and environmental protection of Lamma Island among children and teenagers	623,300
Food Cherisher	1,284,700
Create Life - Sustainable Lifestyle Initiatives	1,515,700
Corporate Sustainability Reporting Platform in Hong Kong	1,953,425

In 2013, we have earmarked \$5 million under the SDF to meet the anticipated cash flow requirements of both existing and new projects. Payment of grants will be made on a reimbursement basis subject to submission of expenditure claims by fund recipients.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB289

Question Serial No.

4692

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Sustainable Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: How are educational programmes of the Council for Sustainable Development implemented? Please list the places and organizations where the Council has implemented educational programmes in 2012-13, as well as the expenditure involved. Besides, what are the key directions of these educational efforts and the estimated expenditure involved in 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Council for Sustainable Development (SDC) implements education and publicity initiatives in collaboration with stakeholder organisations to promote sustainable development (SD) to various sectors of the community. The initiatives mainly include the following –

SD School Outreach Programme (SOP)

The SD SOP is an on-going educational initiative of the SDC to promote SD concepts and practices in the school community. It takes place in the forms of school talks, workshops and drama performances during which there will be introduction on the SD concept and concrete examples with reference to current global and local issues, as well as discussions on how to put SD principles into practice in daily lives.

SD School Award Programme (SAP)

The SD SAP is an award programme to encourage schools to participate in activities that promote public awareness of SD and encourage SD practices in schools and the community. Under the programme, there are mainly two levels of awards, namely, SD Participation Award and SD Community Project Award for schools that are involved in different scales of participation in activities organized by the SDC and other organizations. It is a biennial programme with major expenses being incurred every other year.

The estimated total expenditure for the above programmes in 2012-13 is \$1,049,000. In 2013-14, the SDC will continue to implement the above initiatives with an estimated expenditure of \$530,000, which is lower than the expenditure in 2012-13 given that the SAP is a biennial programme with major expenses being incurred every other year.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB290

Question Serial No.

4721

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Apart from inspecting the electrical installations, will the Administration consider providing more vehicle charging stations in different locations to promote the use of electric vehicles? If yes, what is the estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

The Government has been actively promoting the wider use of electric vehicles (EVs). We have been working with the private sector to set up a comprehensive charging network for EVs. There are now some 1 000 standard EV chargers, covering all 18 districts, and some 10 quick chargers, in Hong Kong. The geographical distribution of these standard and quick chargers is as follows –

District	No. of Charging Points	District	No. of Charging Points
Central & Western	166	Islands	12
Eastern	116	Kwai Tsing	23
Southern	6	North	38
Wan Chai	109	Sai Kung	30
Kowloon City	5	Sha Tin	63
Kwun Tong	54	Tai Po	15
Sham Shui Po	43	Tsuen Wan	47
Wong Tai Sin	56	Tuen Mun	21
Yau Tsim Mong	153	Yuen Long	43

Furthermore, through granting concessions on Gross Floor Areas for car parks, we have been encouraging developers to put in place at the building construction stage the basic infrastructure required to facilitate future installation of EV standard charging facilities having regard to the needs of car park users.

We will closely monitor the growth in the number of EVs and consider the need to further expand the charging network in a timely manner. About \$8.4 million has been reserved in 2013-14 for promoting the use of EVs through various channels, including the provision for the dedicated support team in Electrical and Mechanical Services Department and other publicity activities.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB291

Question Serial No.

4898

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: With regard to the electricity market, apart from continuing to provide electricity charges subsidy to the public in 2013-14, will there be any other measures to help the public conserve energy? If yes, what are these measures? When will they be launched and what is the expected expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

To promote energy efficiency and conservation, around \$2 million has been reserved in 2013-14 for launching various promotional activities to enhance public's awareness on energy saving. The promotional activities include the launching of Charter schemes to expedite the phasing-out of energy-inefficient incandescent light bulbs as well as to step up publicity efforts to educate the public and major lamp users on the benefits of using more energy-efficient lamps, and to promote the importance of demand-side management of electricity consumption by requesting shopping malls, shops, etc. to maintain an average indoor temperature between 24-26 degree Celsius during the summer months of 2013.

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) will continue to undertake promotional activities for students of schools, members of trades (e.g. property management companies, electrical product suppliers, contractors, consultants, etc.), non-government organizations and general public for promoting public awareness on energy efficiency and conservation. These activities include school exhibitions and outreach programmes, trade seminars, public seminars, guided tours of the Education Path of the EMSD Headquarters, promotion of Energy Efficiency (Labelling of Products) Ordinance and Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance, distribution of promotional leaflets and newsletters, dissemination of energy saving information through the Internet, etc. The estimated expenditure for the promotional activities in 2013-14 is about \$2 million.

Apart from promotional activities, the Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance was fully implemented in September 2012 to mandate compliance with the minimum energy efficiency standard stipulated in the Building Energy Code, which covers air-conditioning and electrical installations, elevators and escalators, as well as lighting installations of new buildings and existing ones undergoing major renovation. The Ordinance also mandates the conduct of energy audit of central building services installations of commercial buildings and the commercial portion of composite buildings at least once every ten years. We expect that for new

buildings, the implementation of the Ordinance will result in energy saving of 2.8 billion kWh in the first decade.

The Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme currently covers room air-conditioners, refrigerating appliances, compact fluorescent lamps, dehumidifiers and washing machines. The Scheme brings about an energy saving of about 175 GWh per year. A consultancy study has been commissioned to review the energy efficiency grading structure and scope of products covered under the Scheme. The study will be completed in the second half of 2013. Depending on the outcome of the study, we will formulate proposals for consultation with the trade.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG
Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment
Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB292

Question Serial No.

5485

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In the Policy Address announced in January 2013, the Chief Executive has indicated that a total of 14 bureaux, committees and teams will be or are proposed to be set up. The Financial Secretary has stated in the Budget Speech that relevant financial resources will be provided. What are the work plans and estimated expenditure for the inter-departmental steering committee on promotion of green building in 2013-14? Please provide a breakdown by individual bureaux or committees.

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Ka-lok, Kenneth

Reply:

Buildings account for some 90% of electricity consumption and 60% of greenhouse gas emissions in Hong Kong. Promoting green building will have a huge synergetic impact on the sustainability of our built environment, including reduction in carbon emissions and air pollution, while improving the quality of indoor and outdoor built environments. The Government has set up an inter-departmental Steering Committee on the Promotion of Green Building in January 2013. The Committee is chaired by the Secretary for the Environment and its members comprise representatives from relevant bureaux and departments. The Steering Committee acts as the central coordinating body to coordinate efforts by various bureaux and departments in promoting green building in Hong Kong in a holistic manner.

The Steering Committee has commenced operation and is reviewing the existing policy initiatives and international experience. We are also discussing with the relevant bureaux and departments the suggestions received from the stakeholders to promote green building in Hong Kong. We aim to formulate recommendations in 2013-14.

Existing manpower is deployed for the activities. As the staff concerned have other responsibilities, we do not have separate breakdown on the resources involved.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB293

Question Serial No.

0901

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Under Programme (2) of the Environment Bureau (ENB), it is mentioned that the Government has promoted the use of electric vehicles by facilitating the introduction of relevant vehicles into the Hong Kong market, promoting the setting up of charging infrastructure and expanding the government fleet of electric vehicles. However, in fact, response has remained lukewarm after years of promotion. Please advise this Committee how will the Government promote the use of electric vehicles in the new financial year? What is the total number of electric vehicles in the government fleet at present? How many electric vehicles are for use by the ENB and the Environmental Protection Department (EPD)?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Kin-por

Reply:

The Government has been actively promoting the wider use of electric vehicles (EVs). To encourage the procurement of EVs, we have already extended the waiver of First Registration Tax for EVs for a period of five years till end March 2014. We have also accelerated the tax deduction for capital expenditure on EVs such that enterprises can enjoy a 100% profits tax deduction in the first year of procurement. The Government has also been taking the lead in procuring and using more EVs. In terms of infrastructural development, there are now some 1 000 standard EV chargers, covering all 18 districts, and some 10 quick chargers, in Hong Kong.

At present, 18 EV models are available in Hong Kong. They are of various vehicle types, including private cars, motorcycles, goods vehicles and buses. More than 430 units of EVs are in use on the road, up from 74 in end 2010 and 242 in end 2011. In the coming year, we will continue to liaise closely with EV dealers to encourage them to introduce EVs into the Hong Kong market, and launch publicity activities to promote the wider adoption of EVs. We will also closely monitor the growth in the number of EVs and consider the need to further expand the charging network in a timely manner.

We now have 75 units of EVs in the Government fleet, including three units under the Environment Bureau and Environmental Protection Department. In addition, about 150 units of EVs would be delivered to various departments in 2013.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB294

Question Serial No.

4029

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Environment Bureau is concerned about energy efficiency and conservation and promotes energy saving in the government and community. However, at present, the air conditioning temperature in many large shopping malls in Hong Kong is so low that some people have to put on more clothes to keep warm. It consumes a substantial amount of electrical energy and is against the environmental goal. Apart from launching publicity and education programmes, will the Government introduce legislation to mandate the minimum air conditioning temperature for malls and offices in order to save energy and reduce carbon emission, so that the policy objective of sustainable development can be achieved?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Kwok-che

Reply:

The Government has been actively promoting energy saving over the years through various policies initiatives and measures. One of these initiatives was the launching of the "Energy Saving Charter" in Summer 2012. More than 100 shopping malls supported the scheme and pledged to maintain the average indoor temperature of their shopping malls between 24-26 degree Celsius during June to September 2012. We are now reviewing the operation of the scheme with a view to expanding its coverage. In addition, we have been requesting all bureaux and departments to maintain their office indoor temperature at 25.5 degree Celsius in summer except for special operational needs. We also issue appeal letter to different chambers, private organizations and public transport companies to encourage them to conduct similar measures in reducing energy consumption of air-conditioning.

While we encourage voluntary measures on energy saving, mandating indoor room temperature is likely to be highly complex in terms of defining the standards and enforcement, since different factors, such as relative humidity, ventilation, people flow, specific operational requirements of certain premises, etc. may affect the users' acceptance and their ability to comply. At this stage, we would continue with educational and promotional approaches.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB295

Question Serial No.

1281

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Under Programme (2) "Power" of the Environment Bureau (ENB), the estimated financial provision for 2013-14 is \$22.6 million, representing an increase of \$4.5 million (24.9%) over the past year. The provision is mainly for conducting studies relating to the operation of the electricity market and launching publicity programmes on energy savings. What are the details of the provision?

Asked by: Hon. CHUNG Kwok-pan

Reply:

In 2013, the Environment Bureau (ENB) will undertake or commence preparation for a number of reviews relating to the operation of the electricity market in Hong Kong. These include (a) mid-term review of the Scheme of Control Agreements (SCAs) that the Government has entered into with the two power companies, (b) review of the fuel mix for electricity generation, (c) the 2014-2018 Development Plans for the two power companies, and (d) the future regulatory regime for the electricity market in Hong Kong after the expiry of the current SCAs in 2018. Given the complexity of these reviews and their profound impact on the operation of the electricity market, we envisage financial and technical studies would have to be conducted to examine the relevant issues involved, e.g. study on segregation of electricity generation from the power grids. The studies will be carried out by in-house experts or outside consultants under the supervision of the ENB and the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department. An allocation of about \$3.5 million has been set aside in 2013-14 for the purpose.

On the other hand, to promote energy efficiency and conservation, around \$2 million has been reserved in 2013-14 for launching various promotional activities to enhance public's awareness on energy saving.

In addition, three posts of 1 Senior Treasury Accountant and 2 Accounting Officers will be created in 2013-14 to strengthen the manpower support to undertake the existing duties and the various reviews relating to the operation of the electricity market.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB296

Question Serial No.

3299

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Will the Administration continue to promote the environmental industry? If yes, what is the expenditure for promoting the environmental industry? What are the specific work plans? Please list separately in table form.

Asked by: Hon. CHUNG Kwok-pan

Reply:

The Government has been adopting the three-pronged approaches to promote the development of environmental industry. Firstly, we invest heavily in the development of environmental infrastructure facilities and the setting up of various funding schemes to encourage adoption of clean technologies. We also provide funding support to encourage research and development on green and environmental technologies. A list of the major projects/funding schemes and their respective costs/funds approved or earmarked in the past five years from 2008-09 to 2012-13 is at **Annex**.

In addition, we have been pursuing policy initiatives to promote business opportunities for environmentally friendly products and services. For instance, the enactment of Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance has brought about new business opportunities for the green building sector. The Government has also set out a series of policy measures in the Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste (2005-2014) to proactively create a more favourable operating environment for the recycling and green industries with a view to assisting the development of the local recycling and green industries and encouraging more people to join the recycling industry. These measures include the implementation of programmes on source separation of waste, the identification of more suitable sites for leasing to the recycling industry under short-term tenancy through bidding, the development of the EcoPark, the promotion of the green procurement policy among government departments, the implementation of producer responsibility schemes, and the encouragement of the development of recycling technologies through the Innovation and Technology Fund, the Environment and Conservation Fund and various funds for small and medium enterprises.

Thirdly, we are also capitalising on Hong Kong's advantages to open up business opportunities in the Mainland for our environmental industry, and will support the industry's participation in such activities as environmental exhibitions and trade missions to help build local environmental brands, and facilitate collaboration with local and overseas enterprises.

The Government will continue taking the above approaches in promoting the development of the environmental industry.

As the above measures and investments form an integral part of the work of relevant bureaux and departments, we do not have a separate breakdown on the funds and manpower involved for promoting the development of environmental industries *per se*.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 26 March 2013

Infrastructural Projects	Approved Capital Costs (\$ million)
Stage 2A of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme	17,199.9
Upgrading of Pillar Point sewage treatment works	1,920.5
Sludge Treatment Facilities	5,154.4
District Cooling System at the Kai Tak Development (Phases I and II)	1,861.8
Development of EcoPark	319
Funding Schemes and Other Initiatives	Approved/Earmarked Funds (\$ million)
Environment and Conservation Fund	1,500
Pilot Green Transport Fund	300
Cleaner Production Partnership Programme	143 (Note)
Environmental technology projects funded under the Innovation and Technology Fund	126
Funding support for academic research concerning green and energy conservation technologies, environmental science, as well as developing a sustainable environment, under the University Grants Committee and Research Grants Council	190

Note: The figure includes \$50 million which has been earmarked for programme extension in the financial years 2013-14 and 2014-15.

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

ENB297

Question Serial No.

4950

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please advise on the expenditures for overseas visits conducted in the name of the Bureau in the past 5 years (i.e. 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13) and provide details in the table below:

Dates of Visits	Reasons for Visits	Number of Accompanying Officers	Names of Hotels and Expenses	Air Ticket Classes and Fares	Total Expenses

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

Information on the expenditures for overseas visits conducted in the name of the Bureau and the number of officers involved in the past 5 years are provided in the table below.

Dates of Visits	Reasons for Visits	Number of Officers	Hotel Expenses (\$)	Air Ticket Fares (\$)	Total Expenses (\$)
2008-09	Experience sharing and liaison with the Mainland and other countries on environmental protection, energy and related policies.	59	75,063	310,298	385,361
2009-10		62	186,591	819,800	1,006,391
2010-11		76	120,504	876,282	996,786
2011-12		45	132,439	674,321	806,760
2012-13 (up to 28 February 2013)		29	154,208	548,958	703,166

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB298

Question Serial No.

0132

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please inform the Committee of the following:

- (1) What is the estimated expenditure on the salaries of Secretary for the Environment, Under Secretary for the Environment and Political Assistant to Secretary for the Environment for 2013-14; and
- (2) It is stated in the Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision that "Provision for 2013-14 is \$1.5 million (10.9%) higher than the revised estimate for 2012-13. This is mainly due to the increased provision for operating expenses. There will be a net increase of one post in 2013-14." What are the staff establishment and division of labour among various posts of the Director of Bureau's Office? What are the details of the net increase of one post as mentioned above?

Asked by: Hon. Fung Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

- (1) For budgetary purposes, the provisions for the salary in respect of the positions of Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in the Environment Bureau for 2013-14 are \$3.39 million, \$2.54 million and \$1.18 million respectively.
- (2) There are eight permanent posts in the Director of Bureau's Office. They include an Administrative Officer Staff Grade C and a Chief Information Officer, the latter of which is seconded from the Information Services Department, to provide support to the Secretary for the Environment and Under Secretary for the Environment; a Personal Assistant, a Senior Personal Secretary, a Personal Secretary I and a Personal Secretary II to provide secretarial support to officials in the Director of Bureau's Office; a Chauffeur to provide transport service to the Secretary for the Environment; and a Senior Executive Officer to provide general administrative support to the Office. To strengthen the general administrative support, an Assistant Clerical Officer post will be created in 2013-14. Besides, the Chauffeur post will be upgraded to Personal Chauffeur in 2013-14.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB299

Question Serial No.

0193

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14, it is mentioned that the Bureau will "review the scope of coverage and operation of the Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme". Would the Administration inform this Committee of the number of cases in which products were found not complying with the energy efficiency levels as shown in the labels ever since the implementation of various phases of the Scheme? How would the Administration follow up on such cases? Has the Administration considered further upgrading the standards of energy efficiency levels and including more electric and electronic products in the Scheme? If yes, what is the timetable of implementation? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

The two phases of the Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme (the Scheme) came into operation on 9 November 2009 and 19 September 2011 respectively. Since then, a total of 117 product models listed under the Scheme were found not compliant with the energy efficiency levels as shown on the energy labels. These product models have been removed from the record of the Scheme and are not allowed to be supplied in Hong Kong.

The Administration has commissioned a consultancy study to review the energy efficiency grading structure and scope of product covered under the Scheme. The consultancy study will be completed in the second half of 2013. Depending on the outcome of the study, we will formulate proposals for consultation with the trade.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 22 March 2013

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

ENB300

Question Serial No.

0194

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14 that the Bureau will “continue to promote the use of electric vehicles (EVs)”. Would the Administration inform this Committee of: the latest prevalence rate of EVs; the number of EVs running in Hong Kong in the past two years (i.e. 2011-12 to 2012-13) and the coming two years (starting from 2013-14); the distribution and exact locations of the existing charging stations for EVs listed by the District Council districts; the projected number of additional charging stations for EVs in the coming two years; and the plans and objectives of the Government on promoting the use of EVs in Hong Kong in the coming year.

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

The Government has been actively promoting the wider use of electric vehicles (EVs). To encourage the procurement of EVs, we have already extended the waiver of First Registration Tax for EVs for a period of five years till end March 2014. We have also accelerated the tax deduction for capital expenditure on EVs such that enterprises can enjoy a 100% profits tax deduction in the first year of procurement. The Government has also been taking the lead in procuring and using more EVs. At present, 18 EV models are available in Hong Kong. They are of various vehicle types, including private cars, motorcycles, goods vehicles and buses. More than 430 units of EVs are in use on the road, up from 74 in end 2010 and 242 in end 2011.

In addition, the Government will fully fund the procurement of 36 electric buses for testing out their operational efficiency and performance under local conditions by franchised bus companies with the ultimate policy objective of having zero emission buses running across the territory. The franchised bus companies are making preparations to procure the electric buses for commencing the trial in 2014. As for public transport operators and goods vehicle owners, the Government set up in March 2011 a \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund to encourage them to test out green and innovative transport technologies, including electric vehicles. Successful applicants will be required to share the trial findings with their peers to promote the use of successful technologies. As of 11 March 2013, approval has been given to put 43 electric vehicles on trial, including 14 electric taxis, 11 electric coaches and 18 electric goods vehicles.

In terms of infrastructural development, there are now some 1 000 standard EV chargers, covering all 18 districts, and some 10 quick chargers, in Hong Kong. The geographical distribution of the chargers is as follows –

District	No. of Charging Points	District	No. of Charging Points
Central & Western	166	Islands	12
Eastern	116	Kwai Tsing	23
Southern	6	North	38
Wan Chai	109	Sai Kung	30
Kowloon City	5	Sha Tin	63
Kwun Tong	54	Tai Po	15
Sham Shui Po	43	Tsuen Wan	47
Wong Tai Sin	56	Tuen Mun	21
Yau Tsim Mong	153	Yuen Long	43

Furthermore, through granting concessions on Gross Floor Areas for car parks, we have been encouraging developers to put in place at the building construction stage the basic infrastructure required to facilitate future installation of EV standard charging facilities having regard to the needs of car park users.

In the coming year, we will continue to liaise closely with EV dealers to encourage them to introduce EVs into the Hong Kong market, and launch publicity activities to promote the wider adoption of EVs. We will also closely monitor the growth in the number of EVs and consider the need to further expand the charging network in a timely manner.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB301

Question Serial No.

3820

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14 that the Bureau will "review the fuel mix for power generation". Would the Administration inform this Committee of the following: In response to climate change, the Administration proposed years ago in a public consultation to increase the ratio of nuclear energy in the fuel mix for power generation. However, the Administration has not made any clear decision so far on the fuel mix issue. What are the reasons? What is the progress of the review so far? Will the Administration consider giving up on increasing the ratio of nuclear energy?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

Electricity generation accounts for two-thirds of the total greenhouse gas emission in Hong Kong and is also a major source of air pollution. To effectively combat climate change and improve our air quality, apart from actively promoting energy efficiency on the demand side, we also proposed in 2010 to improve our fuel mix by substantially reducing the reliance on coal to less than 10% and increasing the share of natural gas and renewable energy to about 40% and 3-4% respectively in 2020, with the remaining balance of about 50% to be met with more imported nuclear energy from the Mainland. While we were consolidating the views received during the public consultation exercise, the Fukushima nuclear incident took place as a result of the earthquake and tsunami hitting northeast Japan. After the incident, various sectors in the community have different views on the application of nuclear energy. While various fuel sources each have its own merits and demerits, we will review the overall fuel mix and consult the public on the best option for Hong Kong that would seek to strike a balance among the energy policy objectives of safety, reliability, environmental protection and affordability.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB302

Question Serial No.

3821

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Would the administration inform this Committee of the following: regarding the research projects on issues such as power and energy conservation, please list in detail the research projects conducted in the past two years (i.e. 2011-12 to 2012-13), the amount of money involved in each project, the organisations responsible for the projects, as well as the planned projects for the next two years (i.e. starting from 2013-14) and the estimated expenditure for each project.

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

In 2012-13, the Environment Bureau (ENB) and the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) commissioned the Asian Cities Research Centre Ltd. to conduct a study on the "Review of Coverage and Grading Standards under the Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme". The study is in progress with an estimated expenditure of \$1.42 million.

In 2013-14, the ENB will undertake or commence preparation for a number of reviews relating to the operation of the electricity market in Hong Kong. These include (a) mid-term review of the Scheme of Control Agreements (SCAs) that the Government has entered into with the two power companies, (b) review of the fuel mix for electricity generation, (c) the 2014-2018 Development Plans for the two power companies, and (d) the future regulatory regime for the electricity market in Hong Kong after the expiry of the current SCAs in 2018. Given the complexity of these reviews and their profound impact on the operation of the electricity market, we envisage financial and technical studies would have to be conducted to examine the relevant issues involved, e.g. study on segregation of electricity generation from the power grids. The studies will be carried out by in-house experts or outside consultants under the supervision of the ENB and the EMSD. An allocation of about \$3.5 million has been set aside in 2013-14 for the purpose.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB303

Question Serial No.

3822

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Would the Administration inform the Committee of the following: what are the policy and direction of the Administration in respect of the development and promotion of use of renewable energy? What specific measures does the Administration have to encourage the public to use small-scale renewable energy power generation facilities (without connection to grid)? What are the renewable energy projects of government departments and public bodies?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

Constrained by geographical conditions, the extent to which renewable energy (RE) can be put to use in Hong Kong is not significant. This notwithstanding, the Government is committed to promoting the adoption and development of RE, by taking the lead where technically feasible and cost effective. Having regard to actual site conditions, the Government has been installing RE systems in various public facilities and venues including Government offices, departmental headquarters, fire stations, prisons, museums, art and cultural venues, parks, playgrounds, town halls, recreational centres, holiday villages, theatres, Government quarters, hospitals, schools, sewage treatment plants, landfills, etc. RE has also been adopted in Construction Industry Council's Zero carbon building project.

In 2012-13, 13 building projects were completed by Architectural Services Department with renewable energy features. Details are at **Annex**.

The Environment and Conservation Fund provides funding support for schools and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to set up RE facilities such as solar panels, wind turbines and solar water heaters since early 2008. As at end February 2013, a total of 252 projects have been approved for the installation of these facilities, including 230 projects at schools, 7 at camp sites and 4 at organic farms for public use, and 11 at service units of NGOs (such as elderly homes). The Government aims to further promote the use of RE through demonstration of these cases and encourage more residential estates and commercial and industrial buildings to follow suit.

To encourage wider adoption of RE in private buildings and organisations, the Government has been providing tax incentives since 2008 on the capital expenditure incurred in relation to installation of RE power systems in private premises. The capital expenditure of the private organisation's RE power system

in building can be deducted over a 5-year period starting from the year of purchase. To facilitate the public in better understanding the application of RE technologies, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has published on its website relevant information, guidance notes and guidelines on RE. It has also launched a thematic website "HK RE Net" (re.emsd.gov.hk) to provide technical details and information on RE.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 3 April 2013

**Building projects completed by Architectural Services Department
with renewable energy features in 2012-13**

	Project Title	Type of Renewable Energy Technologies Incorporated
1.	Conversion of the Secondary Pool of the Lai Chi Kok Park Swimming Pool into an Indoor Heated Pool	Solar Water Heating & Photovoltaic (PV) System
2.	Extension of Man Kam To Food Inspection Facilities	Solar Water Heating & PV System
3.	Construction of Rank and File Quarters for Immigration Department at Wo Yi Hop Road, Kwai Chung	PV System
4.	New Civil Aviation Department Headquarters	PV System
5.	Sports Centre and Community Hall in Area 101, Tin Shui Wai	PV System & Solar Water Heating
6.	Provision of Columbarium and Garden of Remembrance at Kiu Tau Road, Wo Hop Shek	Solar Bollard Lamp
7.	Lam Tin North Municipal Services Building	Solar Water Heating
8.	Primary School at the Junction of Victoria Road and Pokfulam Road, Pok Fu Lam	PV System
9.	Special School in Area 16, Tuen Mun, for Students with Physical Disability	PV System and Solar Water Heating
10.	Reprovisioning of Wo Hop Shek Crematorium	PV System
11.	Redevelopment of Departmental Quarters for Customs and Excise Department at Tsing Chau Street and Lee Kung Street, Hung Hom	PV System
12.	Construction of Secondary Boundary Fence and New Sections of Primary Boundary Fence and Boundary Patrol Road - Phase 1	PV system
13.	North Lantau Hospital, Phase 1	PV System and Solar Hot Water System

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

ENB304

Question Serial No.

3829

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Sustainable Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14 that the Bureau will “process applications for the SD Fund and monitor the implementation of the approved projects”. In this connection, would the Administration inform this Committee of the following: please list the number of applications received by the SD Fund in the past two years (i.e. 2011-12 to 2012-13), the titles of the funded projects, the amount of money involved in each project, the completion dates, recipient organisations, as well as the estimated expenditure for the SD Fund in 2013-14 and 2014-15.

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

The Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) provides funding support to projects which help develop a strong public awareness of the concept of sustainable development (SD) and encourage sustainable practices in Hong Kong. The number of applications received and projects approved in the past two years is as follows—

Year	No. of applications received	No. of projects approved
2011	56	7
2012	56	6

Details of the approved projects are attached. We have earmarked \$5 million under the SDF each for 2013 and 2014 to meet the anticipated cash flow requirements of both existing and new projects. Payment of grants will be made on a reimbursement basis subject to submission of expenditure claims by fund recipients.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 26 March 2013

Year	Title of funded project	Recipient organisation	Amount of funding awarded (\$)	Anticipated completion date
2011	Enhancing the Role of the Travel Trade in Reducing Tourism's Carbon Footprint	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	346,450	Mid 2013
	Carbon Footprint Management at Home for Sustainable Low-Carbon Living	City University of Hong Kong	1,001,200	Mid 2013
	"Hong Kong Platforms" – a project to develop interactive information and an education tool to promote public awareness of sustainability issues relating to built environment	The University of Hong Kong	1,323,679	Early 2014
	Enhancing the Low-Carbon Competitive Advantage Across the Manufacturing Sector of the Hong Kong Apparel Supply Chain Through Effective Carbon Disclosure and Carbon Emission Reduction	Clothing Industry Training Authority	1,146,300	Mid 2013
	Sustainable Building Index	Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency	897,500	Late 2013
	Moving the Construction Sector Towards Sustainable Development: Industry Engagement in Developing Corporate Sustainability Guidebook for SMEs in the Construction Sector in Hong Kong	Business Environment Council	1,037,860	Late 2013
	Educating for a Sustainable Future – A New Senior Secondary On-line Education Resource Library Based on Real-Life Industry Experiences	Hong Kong Productivity Council	1,484,364	Late 2013
Total amount of funding awarded (\$)			7,237,353	

Year	Title of funded project	Recipient organisation	Amount of funding awarded (\$)	Anticipated completion date
2012	Cultural Sustainable Project Through a Group of Cultural Service-Learning Ambassadors	Lingnan University	1,200,144	Early 2015
	“Upcycling - Action for Kwun Tong Community” – a project to promote the concept of upcycling business and encourage community participation in sustainable model of industrial production in Kwun Tong	Hong Kong Women Workers’ Association	385,850	Late 2014
	“3-Tree Sustainable Leadership Project” – a project to raise awareness of traditional culture and environmental protection of Lamma Island among children and teenagers	St. James’ Settlement	623,300	Early 2014
	Food Cherisher	Friends of the Earth (Hong Kong)	1,284,700	Mid 2014
	Create Life - Sustainable Lifestyle Initiatives	Community Art Network	1,515,700	Mid 2014
	Corporate Sustainability Reporting Platform in Hong Kong	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	1,953,425	Late 2014
Total amount of funding awarded (\$)			6,963,119	

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

ENB305

Question Serial No.

3830

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Sustainable Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: It is mentioned in the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14 that the Bureau will “continue to serve the Council for Sustainable Development (SDC) in its public engagement process on SD issues” and “provide training programmes for bureau and departments on the SD principles and the SA system”. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following: what are the planned projects of SDC on issues related to its public engagement process in the past two years (i.e. 2011-12 to 2012-13) and the next two years (i.e. starting from 2013-14)? Did the Administration conduct any review on the SD standards and principles in the past? If yes, what were the results? Were assessment lists included or revised to reflect and meet the social changes?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

In 2011-12, the Council for Sustainable Development (the SDC) conducted a public engagement process on “Combating Climate Change : Energy Saving and Carbon Emission Reduction in Buildings” which included the engagement with stakeholders and the general public, and the compilation of responses collected on the basis of which the SDC submitted a report of recommendations to the Government. During 2012-13, the SDC has started preparation for launching a new round of public engagement process on municipal solid waste charging which will be taken forward in 2013-14.

To integrate sustainability principles into the Government’s decision-making process, bureaux/departments are required to conduct sustainability assessments for major government proposals and new policy initiatives. The sustainability assessment system, with the aid of the Computer Aided Sustainability Evaluation Tool (CASET), provides a structured framework for bureaux/departments to identify the sustainability implications associated with a proposal. We conduct regular review of the CASET, the results of which would include the updating of baseline data and review of checklist questions etc. to ensure the system is effective and up-to-date.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB306

Question Serial No.

3831

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14, it is mentioned that the Bureau will “continue to promote the use of electric vehicles (EVs)”. Would the Administration inform this Committee of the following: please list the numbers and brands of EVs being used by the government bureaux and departments at present. What are the figures on the breakdown and maintenance of EVs, and how do such figures compare with those of fuel-based and hybrid vehicles? How many EVs does the Administration expect to purchase for use by government departments in the next two years (2013-14, 2014-15) and what are the brands involved? And what is the related expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply:

The Government has been actively promoting the wider use of electric vehicles (EVs). We now have 75 units of EVs in the Government fleet. In addition, about 150 units of EVs would be delivered to various departments in 2013. The information on the number and models of EVs procured by the Government is at the table below:

Year of Purchase	Vehicle Type	Model	Number Purchased
2008-09	Motorcycles	Vectrix Maxi Scooter	12
2009-10	Saloon Cars	Mitsubishi iMiEV	10
2010-11	Saloon Cars	Nissan LEAF	11
2011-12	Saloon Cars	Renault Fluence ZE	30
	Motorcycles	Brammo Enertia+	11
	Van	Smith Edison	1
2012-13	Saloon Cars	Renault Fluence ZE	81
		Nissan LEAF	5
	Motorcycles	Zero S - ZF9	59

The breakdown rate of EVs is similar to that of petroleum or hybrid vehicles. The annual maintenance cost for each unit of EVs is around \$6,300 on average, while that of a petrol or hybrid unit is around \$12,000.

The Government will continue to take the lead in using more EVs. We are currently reviewing with the user departments the number of EVs that would be procured in 2013-14 having regard to the availability of equivalent EV models in the market and operational requirements of the user departments.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB307

Question Serial No.

3106

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the departmental records management work over the past three years (as of 2012):

1. Please provide information on the number and rank of officers designated to perform such work. If there is no officer designated for such work, please provide information on the number of officers and the hours of work involved in records management duties, and the other duties they have to undertake in addition to records management;
2. Please list in the table below information on programme and administrative records which have been closed pending transfer to the Government Records Service (GRS) for appraisal:

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

3. Please list in the table below information on programme and administrative records which have been transferred to GRS for retention:

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

4. Please list in the table below information on records which have been approved for destruction by GRS:

Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

1. Records management duties are overseen by a Departmental Records Manager and an Assistant Departmental Records Manager. They are officers at the rank of Chief Executive Officer and Senior Executive Officer respectively. They are assisted by 17 secretarial and clerical staff whose duties may include records management. The proportion of their time engaged in records management varied according to different practices and operational functions.
2. During the past three years, we had no closed programme records and administrative records pending transfer to Government Records Service (GRS) for appraisal.
3. During the past three years, we had no programme records and administrative records transferred to GRS.
4. Information on the records approved for destruction by the GRS is provided in the table below.

Year	Category of records	Years covered by the records	Number and linear metres of records	Years that the records were transferred to GRS	Retention period approved by GRS	Are they confidential documents
2010	Programme	-	-	-	-	-
	Administrative	2002-2006	87 nos. 6.6 LM	N/A	Nil	No
2011	Programme	-	-	-	-	-
	Administrative	2002-2008	116 nos. 6.5 LM	N/A	Nil	Yes (81 files)
2012	Programme	-	-	-	-	-
	Administrative	-	-	-	-	-

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB308

Question Serial No.

3678

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the work of the Task Force on External Lighting, please advise on the following:

1. In 2012, the Administration indicated that the Task Force was considering whether and how technical standards and parameters for regulation of light nuisance and energy wastage might be developed to suit local circumstances with regard to international experience and practices. What is the progress of the work concerned?
2. Has the Administration assessed the effectiveness of the existing Guidelines on Industry Best Practices for External Lighting Installations in regulating external light nuisance and energy wastage? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
3. Last year, the Administration indicated that the Task Force would finish its work on engaging different stakeholders to forge a consensus, and on advising the Government on the way forward to tackle external lighting problems. What is the number of stakeholders engaged by the Task Force? What are the comments received and the recommendations made to the Administration? What follow-up action has the Administration taken and will it involve legislation and public consultation?
4. In an opinion survey on external lighting in Hong Kong included in a consultancy study commissioned in 2011 by the Administration, the public are very concerned about the impacts of external lighting on their daily life. According to academics, strong light will also affect people's sleeping quality and lower their immunity. Has the Administration assessed the impacts of external lighting on public health (including diseases caused annually and the relevant medical expenses)? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons and will it plan to conduct any assessment?

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

1 & 3

To address concerns about light nuisance and energy wastage problems that may be caused by external lighting installations, the Government set up the Task Force on External Lighting (Task Force) in August 2011 with members drawn from different professional bodies, relevant trades and green groups. The Task Force is studying whether technical standards and parameters may be set for regulating external

lighting in the local circumstances, and is planning to consult relevant stakeholders later this year before submitting its recommendations to the Government. We will consider the recommendations and take follow-up actions accordingly.

- 2 To encourage the industry to take early action to minimize light nuisance and energy wastage, the Government promulgated the “Guidelines on Industry Best Practices for External Lighting Installations” (the Guidelines) in January 2012. Briefings were also provided to some 100 organisations, including professional organisations, chambers of commerce, green groups, property-related trades, and the tourism trade, etc. The Guidelines set out some best practices for the design, installation and operation of external lighting for use by lighting designers, contractors, owners of lighting installations, building management companies and users. According to the experience of the Environmental Protection Department, most of the building/lighting owners would draw reference from the Guidelines on ways to minimize the extent of light nuisance in response to complaints from the public.

- 4 On the question of whether there is any direct relationship between light exposure and health problems, research studies conducted in different countries so far have not come to any conclusive view. However, an overseas study has noted that the amount of light required to cause adverse effect on human health has to be of a high level and the exposure has to be for a sufficiently long time. It has concluded that light trespass through residential windows is an unlikely cause of melatonin suppression given its low light level, particularly with the eyes of the residents closed.

The possible effects or problems caused by light pollution are non-specific and often multi-factorial, which may or may not be related to light pollution. They may be mitigated in most cases at a relatively low cost. We do not have the number of hospital admissions attributable to light pollution and the related health care cost.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB309

Question Serial No.

3692

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the consultancy studies (if any) commissioned by the Environment Bureau and its departments for the purpose of formulating and assessing policies, please provide information in the following format.

- (a) Using the table below, please provide information on studies on public policy and strategic public policy for which funds were allocated in the past two financial years (2011-12 and 2012-13):

Name of consultant	Mode of Award (open auction/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy Fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?

- (b) Are there any projects for which funds have been reserved for conducting consultancy studies this year (2013-14)? If yes, please provide the following information:

Name of consultant	Mode of Award (open auction/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy Fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For the projects that are expected to be completed this year, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?

- (c) What are the criteria for considering the award of consultancy projects to the research institutions concerned?

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

- (a) For studies on public policy and strategic public policy for which funds were allocated in the past two financial years (2011-12 and 2012-13), information is provided in the table below.

Name of consultant	Mode of Award (open auction/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy Fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Environmental Resources Management	Tender	To explore possible ways to recycle glass containers in Hong Kong	1,142,500	Jan 2008	Completed	The major findings of the study have been taken into account in drawing up the public consultation document on the new producer responsibility scheme on glass beverage bottles.	A consultation document on a New Producer Responsibility Scheme on Glass Beverage Bottles has been issued on 7 Feb 2013.
Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Ltd	Tender	To explore ways to reduce excessive packaging of consumer products in Hong Kong	1,080,000	Feb 2008	Completed	We are considering the findings of the study in mapping out the way forward.	Relevant arrangements would be worked out upon the completion of the review of the study findings.
CityU Professional Services Limited and Hyder Consulting Limited	Tender	Review and Development of Marine Water Quality Objectives	9,621,000	Oct 2008	In progress	The First Stage Public Engagement was completed between September and December 2009.	Report of the First Stage Public Engagement has been uploaded to dedicated website for public viewing.
The Chinese University of Hong Kong	Tender	Study to evaluate the adverse impact of environmental noise on public health in Hong Kong	1,428,000	Dec 2008	Completed	The related issue has been discussed in the Subcommittee on Issues Relating to Air, Noise and Light Pollution under the Panel on Environmental Affairs, Legislative Council.	The report has been uploaded to Environmental Protection Department's (EPD's) website.

Name of consultant	Mode of Award (open auction/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy Fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
EDMS (HK) Limited	Tender	Study to evaluate the environmental implications on traffic management measures – to benchmark overseas approaches and evaluate their practicability in Hong Kong	388,000	Feb 2010	Completed	The results of the study are being analyzed.	The report has been uploaded to EPD's website.
Office of Service Learning, Lingnan University	Tender	Independent analysis of public views for the public engagement process of the Council for Sustainable Development (SDC) on Combating Climate Change: Energy Saving and Carbon Emission Reduction in Buildings	861,000	Jun 2011	Completed	<p>The SDC submitted a report on the public engagement to the Government in March 2012, which put forward recommendations on energy saving and carbon emission reduction in buildings to combating climate change.</p> <p>The Administration subsequently released its response in June 2012, and accepted the recommendations put forward by the SDC in the report.</p>	The reports of both the Office of Service Learning, Lingnan University and the SDC have been uploaded on the SDC's website for public viewing.

Name of consultant	Mode of Award (open auction/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy Fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Ltd.	Tender	Review of the Computer Aided Sustainability Evaluation Tool (CASET)	1,221,000	Jan 2012	In progress	The Administration will take into account the review report in updating the CASET system.	Relevant arrangements would be worked out upon the completion of the review.
Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Ltd.	Tender	To explore use of waste glass bottles in landfill operations	700,000	Jun 2012	In progress	Not applicable	Relevant arrangements would be worked out upon the completion of the review of the study findings.
Department of Mechanical Engineering, the University of Hong Kong	Tender	Marine Engine Tests on Laboratory Setting	1,421,400	Jul 2012	Executive Summary completed; with final report nearly completed	Not applicable	Will be uploaded to EPD's website upon review.
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Tender	Review on existing practice for removal of Corrugated Asbestos Cement Sheets (CACS) - to review current regulatory requirements and practices for the removal of low-risk CACS	1,298,000	Jan 2013	In progress	Not applicable	Not applicable

- (b) For projects for which funds have been reserved for conducting consultancy studies this year (2013-14), information is provided in the table below:

Name of consultant	Mode of Award (open auction/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy Fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For the projects that are expected to be completed this year, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
CityU Professional Services Limited and Hyder Consulting Limited	Tender	Review and Development of Marine Water Quality Objectives	9,621,000	Oct 2008	In progress	The First Stage Public Engagement was completed between September and December 2009. We plan to consult the public on the review findings after they are finalised.	We plan to consult the public on the review findings after they are finalised.
Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Ltd.	Tender	Review of the CASET	1,221,000	Jan 2012	In progress	The Administration will take into account the review report in updating the CASET system.	Relevant arrangements would be worked out upon the completion of the review.
Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Ltd.	Tender	To explore use of waste glass bottles in landfill operations	700,000	Jun 2012	In progress	Not applicable	Relevant arrangements would be worked out upon the completion of the review of the study findings.
Department of Mechanical Engineering, the University of Hong Kong	Tender	Marine Engine Tests on Laboratory Setting	1,421,400	Jul 2012	Executive Summary completed; with final report nearly completed	Not applicable	Will be uploaded to EPD's website upon review.

Name of consultant	Mode of Award (open auction/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy Fee (\$)	Start date	Progress of study (under planning/in progress/completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	For the projects that are expected to be completed this year, is there any plan to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?
Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Tender	Review on existing practice for removal of CACS - to review current regulatory requirements and practices for the removal of low-risk CACS	1,298,000	Jan 2013	In progress	Not applicable	Not applicable
Mott MacDonald Hong Kong Limited	Tender	Investigation on the Sources and Fates of Marine Refuse in Hong Kong	898,000	Mar 2013	In progress	Study findings will be considered by the Inter-departmental Working Group on Clean Shorelines.	Relevant arrangements would be worked out upon completion of the study.
Social Science Research Centre, The University of Hong Kong	Tender	Independent analysis of public views for the public engagement process of the SDC on Municipal Solid Waste Charging	850,000	Mar 2013	In progress	The SDC would take into account the report of the consultant when drawing up its recommendations for submission to the Administration for consideration.	The reports of both the consultant and the SDC will be uploaded on the SDC's website after completing the public engagement exercise.

- (c) Tendering, selection and award of the studies are carried out according to the relevant procedures of the Stores and Procurement Regulations with due consideration of technical criteria including expertise and experience of consultants and resources to be committed for the study by the consultants.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB310

Question Serial No.

3708

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In regard to the growing co-operation between Hong Kong and the Mainland in recent years, please provide relevant information on Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes in which the Environment Bureau is or has been involved.

- (a) For Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes in the past two years (2011-12 and 2012-13), please provide information in the following format:

Project /Programme title	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation (the Framework Agreement), as well as expenditure involved	Name of Mainland department/ organisation involved	Progress (% completed, start date, anticipated completion date)	Have the details, objective, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology been released to the public? If yes, through which channels and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?	Details of legal or policy changes involved in the programmes
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- (b) For Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes this year (2013-14), please provide information in the following format:

Project /Programme title	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation (the Framework Agreement), as well as expenditure involved	Name of Mainland department/organisation involved	Progress (% completed, start date, anticipated completion date)	Have the details, objective, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology been released to the public? If yes, through which channels and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?	Details of legal or policy changes involved in the programmes

- (c) Apart from the projects or programmes listed above, are there any other modes of cross-boundary cooperation? If yes, what are they? What were the manpower and expenditure involved in the past 3 years (from 2010-2011 to 2012-2013), and how much financial and manpower resources are earmarked in the Estimates of this year?

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

- (a) Please refer to Annex A for details.
- (b) In 2013-14, we will continue to take forward the Pearl River Delta Regional Air Quality Management Plan, Cleaner Production Partnership Programme, and Pearl River Estuary Regional Water Quality Joint Management Planning Advance Study as listed under (a) above. Furthermore, we will embark upon Second Review of the "Deep Bay (Shenzhen Bay) Water Pollution Control Joint Implementation Programme" in 2013-14. Please refer to Annex B for details.
- (c) The governments of Hong Kong and Guangdong Province set up the Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection in 2000 to strengthen the cooperation between the two sides on environmental and sustainable development matters. Expert groups and special panels have been set up under the Working Group for both sides to collaborate on issues of mutual concern, including improving regional air quality, promoting cleaner production, protecting water environment, promoting forestry and marine resources management, etc. In addition, both sides organize and participate in visits and exchanges as well as in environmental related expositions and discussion fora. The Hong Kong/Guangdong Joint Liaison Group on Combating Climate Change was set up in May 2012 to co-operate on combating climate change, co-ordinate the relevant measures and activities, as well as promote related scientific research and technology development in the two places. We have also actively taken part in meetings and exchanges on environmental cooperation in the Pan-Pearl River Delta Region.

Environmental cooperation with Guangdong authorities is mainly coordinated by the Cross-boundary and International Division (CBD) of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD). Between 2010-11 and 2012-13, the CBD had 26 – 36 staff at various levels. Over the past three years, some \$18.1 million, \$20.2 million, and \$25.2 million were respectively provided under Head 44–EPD to cover the personal emoluments, associated general departmental expenses, as well as the necessary expenses for taking forward various environmental cooperation initiatives with the Mainland. In 2013-14, a financial provision of some \$26 million has been earmarked for this purpose. Moreover, staff from other divisions within the EPD are also involved to varying extent in pursuing cooperation with the Mainland in different areas. The necessary resources are being met by funding provided under Head 44 of the EPD.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 28 March 2013

Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects / programmes in 2011-12 and 2012-13 (Annex A)

Project/ programme title	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement (FA), as well as expenditure involved	Name of Mainland department/ organisation involved	Progress (% completed, start date, anticipated completion date)	Have the details, objective, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology been released to the public? If yes, through which channels and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?	Details of legal or policy changes involved in the programmes
The Pearl River Delta (PRD) Regional Air Quality Management Plan (the Plan)	The Plan contains emission reduction and control measures targeting at major emission sources. It is related to the FA. The Cross-boundary and International Division of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is responsible for coordinating the work under the Plan. Please refer to part (c) of the reply for the relevant expenses.	The EPD of Guangdong Province (GDEPD)	The Plan was drawn up in December 2003 and is an on-going cooperation item with Guangdong side.	EPD regularly reports the progress to LegCo's Panel on Environmental Affairs. The relevant progress reports also published on EPD's website.	Air pollutant reduction measures are being implemented by the two governments in accordance with the Plan.
Study on the post-2010 air emission reduction arrangements for the PRD Region.	The study reviews the pollutant emission situation in the region; projects future emission levels; considers possible additional emission reduction measures; and makes suggestions on post-2010 emission reduction arrangements. It is related to the FA. EPD conducted the study in-house and did not incur additional expenses.	GDEPD	The study commenced in October 2009 and was completed in November 2012.	Progress of the study was reported to LegCo's Panel on Environmental Affairs in 2010 and 2011. Key study findings were publicised in the press release issued after the Hong Kong-Guangdong Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection meeting held in November 2012.	Based on the study findings, the two governments agreed on the air pollutant emission reduction plan for the Pearl River Delta Region up to 2020.

Project/ programme title	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement (FA), as well as expenditure involved	Name of Mainland department/ organisation involved	Progress (% completed, start date, anticipated completion date)	Have the details, objective, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology been released to the public? If yes, through which channels and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?	Details of legal or policy changes involved in the programmes
The Regional Cooperation Plan on Building a Quality Living Area (the Plan)	The Plan provides the long-term direction of cooperation in the Greater PRD Region, and focuses on five areas of cooperation in respect of improving environmental and ecological quality, low-carbon development, enhancing regional land-use planning, green transportation, as well as culture and social living. It is related to the FA. Total expenditure involved is around \$6.9 million.	Guangdong Province Housing and Urban-Rural Construction Department	Hong Kong, Guangdong and Macao jointly commenced the compilation of the Plan in October 2009. The Plan was completed and promulgated in June 2012.	The Government published the consultation document on the initial proposals for the Plan and its summary in September 2011. The public consultation exercise last for three months until 30 November 2011, during which public fora and expert meetings were organised. EPD also consulted the LegCo's Panel on Environmental Affairs in October 2011. The Plan was completed and publicised in June 2012. The associated staffing and other expenditure have been absorbed under the operating expenses of the EPD.	For the implementation of the Plan, the governments of the three sides will fully make use of the existing cooperation mechanisms, which include the Hong Kong-Guangdong, Guangdong-Macao Cooperation Joint Conferences and their various expert groups. They will also incorporate the cooperation proposals into the agendas of the relevant expert groups. The three sides will take forward and coordinate the implementation of the Plan taking account of the prevailing circumstances.

Project/ programme title	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement (FA), as well as expenditure involved	Name of Mainland department/ organisation involved	Progress (% completed, start date, anticipated completion date)	Have the details, objective, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology been released to the public? If yes, through which channels and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?	Details of legal or policy changes involved in the programmes
Cleaner Production Partnership Programme (the Programme)	The 5-year Programme provides technical and funding support for Hong Kong-owned factories in the PRD Region to adopt cleaner production technologies and practices. It is related to the FA. The Government provided \$93 million to support the Programme. A provision of \$50 million is earmarked for 2013-14 to 2014-15 to extend the Programme by two years.	Economic and Information Commission of Guangdong Province and GDEPD	Commenced in 2008 and last till January 2013. The 2-year extension will start on 1 April 2013 and last till 31 March 2015.	EPD consulted the trades and LegCo before launching the Programme. It submits a progress report annually to LegCo's Panel on Environmental Affairs. EPD also held exchange sessions with the trades and chambers of commerce in 2012 and their views and suggestions had been incorporated in the design of the extension programme.	-----
First Review of the "Mirs Bay Water Quality Regional Control Strategy" (the Strategy)	The objective is to recommend necessary additional measures for protecting the Mirs Bay water environment and meeting the sustainable development objectives. It is related to the FA. The expenditure was around \$3.5 million.	Human Settlements and Environment Commission of Shenzhen Municipality (SZHEC)	The Strategy was formulated in 2003. The review of the Strategy was commenced in October 2008 and completed in September 2011	The work progress of the review was publicized in the press releases of the Hong Kong-Guangdong Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection issued after the meetings held between 2008 and 2010, and the press release of the Hong Kong/Shenzhen Co-operation Meeting issued in November 2011.	Pollution control measures are being implemented by the two governments in accordance with the Strategy.

Project/ programme title	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement (FA), as well as expenditure involved	Name of Mainland department/ organisation involved	Progress (% completed, start date, anticipated completion date)	Have the details, objective, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology been released to the public? If yes, through which channels and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?	Details of legal or policy changes involved in the programmes
Pearl River Estuary Regional Water Quality Joint Management Planning Advance Study	The objective is to evaluate the pollution load carrying capacity of the Pearl River Estuary under different water quality targets. It is related to the FA. The expenditure involved is around \$10 million.	GDEPD	We commenced the Study in February 2010 and aim to complete it by end 2013.	The progress of the study was publicized in the press releases of the Hong Kong- Guangdong Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection issued after the meeting held in 2010 and 2012 respectively.	-----

Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects / programmes in 2013-14 (Annex B)

Project/ programme title	Details, objective and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement (FA), as well as expenditure involved	Name of Mainland department/ organisation involved	Progress (% completed, start date, anticipated completion date)	Have the details, objective, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology been released to the public? If yes, through which channels and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?	Details of legal or policy changes involved in the programmes
Second Review of the “Deep Bay (Shenzhen Bay) Water Pollution Control Joint Implementation Programme” (the Programme)	The objective is to evaluate the effectiveness of the water pollution control programmes for Deep Bay and to draw up necessary additional measures for improving the Deep Bay water quality. It is related to the FA. The estimated expenditure is around \$9.8 million.	Human Settlements and Environment Commission of Shenzhen Municipality	The programme was formulated in 2000. We will commence the second review in the first half of 2013.	The review was mentioned in the press release of the Hong Kong-Guangdong Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection issued after the meeting held in November 2012.	Pollution control measures are being implemented by the two governments in accordance with the Programme.

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

ENB311

Question Serial No.

3729

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Sustainable Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Will the Administration list in the table below the funding operation of the Sustainable Development Fund in the past three years (up to 2012-13)?

Recipient organization	Amount of funding received	Work nature and objective(s) of the funded project	Date of receipt	Progress of the funded project

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

The Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) provides funding support to projects which help develop a strong public awareness of the concept of sustainable development (SD) and encourage sustainable practices in Hong Kong. A total of 18 projects have been approved in the past three years with a total grant of \$19,636,472, details of which are attached.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 22 March 2013

Year	Recipient organisation	Amount of funding awarded (\$)	Work nature and objective(s) of the funded project	Date of grant approved	Progress of the funded projects
2010	Hulu Culture Limited	1,160,200	To conserve culture and heritage of Yau Ma Tei old districts through community integration	2 July 2010	Completed
	CSR Asia	761,948	Development of a guidebook on corporate social responsibility (CSR) for small-to-medium enterprises (SMEs) in retail and service sectors	2 July 2010	Completed
	Clothing Industry Training Authority	670,000	Development of a guidebook on CSR for SMEs in the apparel industry	2 July 2010	Completed
	The Hong Kong Chamber of Small and Medium Business Limited	857,030	Development of a framework on sustainability reporting for SMEs for selected industries	2 July 2010	Completed
	World Wide Fund for Nature Hong Kong	1,986,822	Promotion of low carbon practices among Hong Kong manufacturers in the Pearl River Delta region	2 July 2010	On-going
Total amount of funding awarded (\$)		5,436,000			

Year	Recipient organisation	Amount of funding awarded (\$)	Work nature and objective(s) of the funded project	Date of grant approved	Progress of the funded projects
2011	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	346,450	Enhancing awareness of the travel trade in tourism's role of reducing carbon emission and contributing to combating climate change	2 October 2011	On-going
	City University of Hong Kong	1,001,200	Development of Carbon Audit Toolkit for domestic households to promote low carbon lifestyle	2 October 2011	On-going
	The University of Hong Kong	1,323,679	Development of interactive information and education tool to promote public awareness of sustainability issues relating to built environment	2 October 2011	On-going
	Clothing Industry Training Authority	1,146,300	Development of a guidebook for the assessment and disclosure of carbon footprint across the manufacturing sector of the apparel supply chain	2 October 2011	On-going
	Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency	897,500	To promote sustainability in the operation of buildings through development of a quantitative 'Sustainable Building Index' for assessing sustainability performance of buildings	2 October 2011	On-going
	Business Environment Council	1,037,860	Enhancing awareness and understanding of the benefits of	2 October 2011	On-going

Year	Recipient organisation	Amount of funding awarded (\$)	Work nature and objective(s) of the funded project	Date of grant approved	Progress of the funded projects
			corporate sustainability among SMEs in the construction sector through development of a corporate sustainability guidebook		
	Hong Kong Productivity Council	1,484,364	Development of an on-line sustainable development education resource library on real-life industry experiences for senior secondary school teachers and students	2 October 2011	On-going
Total amount of funding awarded (\$)		7,237,353			

Year	Recipient organisation	Amount of funding awarded (\$)	Work nature and objective(s) of the funded project	Date of grant approved	Progress of the funded projects
2012	Lingnan University	1,200,144	To promote cultural heritage from the perspective of sustainable development through a series of community based 'art education' and 'cultural service learning activities'	28 September 2012	On-going
	Hong Kong Women Workers' Association	385,850	To promote the concept of upcycling business and encourage community participation in sustainable model of industrial production in Kwun Tong	28 September 2012	On-going
	St. James' Settlement	623,300	To raise awareness of traditional culture and environmental protection of Lamma Island among children and teenagers	28 September 2012	On-going
	Friends of the Earth (Hong Kong)	1,284,700	Promotion of cherishing food and reducing food waste among schools, community groups, corporates and general public	28 September 2012	On-going
	Community Art Network	1,515,700	Promotion of sustainable lifestyle among general public through public participation in cultivation and farming, waste reduction and recycling and balanced community development	28 September 2012	On-going

Year	Recipient organisation	Amount of funding awarded (\$)	Work nature and objective(s) of the funded project	Date of grant approved	Progress of the funded projects
	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University	1,953,425	To promote measuring, reporting and monitoring of business sustainability through development of a corporate sustainability on-line reporting platform	28 September 2012	On-going
Total amount of funding awarded (\$)		6,963,119			

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

ENB312

Question Serial No.

1481

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Environment Bureau has mentioned that it will take follow-up actions having regard to the recommendations of the Task Force on External Lighting in tackling excessive external lighting in 2013-14. Would the Administration advise:

1. The number of complaints about light pollution in the past five years (2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13);
2. The recommendations put forward by the Task Force on External Lighting and the specific follow-up actions to be taken by the Administration;
3. There are no regulations to prohibit light pollution at present. Will the Administration consider introducing legislation in this regard? If no, what are the reasons?

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

Reply:

In the past five years, the Environmental Protection Department received 82, 213, 226, 234 and 225 complaints respectively against light nuisance.

To address the concerns about the light nuisance and energy wastage problems that may be caused by external lighting installations, the Government set up the Task Force on External Lighting (Task Force) in August 2011 with members drawn from different professional bodies, relevant trades and green groups. The Task Force is studying whether technical standards and parameters may be set for regulating external lighting in the local circumstances, and is planning to consult relevant stakeholders later this year before submitting its recommendations. We will consider the recommendations and take follow-up actions accordingly.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB313

Question Serial No.

1482

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Environment Bureau mentions that it will continue to promote the use of electric vehicles in 2013-14. Would the Administration advise:

1. What is the number of electric vehicles running in Hong Kong currently? What is its percentage in the total number of vehicles?
2. What are the specific details and effectiveness of the existing measures for facilitating the introduction of electric vehicles into the Hong Kong market?
3. What is the progress of achieving the target of developing additional charging facilities and increasing the number of electric vehicles in the government fleet?

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

Reply:

1. At present, more than 430 units of Electric Vehicles (EVs) are in use on the road, up from 74 in end 2010 and 242 in end 2011. The total number of licensed vehicles by end 2012 was around 653 000 units.
2. The Government has been actively promoting the wider use of electric vehicles (EVs). To encourage the procurement of EVs, we have already extended the waiver of First Registration Tax for EVs for a period of five years till end March 2014. We have also accelerated the tax deduction for capital expenditure on EVs such that enterprises can enjoy a 100% profits tax deduction in the first year of procurement. The Government has also been taking the lead in procuring and using more EVs. In terms of infrastructural development, there are now some 1 000 standard EV chargers, covering all 18 districts, and some 10 quick chargers, in Hong Kong.
3. The Government has been working with the private sector to set up a comprehensive charging network for EVs. Apart from the 1 000 standard and 10 quick chargers mentioned above, through granting concessions on Gross Floor Areas for car parks, we have been encouraging developers to put in place at the building construction stage the basic infrastructure required to facilitate future installation of EV standard charging facilities having regard to the needs of car park users. We will continue to closely monitor the growth in the number of EVs and further expand the charging network with various sectors in a timely manner.

There are 75 EVs in the Government fleet, and about 150 units will be delivered in 2013. As mentioned in the Chief Executive's Policy Address, the Government will continue to take the lead in using more EVs.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB314

Question Serial No.

1505

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Environment Bureau will conduct an interim review of the Scheme of Control Agreements (SCAs) with the two power companies in 2013-14. Would the Administration advise on the following:

- (1) What are the specific preparatory work for the interim review (e.g. examining and analyzing such issues as changes of the model and regulatory framework of an open market and the impacts of such changes, segregation of the generation sector from the network sector, and strengthening interconnection between the power networks) and its progress?
- (2) The SCAs stipulate clearly that the Administration and the two power companies shall have the right during 2013 to request modification of any part of the current SCAs. What are the specific requests for modification made by the Administration? Has consultation been conducted with the two power companies in this regard?

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

Reply:

(1) and (2)

The current Scheme of Control Agreements (SCAs) with the two power companies will expire in 2018, with an option exercisable by the Government to extend the agreements for five more years until 2023. The SCAs stipulate that the two power companies and the Government shall have the right during 2013 to request modification of any part of the current SCAs which shall continue to operate until 2018, and mutual agreement is needed before implementing any proposed modification. We have been collecting views from various stakeholders, and would conduct the mid-term review of the SCAs with the two power companies in the coming few months. We will brief the Legislative Council and the public on the results of the review at an appropriate time.

The mid-term review in 2013 would provide a useful platform for us to listen to different views of the community, and help our work in the long-term planning of electricity market development after 2018. As stipulated in the current SCAs, before implementing any changes to the regulatory regime, the Government will take into account all relevant factors and discuss with the power companies market readiness and potential future changes to the electricity supply regulatory framework and transition issues before 2016. We are undertaking preparatory work for the electricity market review, including studying and analysing

possible models for market liberalization and changes to the regulatory framework, such as segregation of electricity generation from the power grids and strengthening interconnection between the power grids.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date: 22 March 2013

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

ENB315

Question Serial No.

4492

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please list the aviation charges and relevant "carbon offsetting" expenses for overseas visits by the Bureau Secretary in 2011-12 and 2012-13 and the expenditure earmarked for the aviation charges and relevant "carbon offsetting" for such overseas visits in 2013-14.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Ka-ki

Reply:

The expenditures of air-travelling for duty visits by Secretary for the Environment in 2011-12 and 2012-13 are as follows –

Financial Year	Expenditure on Air-travelling
2011-12	\$318,000
2012-13 (up to mid March)	\$139,000

As duty visits are arranged on a need basis, we have not separately budgeted for air-travelling for such visits in 2013-14. There are no official expenditures or provisions for "carbon offsetting".

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB316

Question Serial No.

4493

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please inform this Committee of the number of complaints about light pollution handled by the Bureau and the expenditure involved in 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13. What is the expenditure earmarked for handling complaints about light pollution in 2013-14?

Asked by: Dr Hon Kwok Ka-ki

Reply:

In the past three years, the Environmental Protection Department received 226, 234 and 225 complaints respectively against light nuisance.

To address concerns about light nuisance and energy wastage problems that may be caused by external lighting installations, the Government set up the Task Force on External Lighting (Task Force) in August 2011, with members drawn from different professional bodies, relevant trades and green groups. The Task Force is studying whether technical standards and parameters may be set for regulating external lighting in the local circumstances, and is planning to consult relevant stakeholders later this year before submitting its recommendations to the Government. We will consider the recommendations and take follow-up actions accordingly.

In 2012-13, around \$0.5 million was spent to conduct publicity and stakeholder engagement activities relating to the promulgation of the "Guidelines on Industry Best Practices for External Lighting Installations" which encourage early action to minimize light nuisance and energy wastage. In 2013-14, \$1 million has been allocated for the stakeholder engagement activities relating to external lighting.

The Environmental Protection Department handles light nuisance and energy wastage issues related to external lighting by existing manpower and resources, and no separate account is provided for this specific activity.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB317

Question Serial No.

2121

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (3) Sustainable Development

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the Sustainable Development Fund, would the Government advise on the following:

1. The number of applications received and funded projects each year, as well as the annual total amount of funding and average funding received by each project in the past five years (i.e. 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012) by project category;
2. Has the Government assessed whether the funded projects could achieve the desired results after completion in the past five years (i.e. 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012)? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
3. Please provide in detail the criteria used by the Government in setting the priority areas for the year;
4. Will the Government consider setting an annual target number of funded projects, so that more quality projects can be implemented? If yes, what are the details and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

- (i) The Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) provides funding support to projects which help develop a strong public awareness of the concept of sustainable development (SD) and encourage sustainable practices in Hong Kong. Applications received in the past five years covered a wide range of SD initiatives, including community and stakeholder involvement; environmental awareness; corporate social responsibility; climate change; social cohesion; economic development and heritage and culture conservation. Details of the number of applications received and projects approved in the past five years are as follows –

	No. of Applications Received	No. of Projects Approved	Total Amount of Grant Awarded	Average Amount of Grant Per Approved Project
	(a)	(b)	(\$) (c)	(\$) (d) = (c)÷(b)
2008	32	8	7,279,545	909,943
2009	38	7	7,906,525	1,129,504
2010	66	5	5,436,000	1,087,200
2011	56	7	7,237,353	1,033,908
2012	56	6	6,963,119	1,160,520

- (ii) Approved projects are monitored by the Sustainable Development Council (SDC) Secretariat (i.e. the Sustainable Development Division of the Environment Bureau) in accordance with the established mechanism, including vetting progress reports, financial statements, and schedule of activities; and conducting on-site visits to project activities as appropriate to ensure the projects are implemented within the timeframe and in the manner as stipulated in the approved proposals. After project completion, grant recipients are required to submit final evaluation report which will be vetted by the SDC Secretariat and submitted to the Education and Publicity Sub-committee (EPSC) established under the SDC.
- (iii) To encourage more applicants to submit proposals to the SDF, prior to launching of each round of application, the EPSC would consider and recommend priority areas with regard to the theme of SDC's public engagement process, as well as promotion of community involvement, sustainable practices within the community, capacity building and collaboration across various sectors. In the past five years, priority areas that are recommended for each round of application included building a sustainable community; promoting sustainable lifestyle and practices; and combating climate change.
- (iv) We do not set any annual target number of funded projects for each round of SDF application. The objective of the SDF is to support initiatives aimed at promoting public awareness of and community participation in SD. All applications will be assessed with reference to the stated objective and criteria of the Fund.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date: 22 March 2013

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

ENB318

Question Serial No.

2125

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In respect of “promoting the use of electric vehicles (EVs) by facilitating the introduction of relevant vehicles into the Hong Kong market, promoting the setting up of charging infrastructure and expanding the government fleet of electric vehicles”, please provide the following information:

1. The numbers of EVs running on roads in Hong Kong in the past five years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2012-13), with a breakdown by vehicle type;
2. The numbers of EVs in the government fleet in the past five years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2012-13), with a breakdown by government department and vehicle type;
3. Please provide information on EVs in the government fleet in the past five years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2012-13) according to the table below:

Year of Purchase	Vehicle Type	Country of Origin	Number Purchased	Unit Price	Average Vehicle Mileage per Vehicle up to now
2008-09					
2008-09					
2008-09					
2010-11					
2010-11					
2010-11					
2012-13					
2012-13					
2012-13					

4. What is the estimated number of EVs to be purchased by the Administration for the government fleet and the related expenditure in 2013-14? When does the Administration expect to deliver and deploy all the EVs acquired for use by government departments?
5. What was the number of charging stations for EVs (with the number of charging facilities installed at government carparks listed) in the past five years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2012-13), with a breakdown by district? Does the Administration have any plans to increase the number of charging stations? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
6. Please provide details on the measures to promote the use of EVs in Hong Kong and the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

1. As at end February 2013, 434 units of electric vehicles (EVs) are in use on the road, including 348 electric private cars, 56 electric motorcycles, 21 electric light good vehicles, 5 electric light buses, 2 electric buses and 2 electric medium goods vehicles. By comparison, there were only 16 units of EVs in end 2009, 74 in end 2010 and 242 in end 2011.
2. From 2008-09 to 2012-13, the Government has procured 220 units of EVs, including 137 saloon cars, 82 motorcycles and 1 van, which are distributed to various bureaux and departments as tabulated in Annex 1.
3. Information on EVs in the government fleet is set out in Annex 2.
4. The Government will continue to take the lead in using more EVs. We are currently reviewing with the user departments the number of EVs that would be procured in 2013-14 having regard to the availability of equivalent EV models in the market and operational requirements of the user departments.
5. There are now some 1 000 standard EV chargers, covering all 18 districts, and some 10 quick chargers, in Hong Kong. The geographical distribution of the chargers is provided in Annex 3.

In 2011-12 and 2012-13, the Government installed a total of 500 standard chargers at various Government carparks for use by the public. Their location by districts is provided in Annex 4.

Apart from working with the private sectors in setting up EV charging network, through granting concessions on Gross Floor Areas for carparks, we have been encouraging developers to put in place at the building construction stage the basic infrastructure required to facilitate future installation of EV standard charging facilities having regard to the needs of carpark users. We will also closely monitor the growth in the number of EVs and consider the need to further expand the charging network in a timely manner.

6. The Government has been actively promoting the wider use of electric vehicles (EVs). To encourage the procurement of EVs, we have already extended the waiver of First Registration Tax for EVs for a period of five years till end March 2014. We have also accelerated the tax deduction for capital expenditure on EVs such that enterprises can enjoy a 100% profits tax deduction in the first year of procurement. The Government has also been taking the lead in procuring and using more EVs.

In addition, the Government will fully fund the procurement of 36 electric buses at an estimated cost of \$180 million for testing out their operational efficiency and performance under local conditions by franchised bus companies with the ultimate policy objective of having zero emission buses running across the territory. The franchised bus companies are making preparations to procure the electric buses for commencing the trial in 2014. As for public transport operators and goods vehicle owners, the Government set up in March 2011 a \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund to encourage them to test out green and innovative transport technologies, including electric vehicles. Successful applicants will be required to share the trial findings with their peers to promote the use of successful technologies. As of 11 March 2013, approval has been given to put 43 electric vehicles on trial including 14 electric taxis, 11 electric coaches and 18 electric goods vehicles.

In the coming year, we will continue to liaise closely with EV dealers to encourage them to introduce EVs into the Hong Kong market, and launch publicity activities to promote the wider adoption of EVs. About \$8.4 million has been reserved in 2013-14 for promoting the use of EVs through various channels, including the provision for the dedicated support team in Electrical and Mechanical Services Department and other publicity activities.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 25 March 2013

Distribution of EVs in the Government fleet

Departments	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12			2012-13	
	Motorcycles	Saloon Cars	Saloon Cars	Saloon Cars	Motorcycles	Van	Saloon Cars	Motorcycles
Chief Secretary for Administration's Office		1		1				
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department			1				2	1
Architectural Services Department							1	
Buildings Department							8	
Chief Executive's Office		1						
Civil Aviation Department				2				
Civil Engineering and Development Department				1			1	
Correctional Services Department							1	
Customs and Excise Department				1				
Department of Health							1	
Electrical and Mechanical Services Department		1		1			1	
Environment Bureau / Environmental Protection Department		1	1	1				
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department		1	1				1	
Government Logistics Department				1				

Departments	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12			2012-13	
	Motorcycles	Saloon Cars	Saloon Cars	Saloon Cars	Motorcycles	Van	Saloon Cars	Motorcycles
Home Affairs Department							1	
Highways Department							1	
Hong Kong Police Force	12	4		13	10		56	52
Housing Department							1	
Independent Commission Against Corruption				2				
Labour Department							1	
Lands Department			2				4	
Leisure and Cultural Services Department			1	1				1
Office of the Communications Authority				1				
Post Office			1				5	
Radio Television Hong Kong						1		
Social Welfare Department				2			1	
Transport Department			1					5
Water Supplies Department		1	3	3	1			
Total (220)	12	10	11	30	11	1	86	59

Details of EVs in the Government fleet

Year of Purchase	Vehicle Type	Country of Origin	Number Purchased	Unit Price (\$)	Dates of deployment	Average Vehicle Mileage per Vehicle up to December 2012 (km)
2008-09	Motorcycles	USA	12	93,000	April 2008 – July 2009	9 021
2009-10	Saloon Cars	Japan	10	490,000	January – June 2010	23 678
2010-11	Saloon Cars	Japan	11	420,000	July – December 2011	19 376
2011-12	Saloon Cars	France	30	370,000	Jan 2013	Not applicable
	Motorcycles	USA	11	114,000	August – November 2012	1 121
	Van	UK	1	1,400,000	May 2012	773
2012-13	Saloon Cars	France	81	360,000	Pending delivery in 2013	Not applicable
		Japan	5	340,000	Pending delivery in 2013	Not applicable
	Motorcycles	USA	59	140,000	Pending delivery in 2013	Not applicable

Geographical distribution of public EV chargers by districts

District	No. of Charging Points	District	No. of Charging Points
Central & Western	166	Islands	12
Eastern	116	Kwai Tsing	23
Southern	6	North	38
Wan Chai	109	Sai Kung	30
Kowloon City	5	Sha Tin	63
Kwun Tong	54	Tai Po	15
Sham Shui Po	43	Tsuen Wan	47
Wong Tai Sin	56	Tuen Mun	21
Yau Tsim Mong	153	Yuen Long	43

Distribution of 500 EV chargers at Government carparks

Venue	District	No. of charging points
Queensway Government offices	Central & Western	20
Star Ferry Car Park	Central & Western	35
City Hall Car Park	Central & Western	30
Murray Road Car Park	Central & Western	35
Rumsey Street Car Park	Central & Western	35
Tin Hau Car Park	Eastern	35
Shau Kei Wan Car Park	Eastern	35
North Point Government offices	Eastern	15
Immigration Tower	Wan Chai	30
Wanchai Tower		
Cheung Sha Wan Government offices	Sham Shui Po	30
North District Government offices	North	15
Sai Kung Government offices	Sai Kung	20
Shatin Government offices	Sha Tin	20
Tsuen Wan Car Park	Tsuen Wan	30
Sheung Fung Street Car Park	Wong Tai Sin	35
Middle Road Car Park	Yau Tsim Mong	40
Yau Ma Tei Car Park	Yau Tsim Mong	40

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

ENB319

Question Serial No.

4656

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14 under Programme (2), it is mentioned that the Administration will “take follow-up actions having regard to the recommendations of the Task Force on External Lighting in tackling excessive external lighting”. In this connection, please provide the following information:

1. The numbers of light pollution complaints received by the Administration in the past 5 years (from 2008-09 to 2012-13), with a breakdown by district;
2. On how many occasions did the Administration advise the relevant parties on the mitigation measures that might be taken in the past five years (from 2008-09 to 2012-13)? On how many of these occasions did the relevant parties implement the measures as recommended by the Administration?
3. What measures were taken by the government departments as lighting device owners to mitigate light pollution in the past five years (from 2008-09 to 2012-13), with a breakdown by government department? What were the expenditures involved?
4. According to the consultancy report released in 2009, it was suggested that the Task Force on External Lighting should develop technical standards and control limits for parameters in measuring light pollution or energy wastage caused by external lighting installations. Please provide details on the timetable and progress of the related work, as well as the manpower and expenditure involved.
5. Does the Administration have any plans to regulate light pollution by legislation? If yes, what are the legislative timetable and manpower involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK Wai-keung

Reply:

1 & 2

In the past five years, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) received 82, 213, 226, 234 and 225 complaints respectively against light nuisance. The complaint figures listed by district are set out at the **Annex**.

To encourage the industry to take early action to minimize light nuisance and energy wastage, the Government issued the “Guidelines on Industry Best Practices for External Lighting Installations” (the Guidelines) in January 2012. The Guidelines set out some best practices in external lighting

installations, including operating hours for lighting, automatic controls for lighting, light pollution control measures, energy efficiency measures etc. The Guidelines have been distributed to relevant stakeholders including the green groups, the tourism industry, professional bodies, chambers of commerce, the retail industry, property management associations, etc.

With the promulgation of the above Guidelines, the EPD has been handling light nuisance complaints by advising the responsible parties of the external lighting installations to consider taking appropriate improvement measures with reference to the Guidelines. Most of the building/lighting owners would draw reference from the Guidelines on ways to minimize the extent of light nuisance in response to the complaints.

- 3 On the part of the Government, a number of measures are being taken as the light owner to address the environmental problems of external lighting. To prevent any nuisance to the public caused by external lighting at Government venues, relevant government departments have been reviewing their guidelines on external lighting regularly. In general, most of the decorative and promotional external lighting installations managed by government departments are switched off at or before 11:00 pm, except for those that are required for operational, security or commercial contractual reasons. At present, about 80% of the commercial advertisement contracts stipulate the requirements to switch off external lighting installations by 11:00 pm. Individual departments will continue to take forward relevant measures to minimise the impact of lighting installations, and review the remaining contracts when they are due for renewal.

For example, in respect of venues under the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HA), the HA promulgated technical design guidelines on external public lighting installations in 1998, which have been updated from time to time taking into account the need to protect the environment and to minimise the impact on residents. In general, non-essential external lights and floodlights in ball courts are switched off at about 11:00 pm when they are not in use; suitable lamp reflectors are used to focus light directly onto the ground in order to minimise spill light falling onto residential units; and lighting fittings directing upward to the sky are avoided as far as possible.

Taking into account operational and safety needs, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) seeks to minimise the impact on nearby residents in installing lighting systems at their venues, such as adjusting the angle of spot lights, using lamp shades, directing lights at parks downwards, and using light bulbs with lower light intensity. Lighting of facilities not being used is turned off as long as it will not affect operation and safety.

As regards street lights, the Highways Department (HyD) has promulgated internal guidelines that installing street lights on the external walls of buildings should be avoided as far as possible to minimize the impact on residents. In case street lights have to be installed near residential units on lower floors due to site constraints, the HyD endeavours to take practical measures to reduce the impact on residents, such as using cut-off lanterns and light shields.

Existing resources are deployed for implementing the measures and no separate breakdown could be provided on the resources involved.

4 & 5

To address the concerns about the light nuisance and energy wastage problems that may be caused by external lighting installations, the Government set up the Task Force on External Lighting (Task Force) in August 2011, with members drawn from different professional bodies, relevant trades and green groups. The Task Force is studying whether technical standards and parameters may be set for regulating external lighting in the local circumstances, and is planning to consult relevant stakeholders later this year before submitting its recommendations to the Government. We will consider the recommendations and take follow-up actions accordingly. In 2013-14, \$1 million has been allocated for the stakeholder engagement activities related to external lighting.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 26 March 2013

Breakdown of light nuisance complaint cases by district

District Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Central & Western	6	20	25	20	23
Wan Chai	8	44	22	42	30
Eastern	5	22	15	20	22
Southern	1	4	2	9	8
Yau Tsim Mong	11	19	42	41	34
Sham Shui Po	7	13	17	4	9
Kowloon City	5	15	16	15	16
Wong Tai Sin	3	3	6	7	4
Kwun Tong	4	9	7	7	7
Tsuen Wan	5	5	5	13	2
Tuen Mun	4	2	4	8	13
Yuen Long	1	3	4	11	18
North	2	7	9	2	6
Tai Po	1	1	5	2	4
Sai Kung	6	29	14	6	4
Sha Tin	9	9	22	18	16
Kwai Tsing	3	5	9	4	7
Islands	1	3	2	5	2
Total	82	213	226	234	225

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

ENB320

Question Serial No.

2607

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14, the Administration has mentioned that it will "co-ordinate the efforts of various bureaux and departments in promoting green building in Hong Kong" and set up a steering committee in this regard. Please provide the following information:

- (a) What is the budget required for setting up the steering committee?
- (b) What is the provision earmarked for co-ordinating the efforts in promoting green building?
- (c) What are the targets and desired results of the promotion of green building?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK, Dennis

Reply:

Buildings account for some 90% of electricity consumption and 60% of greenhouse gas emissions in Hong Kong. Promoting green building will have a huge synergetic impact on the sustainability of our built environment, including reduction in carbon emissions and air pollution, while improving the quality of indoor and outdoor built environments. The Government has set up an inter-departmental Steering Committee on the Promotion of Green Building in January 2013. The Committee is chaired by the Secretary for the Environment and its members comprise representatives from relevant bureaux and departments. The Steering Committee acts as the central coordinating body to coordinate efforts by various bureaux and departments in promoting green building in Hong Kong in a holistic manner.

The Steering Committee has commenced operation and is reviewing the existing policy initiatives and international experience. An engagement was held on 15 March 2013 to gauge views from stakeholders on this front. We are also discussing with the relevant Bureaux and Departments the suggestions received from the stakeholders to promote green building in Hong Kong. Existing manpower is deployed for the activities. As the staff concerned have other responsibilities, we do not have separate breakdown on the resources involved.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB321

Question Serial No.

2611

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The provision for 2013-14 is \$4.5 million more than the revised estimate for 2012-13. The Administration mentions that the increased provision will be used for conducting studies on the operation of the electricity market and implementing publicity programmes on energy conservation. Please advise:

- (a) Which department/organization will undertake studies on the electricity market? What are the details? How long will the studies take? What is the estimated expenditure involved?
- (b) What activities are covered in the publicity programmes on energy conservation? Who are the targets? What is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. KWOK, Dennis

Reply:

- (a) In 2013, the Environment Bureau will undertake or commence preparation for a number of reviews relating to the operation of the electricity market in Hong Kong. These include (i) mid-term review of the Scheme of Control Agreements (SCAs) that the Government has entered into with the two power companies, (ii) review of the fuel mix for electricity generation, (iii) the 2014-2018 Development Plans for the two power companies, and (iv) the future regulatory regime for the electricity market in Hong Kong after the expiry of the current SCAs in 2018. Given the complexity of these reviews and their profound impact on the operation of the electricity market, we envisage financial and technical studies would have to be conducted to examine the relevant issues involved, e.g. study on segregation of electricity generation from the power grids. The studies will be carried out by in-house experts or outside consultants under the supervision of the Environment Bureau and the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department. An allocation of about \$3.5 million has been set aside in 2013-14 for the purpose.
- (b) To promote energy efficiency and conservation, around \$2 million has been reserved in 2013-14 for launching various promotional activities to enhance public's awareness on energy saving. The promotional activities include the launching of Charter schemes to expedite the phasing-out of energy-inefficient incandescent light bulbs as well as to step up publicity efforts to educate the public and major lamp users on the benefits of using more energy-efficient lamps, and to promote the importance of demand-side management of electricity consumption by requesting shopping malls, shops, etc. to maintain an average indoor temperature between 24-26 degree Celsius during the summer months of 2013.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB322

Question Serial No.

4630

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Administration has mentioned that it will continue to follow up on the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding on Energy Cooperation for the stable supply of clean energy. In this connection, would the Government inform the Committee of the following:

- (a) The measures and progress of the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding, as well as the breakdown and amount of the expenditure involved.
- (b) The price and trend of the electricity supplied to Hong Kong from the Mainland since the Memorandum of Understanding was signed.

Asked by: Hon. KWOK, Dennis

Reply:

- (a) Since the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Energy Cooperation (MOU) between the National Energy Administration of the Central People's Government and the HKSAR Government in August 2008, the HKSAR Government and relevant local power companies have established a working group to follow up the implementation work. The MOU ensures long term and stable supply of natural gas and nuclear electricity from the Mainland, and helps reduce coal-fired power generation and improve air quality significantly.

An important milestone in 2012-13 was the completion of the Hong Kong Branch Line of the Second West-East Natural Gas Pipeline to supply natural gas to Hong Kong for power generation. The related Gas Supply Agreement was approved by the Government in December 2012.

Implementation of the MOU is part of the work of existing staff and thus the actual expenses for this work cannot be separately identified.

- (b) The current unit price of nuclear electricity imported from the Mainland is about 50 cents/kWh. Future imported nuclear electricity prices will be determined in accordance with relevant contracts for supply of nuclear electricity.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date: 22 March 2013

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

ENB323

Question Serial No.

4631

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In order to promote sustainable development in Hong Kong, the Sustainable Development Division will step up efforts on various fronts. Please advise:

- (a) the total expenditure of the Sustainable Development Fund, the funded projects and funding amounts of the projects in the past three years (2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13);
- (b) the total expenditure of the education and publicity programmes of the Council for Sustainable Development, as well as the names and expenditures of the programmes in the past three years (2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13).

Asked by: Hon. KWOK, Dennis

Reply:

- (a) The Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) provides funding support to projects which help develop a strong public awareness of the concept of sustainable development (SD) and encourage sustainable practices in Hong Kong. A total of 18 projects have been approved in the past three years with a total grant of \$19,636,472 as follows–

Year	Total amount of funding awarded (\$)
2010	5,436,000
2011	7,237,353
2012	6,963,119

Details of the funded projects and the amount of funding awarded for each project are attached.

- (b) The Council for Sustainable Development (SDC) implements education and publicity initiatives in collaboration with stakeholder organisations to promote SD among various sectors of the community. In the past three years (2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13), the total estimated expenditure incurred for these initiatives is \$4,137,000 with details as follows :

SD School Outreach Programme (SOP)

The SD SOP is an on-going educational initiative of the SDC to promote SD concepts and practices in the school community. It takes place in the form of school talks, workshops and drama performances

during which there will be introduction on the SD concept and concrete examples with reference to current global and local issues, as well as discussions on how to put SD principles into practice in daily lives. The estimated total expenditure incurred for this programme in the past three years amounts to some \$444,000.

SD School Award Programme (SAP)

The SD SAP is an award programme to encourage schools to participate in activities that promote public awareness of SD and encourage SD practices in schools and the community. Under the programme, there are mainly two levels of awards, namely, SD Participation Award and SD Community Project Award for schools that are involved in different scales of participation in activities organized by the SDC and other organizations. It is a biennial programme with major expenses being incurred every other year. In the past three years, the total estimated expenditure incurred for this programme is about \$1,708,000.

SD Conference

In the past three years, the SDC has held two conferences on SD-related issues in May 2010 and January 2013 respectively with the participation of different sectors of the community including the business sector, green groups, non-governmental organisations, professional bodies and education sector etc. to explore and share experiences on good SD practices. The total expenditure incurred for the conferences is in the region of \$794,000.

Publicity and Media Promotion

The SDC has procured the production of announcement of public interest and promotional short videos to disseminate, promote and enhance the public understanding of SD through different media channels. The total estimated expenditure in the past three years is about \$1,191,000.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG
Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment
Date: 26 March 2013

Year	Title of funded project	Amount of funding awarded (\$)
2010	Sustainable Development of Heritage and Cultural Project at Old District of Yau Ma Tei	1,160,200
	Corporate Social Responsibility Guide for Small-to-Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in Hong Kong	761,948
	Guide to “Better Corporate Social Responsibility” for Apparel Industry - SME Version	670,000
	Customized Sustainability Framework to Assist SMEs to Achieve Sustainability	857,030
	Low Carbon Manufacturing Programme Workshops: Sustaining Your Business in a Carbon-constrained Economy	1,986,822
Total amount of funding awarded (\$)		5,436,000

Year	Title of funded project	Amount of funding awarded (\$)
2011	Enhancing the Role of the Travel Trade in Reducing Tourism's Carbon Footprint	346,450
	Carbon Footprint Management at Home for Sustainable Low-Carbon Living	1,001,200
	"Hong Kong Platforms" – a project to develop interactive information and an education tool to promote public awareness of sustainability issues relating to built environment	1,323,679
	Enhancing the Low-Carbon Competitive Advantage Across the Manufacturing Sector of the Hong Kong Apparel Supply Chain Through Effective Carbon Disclosure and Carbon Emission Reduction	1,146,300
	Sustainable Building Index	897,500
	Moving the Construction Sector Towards Sustainable Development: Industry Engagement in Developing Corporate Sustainability Guidebook for SMEs in the Construction Sector in Hong Kong	1,037,860
	Educating for a Sustainable Future – A New Senior Secondary On-line Education Resource Library Based on Real-Life Industry Experiences	1,484,364
Total amount of funding awarded (\$)		7,237,353

Year	Title of funded project	Amount of funding awarded (\$)
2012	Cultural Sustainable Project Through a Group of Cultural Service-Learning Ambassadors	1,200,144
	“Upcycling - Action for Kwun Tong Community” – a project to promote the concept of upcycling business and encourage community participation in sustainable model of industrial production in Kwun Tong	385,850
	“3-Tree Sustainable Leadership Project” – a project to raise awareness of traditional culture and environmental protection of Lamma Island among children and teenagers	623,300
	Food Cherisher	1,284,700
	Create Life - Sustainable Lifestyle Initiatives	1,515,700
	Corporate Sustainability Reporting Platform in Hong Kong	1,953,425
Total amount of funding awarded (\$)		6,963,119

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

ENB324

Question Serial No.

0267

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The estimated provision for 2013-14 under Programme (2) is \$22,600,000, a significant increase of 24.9% over 2012-13. Would the Bureau advise on the following in detail:

- (1) How the provision was used to support the work of the Task Force on External Lighting in 2012-13, and what actions will be taken in 2013-14 in response to the Task Force's recommendations; and
- (2) The financial and staffing provision granted to the Task Force in 2012-13 and 2013-14 respectively.

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwan-yuen, Andrew

Reply:

To address the concerns about the light nuisance and energy wastage problems that may be caused by external lighting installations, the Government set up the Task Force on External Lighting (Task Force) in August 2011, with members drawn from different professional bodies, relevant trades and green groups. The Task Force is studying whether technical standards and parameters may be set for regulating external lighting in the local circumstances, and is planning to consult relevant stakeholders later this year before submitting its recommendations to the Government. We will consider the recommendations and take follow-up actions accordingly.

In 2012-13, around \$0.5 million was spent to conduct publicity and engagement activities mainly to promulgate the "Guidelines on Industry Best Practices for External Lighting Installations", which encouraged early action to minimize light nuisance and energy wastage. In 2013-14, \$1 million has been allocated for the stakeholder engagement activities.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 20 March 2013

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

ENB325

Question Serial No.

2486

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding items (a) minimisation of the production and use of energy; (b) use of clean or green energy; (c) development of sustainable clean energy or green energy, which are implemented for the Government and public bodies, please provide information in the format below:

	Government Departments / Public Bodies	Prevailing Budget	Expenditure Item and Amount	Staffing Establishment
2008				
2009				
2010				
2011				
2012				

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has been conducting energy saving and renewable energy projects with funds allocated to EMSD. The details of the energy saving projects conducted for existing Government buildings are as follows –

Year With Funds Allocated	Government Department/ Public Body	Estimated Project Cost (\$ million)	Actual Expenditure (\$ million)
2008-09	Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department;	38	38
2009-10	Architectural Services Department; Civil Aid Service; Civil Aviation Department;	180	180
2010-11	Civil Engineering and Development Department; Census and Statistics Department;	89	89
2011-12	Correctional Services Department; Customs and Excise Department;	60	58
2012-13	Department of Health; Drainage Services Department; Education Bureau; Electrical and Mechanical Services Department; Environmental Protection Department; Fire Services Department; Food and Environmental Hygiene Department; Government Logistics Department Government Property Agency; Government Records Service; Home Affairs Department; Hong Kong Observatory; Hong Kong Police Force; Hospital Authority; Immigration Department; Independent Commission Against Corruption; Judiciary; Leisure and Cultural Services Department; Marine Department; Transport Department; and Water Suppliers Department	45	40*

* Subject to completion of the final account of the projects concerned.

Apart from the above projects, there are other minor works and capital works projects adopting energy efficient features which are funded by resources allocated to other departments for individual works projects.

The renewable energy projects funded by resources allocated to EMSD are as follows:–

Year With Funds Allocated	Government Department/ Public Body	Estimated Project Cost (\$ million)	Actual Expenditure (\$ million)
2008-09	Fire Services Department; Hospital Authority;	7.1	7.1
2009-10	Leisure and Cultural Services Department; Correctional Services Department;	3.0	3.0
2010-11	Government Property Agency; and Education Bureau	2.3	2.3
2011-12	--	--	--
2012-13	--	--	--

Apart from the above projects, there are other renewable energy projects funded by resources allocated to other departments for individual capital works projects. Examples of these projects are photovoltaic system at the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre in Tsing Yi, installation of solar water heating system at Castle Peak Hospital, and photovoltaic system and small scale wind turbine system at Sing Yin Secondary School. Separate resources under EMSD for implementation of such renewable energy projects are not required in 2011-12 and 2012-13.

As the staff involved in the implementation of above projects have other responsibilities, we could not provide separate breakdown on the staffing resources involved.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB326

Question Serial No.

2494

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: With regard to the Department's plan to tackle excessive external lighting, please advise :

- (a) Has the Department studied whether the excessive external lighting is the result of a lack of effective town planning and co-existence of commercial and residential buildings? If yes, what are the themes and conclusions of the research projects? If no, what are the reasons? Are there any statistics on the number of dwellings being affected by excessive external lighting over the past 5 years (i.e. 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13)?
- (b) Will the Department consider introducing control on light pollution by legislation? If yes, what are the timeframe for implementation and specific details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (c) What are the Department's estimates for handling light pollution? Please list the projects under planning.

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

In the past five years, the Environmental Protection Department received 82, 213, 226, 234 and 225 complaints respectively against light nuisance. We understand that most of the complainants are households.

The Environment Bureau has completed a consultancy study on energy wastage and light nuisance of external lighting, and briefed the LegCo Panel on Environmental Affairs on the major findings of the study in March 2011.

To address the concerns about the light nuisance and energy wastage problems that may be caused by external lighting installations, the Government set up the Task Force on External Lighting (Task Force) in August 2011, with members drawn from different professional bodies, relevant trades and green groups. The Task Force is studying whether technical standards and parameters may be set for regulating external lighting in the local circumstances, and is planning to consult relevant stakeholders later this year before submitting its recommendations to the Government. We will consider the recommendations and take follow-up actions accordingly. In 2013-14, \$1 million has been allocated for the stakeholder engagement activities related to external lighting.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 22 March 2013

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

ENB327

Question Serial No.

3066

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: With regard to reducing the environmental impact of energy supply in Hong Kong, will the Administration advise on the following:

- (a) What was the percentage of different sources of energy supply in Hong Kong in the past five years (2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13)? What policies will the Administration adopt to promote renewable and clean energy? Will any interim target on increasing the use and percentage of renewable and clean energy be set?
- (b) Were there any studies on the development of renewable and clean energy in the past five years (2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13)? Please provide a list of the studies with topics and conclusions (if any).
- (c) Apart from further tightening the emission caps on the power sector from 2017 onwards, are there any policies and measures to control the pollution caused by the sector to the environment and the air? If yes, please advise on the specific work as well as the expenditure and manpower involved. If no, what are the reasons?
- (d) Are there any specific policies and measures to enhance competition and transparency of the local energy market?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG, Kenneth

Reply:

- (a) Hong Kong derives its energy supplies almost entirely from external sources. Energy is either imported directly (as in the case of oil products and coal products), or produced through some intermediate transformation processes using imported fuel inputs (as in the case of electricity and gas). According to figures published at the Hong Kong Energy Statistics Annual Report by the Census and Statistics Department, the sources of different energy supply in Hong Kong in accordance with the final energy requirements in 2008-2011 are in the table below. The figures for 2012 are not yet available.

Final energy requirements	Coal Products	Oil Products	Electricity	Towngas	Total
2008	221	147 790	147 345	27 583	322 938
2009	182	129 951	149 366	27 274	306 774
2010	118	119 088	150 705	27 578	297 488
2011	183	117 622	151 590	28 147	297 543

[Unit: terajoule]

Electricity generation accounts for two-thirds of the total greenhouse gas emission in Hong Kong and is also a major source of air pollution. To effectively combat climate change and improve our air quality, apart from actively promoting energy efficiency on the demand side, we also proposed in 2010 to improve the fuel mix for power generation by substantially reducing the reliance on coal and increasing the share of natural gas, renewable energy and imported nuclear energy from the Mainland in 2020. Following the Fukushima incident, various sectors in the community have different views on the application of nuclear energy. While various fuel sources each have its own merits and demerits, we will review the overall fuel mix and consult the public on the best option for Hong Kong that would seek to strike a balance among the competing energy policy objectives of safety, reliability, environmental protection and affordability.

- (b) During the past five years, the Environment and Conservation Fund has provided funding support for a research project on a subject related to renewable energy. The project aims to measure the "sustainability" of building-integrated photovoltaic applications in Hong Kong by introducing two environmental assessment indicators, i.e. energy payback time and greenhouse gas payback time.
- (c) In the latest Technical Memorandum (TM) which further tightened the emission caps for the power sector starting 2017, the Government stated that the TM would be reviewed not less than once every two years after its issuance. We will conduct the review accordingly of any scope to further tighten the emission caps in light of the overall fuel mix review for the power sector and advancement in the control technology in power plant emissions. The review of the TM will be carried out by existing resources.

Specific parts of power plants in Hong Kong are also subject to environmental control through specified process licences under the Air Pollution Control Ordinance, environmental permits under the Environmental Impact Assessment Ordinance, licences under the Water Pollution Control Ordinance and chemical waste producer registration under the Waste Disposal Ordinance. The Environmental Protection Department will continue to specify appropriate conditions in the relevant licences upon approval or renewal and to carry out inspections to power plants to check compliance with the conditions set out in respective licenses. The licensing and inspection work are undertaken by existing manpower and resources of the department. We do not have a separate account for specific activity in relation to the power sector.

- (d) As stipulated in the current Scheme of Control Agreements (SCAs), before implementing any changes to the regulatory regime, the Government will take into account all relevant factors and discuss with the power companies market readiness and potential future changes to the electricity supply regulatory framework and transition issues before 2016. We are undertaking preparatory work in 2013 for the electricity market review, including studying and analysing possible models for market liberalization, the requisite changes to the regulatory framework, and their implications on the energy policy objectives. At appropriate stages, we would consult the public on the future of the SCAs.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB328

Question Serial No.

1319

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: According to the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14, the Administration will review the fuel mix for power generation by conducting a review with the two power companies on fuel mix to gradually phase out coal-fired systems which generate more greenhouse gas and pollutants during the course of power generation and increase the use of other non-fossil fuels. In this connection, please advise this Committee on the progress and details of the work so far.

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-kwok

Reply:

Electricity generation accounts for two-thirds of the total greenhouse gas emission in Hong Kong and is also a major source of air pollution. To effectively combat climate change and improve our air quality, apart from actively promoting energy efficiency on the demand side, we also proposed in 2010 to improve the fuel mix for power generation by substantially reducing the reliance on coal to less than 10% and increasing the share of natural gas and renewable energy to about 40% and 3-4% respectively in 2020, with the remaining balance of about 50% to be met with more imported nuclear energy from the Mainland. Following the Fukushima incident, various sectors in the community have different views on the application of nuclear energy. While various fuel sources each have its own merits and demerits, we will review the overall fuel mix and consult the public on the best option for Hong Kong that would seek to strike a balance among the competing energy policy objectives of safety, reliability, environmental protection and affordability.

In the light of the profound impact of the review, we are engaging various stakeholders, including experts, academics, industry and business sectors, and non-governmental organizations to solicit their views. We aim at drawing up a proposal for consultation with the public in the latter half of 2013.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB329

Question Serial No.

1320

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: With regard to the promotion of the use of energy efficient installations by the Administration and public organizations, please advise on the following:

1. Please provide the relevant information for 2012-13 with a breakdown on the names of government departments/public organizations; the buildings/facilities involved; the electricity consumption and tariffs saved; the carbon emission reduced; and
2. What are the new measures/schemes to promote energy conservation in 2013-14? What are the estimated expenditure and staff establishment involved?

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-kwok

Reply:

1. The allocation to the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) for implementing energy-saving projects in various existing government and public buildings in 2012-13 is about \$44.7 million. These projects include retrofitting of energy efficient lighting and control systems, light emitting diode (LED) exit signs, and energy efficient air-conditioning and control systems, etc. The estimated total annual energy saving of these projects is about 4 million kWh, and electricity tariff saving is about \$4 million per annum, or equivalent to an annual reduction of about 2 800 tonnes of carbon dioxide emission. The estimated tariff saving is about \$4 million per annum on the assumption that the average electricity tariff is \$1 per kWh. The breakdown is given in the table below.

	Government Department / Public Body	Buildings /Facilities Involved	Electricity and Cost Saving	Reduction in Carbon Emission
2012-13	Department of Health; Food and Environmental Hygiene Department; Government Property Agency; Hong Kong Police Force; Judiciary; and Leisure and Cultural Services Department.	court buildings; clinics; departmental headquarters; government offices; government quarters; markets; police stations; and sports centres.	4 million kWh electricity and about \$4 million per annum	About 2 800 tonnes of carbon dioxide per annum

Apart from the above projects, all minor works and capital works projects adopt appropriate energy efficient features which are funded by resources allocated to project votes for individual projects.

2. To promote energy efficiency and conservation, around \$2 million has been reserved in 2013-14 for launching a number of promotional activities to enhance public awareness of energy saving. The promotional activities include the launching of Charter schemes to expedite the phasing-out of energy-inefficient incandescent light bulbs as well as to step up publicity efforts to educate the public and major lamp users on the benefits of using more energy-efficient lamps, and to promote the importance of demand-side management of electricity consumption by requesting shopping malls, shops, etc. to maintain an average indoor temperature between 24-26 °C during the summer months of 2013.

EMSD will continue to undertake promotional activities for students of schools, members of trades (e.g. property management companies, electrical product suppliers, contractors, consultants, etc), non-government organizations and general public for promoting public awareness on energy efficiency and conservation. These activities include school exhibitions and outreach programmes, trade seminars, public seminars, guided tours of the Education Path of the EMSD Headquarters, promotion of Energy Efficiency (Labelling of Products) Ordinance and Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance, distribution of promotional leaflets and newsletters, dissemination of energy saving information through the Internet, etc. The estimated expenditure for the promotional activities in 2013-14 is about \$2 million.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB330

Question Serial No.

1322

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: According to the Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2013-14, the Administration will co-ordinate the efforts of various bureaux and departments in promoting green building in Hong Kong. Would the Administration inform this Committee of the following:

1. Has the Administration conducted any effectiveness assessment on the work carried out regarding such efforts in 2012-13? If yes, what is the result of the assessment?
2. Will green assessment be conducted on the existing government buildings to improve the environment? If yes, what is the timetable?
3. Will any carbon emission standard be established for public buildings to quantify green buildings?
4. Are there any new incentive measures to encourage the industry and the market to develop a sustainable building environment?

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-kwok

Reply:

1. & 4.

We set up in January 2013 the Steering Committee for the Promotion of Green Building under the chairmanship of the Secretary for the Environment. The Steering Committee comprises representatives from relevant bureaux and departments, and acts as the central coordinating body to coordinate efforts by various bureaux and departments in promoting green building in Hong Kong in a holistic manner. The Steering Committee is reviewing the existing policy initiatives and international experience. We are also discussing with the relevant Bureaux and Departments the suggestions received from the stakeholders to promote green building in Hong Kong.

Prior to the establishment of the Steering Committee, relevant bureaux and departments have already implemented a package of measures to foster a quality and sustainable built environment and promote building energy efficiency. The measures include, inter alia, developing sustainable design guidelines and tightening the granting of gross floor area (GFA) concessions by, for instance, requiring new buildings to undertake the BEAM Plus Assessment conferred by the Hong Kong Green Building Council (HKGBC) as a pre-requisite for seeking GFA concessions for green and amenity features and

non-mandatory/non-essential plant rooms and services.

2. We will also continue to implement various forms of green measures in suitable existing government buildings with the objective to saving energy, reducing carbon emission and improving the environment. We will capitalize on the opportunities of renovation and revitalization to apply BEAM Plus assessment for existing government buildings, such as the upcoming project for the "Relocation of Part of the Offices of the Department of Justice to the Main and East Wings of the Former Central Government Offices" and the project for the "Relocation of the Court of Final Appeal and the Development Office of the Judiciary to No. 8 Jackson Road".

3. In respect of quantifying carbon emissions for public buildings / facilities, the Government has been promoting carbon audit and taking the lead to conduct carbon audits for government buildings. So far, more than 160 carbon audits have been conducted for about 100 government buildings and public facilities, including government offices, community halls and sewage treatment facilities. To further promote carbon audits, the Government has rolled out a three-year programme in September 2012 to conduct energy-cum-carbon audits for about 120 government buildings and public facilities. We believe promotion of carbon audit is an essential step for identifying opportunities to introduce more "green" measures. The issue of whether and how carbon emission standard might be established for government buildings and facilities should be considered in due course on the basis of the database when relevant information of comparable buildings is built up.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB331

Question Serial No.

2482

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding promotion of environmental protection and energy conservation in government buildings, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) The government expenditure on purchasing energy-efficient lighting installations such as compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) and light emitting diode (LED) lights in the past 3 years (i.e. financial years of 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13).
- (b) The respective savings in electricity and tariffs due to the use of energy-efficient lighting installations in government buildings in the past 3 years (i.e. financial years of 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13).
- (c) The respective percentages of CFLs, LED lights and conventional lighting installations currently in use in government buildings.
- (d) The provision earmarked by the Government in the financial year of 2013-14 for replacing conventional lighting installations in government buildings with energy-efficient lighting installations.
- (e) How many years will it take to replace all the conventional lighting installations in government buildings with energy-efficient lighting installations according to the Administration's estimate?

Asked by: Hon. MA Fung-kwok

Reply:

- (a) Since 2006-07, the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) has been implementing energy-efficient lighting projects in various existing government buildings. The estimated expenditure by EMSD in 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 for energy-efficient lighting projects is \$55.5 million, \$25.0 million and \$11.4 million respectively.
- (b) The estimated annual energy saving of the energy-efficient lighting projects undertaken by EMSD is about 6.0 million kilowatt-hour (kWh) in 2010-11, 3.3 million kWh in 2011-12 and 1.0 million kWh in

2012-13. Taking an average electricity tariff of \$1 per kWh, the estimated saving in electricity cost is \$6.0 million in 2010-11, \$3.3 million in 2011-12 and \$1.0 million in 2012-13.

- (c) Since June 2009, the Government has ceased to procure tungsten filament lamps for general lighting purposes (e.g. general lighting service lamps and decorative lamps), except otherwise justified on operational ground.

Energy-efficient lighting has been widely used in Government buildings. Fluorescent lamps and compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) are commonly used in Government offices for general lighting purpose. Light emitting diode (LED) lighting is on trial in Government buildings primarily for special lighting purpose to suit different operational needs. In 2012-13, the Supplies Sub-division of EMSD had not procured tungsten filament lamps for general lighting purpose, and had procured about 96 000 energy-efficient fluorescent tubes.

- (d) The fund earmarked in 2013-14 for EMSD to implement energy-efficient lighting projects in existing Government buildings is \$1.4 million.
- (e) Since 2006-07, EMSD has been implementing energy-efficient lighting projects in various existing Government buildings and so far about 350 projects have been completed. Following the Government's decision in 2009 to cease the procurement of tungsten filament lamps for general lighting purposes (except otherwise justified on operational ground), and the implementation of energy-efficient lighting projects in existing Government buildings, we believe majority of the lighting installations adopted by the Government for general lighting purposes are energy-efficient.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB332

Question Serial No.

2599

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

- Question: (a) How many charging stations for electric vehicles are there in the territory at present? What is the distribution of these stations?
- (b) Has the Government assessed the utilization and demand of the charging stations? If yes, what are the details?
- (c) It is said that the insufficient provision of charging facilities is the main reason for motorist not switching to electric vehicles? Will the Government plan to increase the number of charging stations for electric vehicles in order to promote wider use of electric vehicles and low-carbon driving? If yes, what is the estimated expenditure for the 2013-14 financial year? If no, has the Government any other plans to promote low-carbon driving? What is the estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. MA Fung-kwok

Reply:

- (a) The Government has been working with the private sector to set up a comprehensive charging network for Electric Vehicles (EVs). There are now some 1 000 standard EV chargers, covering all 18 districts, and some 10 quick chargers, in Hong Kong. The geographical distribution of these standard and quick chargers are as follows –

District	No. of Charging Points	District	No. of Charging Points
Central & Western	166	Islands	12
Eastern	116	Kwai Tsing	23
Southern	6	North	38
Wan Chai	109	Sai Kung	30
Kowloon City	5	Sha Tin	63
Kwun Tong	54	Tai Po	15
Sham Shui Po	43	Tsuen Wan	47

District	No. of Charging Points	District	No. of Charging Points
Wong Tai Sin	56	Tuen Mun	21
Yau Tsim Mong	153	Yuen Long	43

Furthermore, through granting concessions on Gross Floor Areas for car parks, we have been encouraging developers to put in place at the building construction stage the basic infrastructure required to facilitate future installation of EV standard charging facilities having regard to the needs of car park users.

- (b) Regarding the 500 standard chargers in Government car parks, based on the electricity consumption of the chargers, we estimate that the average number of charging is about 15 each month per car park. As regards the quick chargers, the number of charging per month is about 35 per charger.
- (c) The Government has been actively promoting the wider use of EVs. To encourage the procurement of EVs, we have already extended the waiver of First Registration Tax for EVs for a period of five years till end March 2014. We have also accelerated the tax deduction for capital expenditure on EVs such that enterprises can enjoy a 100% profits tax deduction in the first year of procurement. The Government has also been taking the lead in procuring and using more EVs.

At present, 18 EV models are available in Hong Kong. They are of various vehicle types, including private cars, motorcycles, goods vehicles and buses. More than 430 units of EVs are in use on the road, up from 74 in end 2010 and 242 in end 2011. In the coming year, we will continue to liaise closely with EV dealers to encourage them to introduce EVs into the Hong Kong market, and launch publicity activities to promote the wider adoption of EVs. We will also closely monitor the growth in the number of EVs and consider the need to further expand the charging network in a timely manner. About \$8.4 million has been reserved in 2013-14 for promoting the use of EVs through various channels, including the provision for the dedicated support team in Electrical and Mechanical Services Department and other publicity activities.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB333

Question Serial No.

1778

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please list the aviation charges and relevant "carbon offsetting" expenses for overseas visits by the Bureau Secretary in the past three years (2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13) and the expenditure earmarked for the aviation charges and relevant "carbon offsetting" for such overseas visits in 2013-14.

Asked by: Hon. MO, Claudia

Reply:

The expenditures of air-travelling for duty visits by Secretary for the Environment in 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 are as follows –

Financial Year	Expenditure on Air-travelling (\$)
2010-11	374,000
2011-12	318,000
2012-13 (up to mid March)	139,000

As duty visits are arranged on a need basis, we have not separately budgeted for air-travelling for such visits in 2013-14. There are no official expenditures or provisions for "carbon offsetting".

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB334

Question Serial No.

1779

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please advise on the number of complaints about light pollution handled by the Bureau and the relevant details in the past three years (2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13). What is the expenditure earmarked for handling light pollution complaints in 2013-14?

Asked by:Hon. MO, Claudia

Reply:

In the past three years, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) received 226, 234 and 225 complaints respectively against light nuisance.

To address concerns about light nuisance and energy wastage problems that may be caused by external lighting installations, the Government set up the Task Force on External Lighting (Task Force) in August 2011, with members drawn from different professional bodies, relevant trades and green groups. The Task Force is studying whether technical standards and parameters may be set for regulating external lighting in the local circumstances, and is planning to consult relevant stakeholders later this year before submitting its recommendations to the Government. We will consider the recommendations and take follow-up actions accordingly.

In 2013-14, \$1 million has been allocated for the organisation of stakeholder engagement activities. The EPD handles light nuisance and energy wastage issues related to external lighting by existing manpower and resources, and thus no separate account is provided for this specific activity.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB335

Question Serial No.

0680

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In the 2013-14 Estimate, the Civil Service Provident Fund contribution increases drastically by 59.2%, which is out of step with the salary increase of only 11.01%. What are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. NG Leung-sing

Reply:

Out of the total establishment of 41 of the Environment Bureau (ENB), there are only six officers on the Civil Service Provident Fund (CSPF) Scheme. It is estimated that for the four new posts to be created in ENB in 2013-14, three posts in promotion ranks may be filled by officers on the CSPF Scheme. As the number of existing officers on the CSPF Scheme is small, the percentage change in the CSPF contribution will be more significant than the percentage change in salaries of all staff in ENB under different terms of appointment when additional officers on the CSPF Scheme join in 2013-14.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB336

Question Serial No.

2103

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: How many electric vehicles (EVs) are there in the government fleet and in the territory respectively at present? How much money does the Government spend on EVs annually and what expenses are so incurred? Compared with ordinary vehicles, how much more money is saved or spent for the Government by the use of EVs every year? Does the Government have any measures to promote the use of EVs? What are the financial resources and manpower involved?

Asked by: Hon. QUAT, Elizabeth

Reply:

The Government has been actively promoting the wider use of electric vehicles (EVs). To encourage the procurement of EVs, we have already extended the waiver of First Registration Tax for EVs for a period of five years till end March 2014. We have also accelerated the tax deduction for capital expenditure on EVs such that enterprises can enjoy a 100% profits tax deduction in the first year of procurement. The Government has also been taking the lead in procuring and using more EVs. In terms of infrastructural development, there are now some 1 000 standard EV chargers, covering all 18 districts, and some 10 quick chargers, in Hong Kong.

In addition, the Government will fully fund the procurement of 36 electric buses at an estimated cost of \$180 million for testing out their operational efficiency and performance under local conditions by franchised bus companies with the ultimate policy objective of having zero emission buses running across the territory. The franchised bus companies are making preparations to procure the electric buses for commencing the trial in 2014. As for public transport operators and goods vehicle owners, the Government set up in March 2011 a \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund to encourage them to test out green and innovative transport technologies, including electric vehicles. Successful applicants will be required to share the trial findings with their peers to promote the use of successful technologies. As of 11 March 2013, approval has been given to put 43 electric vehicles on trial, including 14 electric taxis, 11 electric coaches and 18 electric goods vehicles.

At present, 18 EV models are available in Hong Kong. They are of various vehicle types, including private cars, motorcycles, goods vehicles and buses. More than 430 units of EVs are in use on the road, up from 74 in end 2010 and 242 in end 2011. For the Government fleet, we now have 75 units, and about 150 units are being delivered in 2013. The total procurement cost for these EVs is around \$63.5 million. In 2012-13, the average maintenance cost for EV was around \$6,300 per unit, while that of a petrol or hybrid unit is around \$12,000.

In the coming year, we will continue to liaise closely with EV dealers to encourage them to introduce EVs into the Hong Kong market, and launch publicity activities to promote the wider adoption of EVs. We will also closely monitor the growth in the number of EVs and consider the need to further expand the charging network in a timely manner. About \$8.4 million has been reserved in 2013-14 for promoting the use of EVs through various channels, including the provision for the dedicated support team in Electrical and Mechanical Services Department and other publicity activities.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB337

Question Serial No.

3304

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Please provide the numbers of government's talent training programmes, training organisations, people benefited in the environmental industry respectively in 2012-13 and 2013-14, as well as the expenditure and manpower involved. Besides, what is the manpower supply and demand in the environmental industry in Hong Kong? If there is a shortage of manpower, what is the situation? Are the existing training programmes sufficient to cope with the manpower demand from the market?

Asked by: Hon. QUAT, Elizabeth

Reply:

Broadly speaking, environmental industry encompasses all goods and services associated with environmental protection, including waste collection, handling and recycling; design and operation of environmental infrastructure and products; works, services and products related to energy conservation and carbon reduction; design, installation and operation of environmental systems for compliance with regulations; environmental impact assessment and audit, and industries related to nature conservation. The "Green DNA" exists in every trade and business. Unlike traditional professions like legal services, accountancy or financial advisory or dealing services, which require new comers to have acquired certain professional qualifications before being admitted into respective professions, the entry criteria for environmental and environment-related industry as a profession cover a wider spectrum of other more general disciplines. For instance, sewage treatment may require qualification from the biochemistry discipline, and energy auditing may require an electrical engineering background. People trained in such a discipline or with such a background may generally serve in other industries as well. There is a certain degree of flexibility over manpower deployment at a more macro level. Against this background, various existing training programmes and the local education system broadly meet the manpower requirements of the environmental industry and allow the industry to bring in talents as may be required from time to time.

According to the statistics published by the Census and Statistics Department, there has been a continuous growth in the environmental industry in terms of employment in recent years. The environmental industry employed about 32 410, 36 080 and 38 350 people in 2009, 2010 and 2011 respectively, representing a growth rate of 3.6%, 11.3% and 6.3% over the preceding year. It should be noted that the statistics which have been worked out with regard to the definition of environmental industry in other regions, cover industries directly related to pollution treatment and environmental hygiene, but not other industries that may be relevant, such as green building and green procurement, etc. The Government will keep in view the demand and supply situation in the environmental industry.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB338

Question Serial No.

4615

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Environment Bureau's revised estimate for the programme on power was \$18.1 million in 2012-13, 5.7% lower than the original estimate of \$19.2 million. However, the estimated provision for the programme in 2013-14 is \$22.6 million, an increase of \$4.5 million (24.9%) over 2012-13. This is a significant change. In this connection:

- (a) Please explain in detail why the revised estimate for 2012-13 was 5.7% lower than the original estimate. Would the Administration list item by item the number of projects and the manpower resources involved, as well as the actual distribution of expenditure? If no, what are the reasons?
- (b) Notwithstanding that reasons have been given for the increase in provision for 2013-14, would the Administration list item by item the number of projects, manpower resources and financial arrangements involved? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. QUAT, Elizabeth

Reply:

- (a) In 2012-13, the revised estimate was \$1.1 million (5.7%) lower than the original estimate as the actual cost for installing the electric vehicle (EV) chargers is lower than the original estimate.
- (b) In 2013, the Environment Bureau (ENB) will undertake or commence preparation for a number of reviews relating to the operation of the electricity market in Hong Kong. These include (i) mid-term review of the Scheme of Control Agreements (SCAs) that the Government has entered into with the two power companies, (ii) review of the fuel mix for electricity generation, (iii) the 2014-2018 Development Plans for the two power companies, and (iv) the future regulatory regime for the electricity market in Hong Kong after the expiry of the current SCAs in 2018. Given the complexity of these reviews and their profound impact on the operation of the electricity market, we envisage financial and technical studies would have to be conducted to examine the relevant issues involved, e.g. study on segregation of electricity generation from the power grids. The studies will be carried out by in-house experts or outside consultants under the supervision of the ENB and the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department. An allocation of about \$3.5 million has been set aside in 2013-14 for the purpose. On the other hand, to promote energy efficiency and conservation, around \$2 million has been reserved in 2013-14 for launching various promotional activities to enhance public's awareness on energy saving.

In addition, three posts of 1 Senior Treasury Accountant and 2 Accounting Officers will be created in 2013-14 to strengthen the manpower support to undertake the existing duties and the various reviews relating to the operation of the electricity market.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 26 March 2013

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

ENB339

Question Serial No.

3293

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The Financial Secretary mentioned in the Budget Speech that "Over the past couple of years, the Government has promoted six industries where Hong Kong enjoys clear advantages". How will the Administration allocate resources to promote the environmental industry in 2013-14? What is the number of officers responsible for this task and what are their ranks? What are the specific work plans? What is the schedule or timetable for 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply:

The Government has been adopting the three-pronged approaches to promote the development of environmental industry. Firstly, we invest heavily in the development of environmental infrastructure facilities and the setting up of various funding schemes to encourage adoption of clean technologies. We also provide funding support to encourage research and development on green and environmental technologies. A list of the major projects/funding schemes and their respective costs/funds approved or earmarked in the past five years from 2008-09 to 2012-13 is at **Annex**.

In addition, we have been pursuing policy initiatives to promote business opportunities for environmentally friendly products and services. For instance, the enactment of Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance has brought about new business opportunities for the green building sector. The Government has also set out a series of policy measures in the Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste (2005-2014) to proactively create a more favourable operating environment for the recycling and green industries with a view to assisting the development of the local recycling and green industries and encouraging more people to join the recycling industry. These measures include the implementation of programmes on source separation of waste, the identification of more suitable sites for leasing to the recycling industry under short-term tenancy through bidding, the development of the EcoPark, the promotion of the green procurement policy among government departments, the implementation of producer responsibility schemes, and the encouragement of the development of recycling technologies through the Innovation and Technology Fund, the Environment and Conservation Fund and various funds for small and medium enterprises.

Thirdly, we are also capitalising on Hong Kong's advantages to open up business opportunities in the Mainland for our environmental industry, and will support the industry's participation in such activities as

environmental exhibitions and trade missions to help build local environmental brands, and facilitate collaboration with local and overseas enterprises.

The Government will continue taking the above approaches in promoting the development of the environmental industry.

As the above measures and investments form an integral part of the work of relevant Bureaux and Departments, we do not have a separate breakdown on the funds and manpower involved for promoting the development of environmental industries *per se*.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 26 March 2013

Infrastructural Projects	Approved Capital Costs (\$ million)
Stage 2A of the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme	17,199.9
Upgrading of Pillar Point sewage treatment works	1,920.5
Sludge Treatment Facilities	5,154.4
District Cooling System at the Kai Tak Development (Phases I and II)	1,861.8
Development of EcoPark	319
Funding Schemes and Other Initiatives	Approved/Earmarked Funds (\$ million)
Environment and Conservation Fund	1,500
Pilot Green Transport Fund	300
Cleaner Production Partnership Programme	143 (Note)
Environmental technology projects funded under the Innovation and Technology Fund	126
Funding support for academic research concerning green and energy conservation technologies, environmental science, as well as developing a sustainable environment, under the University Grants Committee and Research Grants Council	190

Note: The figure includes \$50 million which has been earmarked for programme extension in the financial years 2013-14 and 2014-15.

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

ENB340

Question Serial No.

0440

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding "the compilation of statistics on oil and gas supply", please provide the following information:

- (a) What were the average monthly import and retail prices of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), motor gasoline and diesel in the past five years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2012-13)?
- (b) Has the Administration compared the prices with those of the neighbouring regions on a regular basis? If yes, what are the regions for comparison and the results? If no, what are the reasons?
- (c) What were the manpower and expenses involved in compiling the relevant statistics in the past five years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2012-13)?
- (d) Will the administration consider setting up a mechanism to limit the differences between the import and retail prices so as to maintain the long-term stability of retail prices? If yes, what are the plans? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

- (a) Average monthly import prices and retail prices of auto liquefied petroleum gas (Auto-LPG), unleaded petrol and diesel in the past five years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2012-13) are set out at Table 1 and 2 respectively.
- (b) The Government has been monitoring whether changes in local retail prices of unleaded petrol and diesel are in line with the trend movements of international oil price (benchmarked against the Singapore free-on-board (FOB) prices for unleaded petrol and motor vehicle diesel).

In respect of Auto-LPG, the ceiling price at dedicated LPG filling stations is made up of two elements, namely LPG international price and LPG operating price. As the LPG international price used in the pricing formula is calculated from the monthly contract prices of LPG from Saudi Arabia, its movements are directly reflected in the pump prices at dedicated LPG filling stations.

- (c) Compilation of the relevant statistics is part of the work of existing staff and thus the actual expenses for this work cannot be separately identified.
- (d) The retail prices of unleaded petrol and diesel are determined by oil companies having regard to commercial practices and their operating costs. We are concerned about the impact of the auto-fuel prices on the local economy, and have therefore been monitoring whether changes in local retail prices of auto-fuel are in line with the trend movements of international oil price. We will closely monitor the trend of auto-fuel prices and, whenever appropriate, urge oil companies to promptly reduce prices in tandem with international oil price movements to alleviate the burden on the public.

In respect of Auto-LPG, the ceiling prices at dedicated LPG filling stations are determined in accordance with the international LPG prices, and are calculated by a pricing formula, that is international LPG prices plus LPG operating price.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 22 March 2013

Table 1

The average monthly Import Prices for Auto-LPG, Unleaded Petrol and Diesel
for the years from 2008-09 to 2012-13

Year/Month	Auto-LPG	Unleaded Petrol	Diesel ^(Note 1)
	(\$/Litre)	(\$/Litre)	(\$/Litre)
2008-09			
Apr-2008	3.478	6.18	6.98
May-2008	3.669	6.82	7.80
Jun-2008	3.917	7.50	8.44
Jul-2008	4.024	7.57	8.51
Aug-2008	3.782	6.67	7.25
Sep-2008	3.559	6.08	6.24
Oct-2008	3.447	5.59	4.85
Nov-2008	2.092	3.73	3.72
Dec-2008	1.435	2.85	3.27
Jan-2009	1.621	2.93	3.14
Feb-2009	2.156	3.51	2.82
Mar-2009	1.946	3.25	2.73
2009-10			
Apr-2009	1.715	3.42	2.99
May-2009	1.681	3.70	3.20
Jun-2009	1.864	4.28	3.77
Jul-2009	2.252	4.18	3.75

Table 1

The average monthly Import Prices for Auto-LPG, Unleaded Petrol and Diesel
for the years from 2008-09 to 2012-13

Year/Month	Auto-LPG	Unleaded Petrol	Diesel ^(Note 1)
	(\$/Litre)	(\$/Litre)	(\$/Litre)
Aug-2009	2.180	4.44	3.92
Sep-2009	2.500	4.25	3.86
Oct-2009	2.513	4.19	3.93
Nov-2009	2.815	4.38	4.21
Dec-2009	3.101	4.48	4.11
Jan-2010	3.143	4.61	4.22
Feb-2010	3.140	4.64	4.12
Mar-2010	3.076	4.74	4.31
2010-11			
Apr-2010	3.067	4.90	4.66
May-2010	3.067	4.75	4.49
Jun-2010	2.871	4.50	4.30
Jul-2010	2.666	4.49	4.26
Aug-2010	2.521	4.46	4.34
Sep-2010	2.754	4.46	4.39
Oct-2010	2.981	4.62	4.63
Nov-2010	3.378	4.91	4.88
Dec-2010	3.982	5.25	5.08
Jan-2011	3.955	5.55	5.41

Table 1

The average monthly Import Prices for Auto-LPG, Unleaded Petrol and Diesel
for the years from 2008-09 to 2012-13

Year/Month	Auto-LPG	Unleaded Petrol	Diesel ^(Note 1)
	(\$/Litre)	(\$/Litre)	(\$/Litre)
Feb-2011	3.482	5.87	5.89
Mar-2011	3.635	6.38	6.49
2011-12			
Apr-2011	3.797	6.71	6.90
May-2011	4.192	6.83	6.54
Jun-2011	3.868	6.40	6.35
Jul-2011	3.612	6.51	6.37
Aug-2011	3.729	6.56	6.29
Sep-2011	3.615	6.68	6.22
Oct-2011	3.393	6.61	6.12
Nov-2011	3.390	6.14	6.43
Dec-2011	3.447	5.98	6.33
Jan-2012	3.818	6.64	6.36
Feb-2012	4.405	6.66	6.60
Mar-2012	5.100	7.07	6.83
2012-13			
Apr-2012	4.244	7.25	6.74
May-2012	3.714	6.83	6.36

Table 1

The average monthly Import Prices for Auto-LPG, Unleaded Petrol and Diesel
for the years from 2008-09 to 2012-13

Year/Month	Auto-LPG	Unleaded Petrol	Diesel ^(Note 1)
	(\$/Litre)	(\$/Litre)	(\$/Litre)
Jun-2012	3.159	5.82	5.85
Jul-2012	2.590	5.89	5.82
Aug-2012	3.308	6.61	6.53
Sep-2012	4.021	6.78	6.69
Oct-2012	4.195	6.74	6.64
Nov-2012	4.300	6.37	6.34
Dec-2012	4.129	6.39	6.28
Jan-2013	4.073	6.50	6.32
Feb-2013	3.883	Not provided	Not provided

Source : Auto-LPG prices provided by Electrical & Mechanical Services Department

Import Prices of unleaded petrol and diesel are provided by Census and Statistics Department

Note : (1) In or before December 2008, the import unit value of Euro V diesel was included in that of Ultra Low Sulphur Diesel and hence relevant figures listed in the table represented a combined price of the two products. With effect from January 2009, import unit values for these two commodities have been calculated separately and relevant figures listed in the table since then represented the import prices of Euro V Diesel only.

Table 2**The average monthly Retail Prices for Auto-LPG, Unleaded Petrol and Diesel****for the years from 2008-09 to 2012-13**

Year/Month	Auto-LPG Ceiling Prices	Unleaded Petrol ^(Note 2)	Diesel ^(Note 1 & 2)
	(\$/Litre)	(\$/Litre)	(\$/Litre)
2008-09			
Apr-2008	4.46	15.47	10.64
May-2008	4.40	15.93	11.22
Jun-2008	4.59	16.54	11.75
Jul-2008	4.84	16.81	11.76
Aug-2008	4.95	16.41	11.03
Sep-2008	4.70	16.10	10.76
Oct-2008	4.48	15.36	10.13
Nov-2008	4.37	14.35	9.21
Dec-2008	3.01	13.15	8.43
Jan-2009	2.36	12.59	8.25
Feb-2009	2.58	12.99	8.07
Mar-2009	3.12	12.99	8.07
2009-10			
Apr-2009	2.91	12.99	8.07
May-2009	2.68	13.16	8.29
Jun-2009	2.64	13.76	8.73
Jul-2009	2.83	13.72	8.78
Aug-2009	3.21	14.03	8.99

Table 2**The average monthly Retail Prices for Auto-LPG, Unleaded Petrol and Diesel****for the years from 2008-09 to 2012-13**

Year/Month	Auto-LPG Ceiling Prices	Unleaded Petrol ^(Note 2)	Diesel ^(Note 1 & 2)
	(\$/Litre)	(\$/Litre)	(\$/Litre)
Sep-2009	3.14	14.02	9.01
Oct-2009	3.46	13.79	8.93
Nov-2009	3.47	14.03	9.23
Dec-2009	3.78	14.03	9.13
Jan-2010	4.06	14.18	9.24
Feb-2010	4.11	14.25	9.16
Mar-2010	4.10	14.37	9.44
2010-11			
Apr-2010	4.04	14.54	9.69
May-2010	4.04	14.35	9.64
Jun-2010	4.04	14.08	9.42
Jul-2010	3.84	14.24	9.61
Aug-2010	3.63	14.29	9.75
Sep-2010	3.49	14.28	9.72
Oct-2010	3.72	14.59	9.96
Nov-2010	3.95	14.83	10.17
Dec-2010	4.35	15.12	10.32
Jan-2011	4.95	15.38	10.56
Feb-2011	4.94	15.58	10.94
Mar-2011	4.47	16.06	11.55

Table 2**The average monthly Retail Prices for Auto-LPG, Unleaded Petrol and Diesel****for the years from 2008-09 to 2012-13**

Year/Month	Auto-LPG Ceiling Prices	Unleaded Petrol ^(Note 2)	Diesel ^(Note 1 & 2)
	(\$/Litre)	(\$/Litre)	(\$/Litre)
2011-12			
Apr-2011	4.62	16.38	11.96
May-2011	4.79	16.46	11.78
Jun-2011	5.18	16.40	11.85
Jul-2011	4.86	16.54	11.85
Aug-2011	4.60	16.47	11.69
Sep-2011	4.72	16.58	11.75
Oct-2011	4.60	16.49	11.59
Nov-2011	4.38	16.26	11.97
Dec-2011	4.38	16.07	11.81
Jan-2012	4.44	16.57	12.02
Feb-2012	4.86	16.91	12.21
Mar-2012	5.45	17.27	12.50
2012-13			
Apr-2012	6.14	17.29	12.43
May-2012	5.29	16.87	12.07
Jun-2012	4.76	16.13	11.46
Jul-2012	4.20	16.25	11.60
Aug-2012	3.63	17.12	12.21

The average monthly Retail Prices for Auto-LPG, Unleaded Petrol and Diesel
for the years from 2008-09 to 2012-13

Year/Month	Auto-LPG Ceiling Prices	Unleaded Petrol ^(Note 2)	Diesel ^(Note 1 & 2)
	(\$/Litre)	(\$/Litre)	(\$/Litre)
Sep-2012	4.35	17.20	12.47
Oct-2012	5.06	17.09	12.35
Nov-2012	5.24	16.77	12.27
Dec-2012	5.34	16.83	12.32
Jan-2013	5.17	16.88	12.36
Feb-2013	5.16	Not provided	Not provided
Mar-2013	4.97	Not provided	Not provided

Source : Auto-LPG ceiling prices provided by Electrical & Mechanical Services Department
Retail Prices of unleaded petrol and diesel are provided by Census and Statistics Department

Note : (1) Figures listed in the table are retail prices of Euro V diesel.
(2) The average monthly retail prices for unleaded petrol and diesel are worked out on the basis of pump prices at petrol filling stations, exclusive of any discounts available.

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

ENB341

Question Serial No.

5066

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding conducting an interim review of the Scheme of Control Agreements with the two power companies, would the Administration provide the following information:

- (a) What are the Administration's timetable, details, manpower and expenditure for the relevant work? and
- (b) Is the fuel mix for power generation included in the interim review? What criteria will be adopted by the Administration to review the fuel mix? Are relevant studies conducted beforehand? If yes, what are the details and expenditure of the relevant studies? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

The current Scheme of Control Agreements (SCAs) with the two power companies will expire in 2018, with an option exercisable by the Government to extend the agreements for five more years until 2023. The SCAs stipulate that the two power companies and the Government shall have the right during 2013 to request modification of any part of the current SCAs which shall continue to operate until 2018, and mutual agreement is needed before implementing any proposed modification. We have been collecting views from various stakeholders, and would conduct the mid-term review of the SCAs with the two power companies in the coming few months. We will brief the Legislative Council and the public on the results of the review at an appropriate time.

Electricity generation accounts for two-thirds of the total greenhouse gas emission in Hong Kong and is also a major source of air pollution. To effectively combat climate change and improve our air quality, apart from actively promoting energy efficiency on the demand side, we also proposed in 2010 to improve the fuel mix for power generation by substantially reducing the reliance on coal to less than 10% and increasing the share of natural gas, renewable energy and nuclear energy from the Mainland in 2020. Following the Fukushima incident, various sectors in the community have different views on the application of nuclear energy. While various fuel sources each have its own merits and demerits, we will review the overall fuel mix and consult the public on the best option for Hong Kong that would seek to strike a balance among the competing energy policy objectives of safety, reliability, environmental protection and affordability.

Three additional posts of 1 Senior Treasury Accountant and 2 Accounting Officers will be created in 2013-14 to strengthen the manpower support to undertake the existing duties and the various reviews relating to the operation of the electricity market including mid-term review and fuel mix review mentioned above. We have also set aside about \$3.5 million for conducting specific studies as may be necessary.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB342

Question Serial No.

5085

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: On promoting competition and transparency in the local fuel market, please provide the following information:

- (a) Has the Administration calculated the number of domestic buildings without town gas or central liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) supply in Hong Kong? If yes, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?
- (b) In the past 5 years (i.e. from 2008-09 to 2012-13), how many completed new first-hand domestic units without town gas or central LPG supply were there in Hong Kong, with a breakdown by district? What was the percentage of such units in the total number of completed new first-hand domestic units in the respective years?
- (c) What measures will the Administration take to make gas supply available to occupants of the above domestic units? What are the manpower and expenditure involved?
- (d) Does the Administration have any plans to introduce more competitors into the local fuel market? If yes, what are the details and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons?
- (e) Please provide details on the work or measures to promote competition and transparency in the local fuel market. What are the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. TANG Ka-piu

Reply:

(a)-(b)

We do not have information on the no. of domestic buildings or new first-hand domestic units without town gas or central liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) supply.

- (c) Arrangement of energy supply including electricity and gas is usually considered in the design of residential buildings. For domestic premises with no town gas or central LPG supply, the occupant may consider using other forms of energy supply such as electricity or cylinder LPG according to their needs, and contact the relevant suppliers for making the necessary arrangements.

(d)-(e)

The supply of fuel products in Hong Kong is based on the operation of free market economy, with their prices to be determined by individual oil companies with regard to commercial principles and their operating costs. The Government is concerned about the impact of fuel prices on the public, and encourages the industry to enhance transparency of price setting and to sustain a reliable energy supply.

In respect of domestic LPG prices, in accordance with existing mechanism, a local oil company sets the domestic LPG prices for the coming three months by forecasting the import prices for the coming three months in light of the latest international LPG price (i.e. contract prices of LPG from Saudi Arabia), and making positive or negative adjustment for any difference between the actual import prices and the forecast import prices in the last review. The oil company announces and explains to the public the outcome of the review.

By signing the Information and Consultation Agreement (ICA) with Hong Kong and China Gas Company Ltd (Towngas), we have increased transparency in Towngas' tariff setting mechanism and their justifications for proposed tariff adjustments effectively. In addition, in accordance with the requirements under the ICA, Towngas publishes an annual "Towngas Corporate Information Booklet", which sets out the financial, operational, environmental and safety information of the Company in the preceding year.

Towngas, LPG and electricity have been competing in the domestic fuel market in providing energy for cooking and water-heating. The general public may choose among these alternatives with regard to their circumstances.

Monitoring of fuel market is part of the duties of existing staff and thus the actual expenses for this work alone cannot be separately identified.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG
Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment
Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB343

Question Serial No.

2298

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Compared with 2012-13, what are the changes in the Environment Bureau's work to co-ordinate the efforts of various bureaux and departments in promoting green building in Hong Kong and the resources allocated in 2013-14? What new measures are involved, and what are the expenses and manpower required? Has the Bureau set any specific objectives for promoting green building? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. TSE Wai-chuen, Tony

Reply:

Buildings account for some 90% of electricity consumption and 60% of greenhouse gas emissions in Hong Kong. Promoting green building will have a huge synergetic impact on the sustainability of our built environment, including reduction in carbon emissions and air pollution, while improving the quality of indoor and outdoor built environments. The Government has set up an inter-departmental Steering Committee on the Promotion of Green Building in January 2013. The Committee is chaired by the Secretary for the Environment and its members comprise representatives from relevant bureaux and departments. The Steering Committee acts as the central coordinating body to coordinate efforts by various bureaux and departments in promoting green building in Hong Kong in a holistic manner.

The Steering Committee has commenced operation and is reviewing the existing policy initiatives and international experience. An engagement was held on 15 March 2013 to gauge views from stakeholders on this front. We are also discussing with the relevant Bureaux and Departments the suggestions received from the stakeholders to promote green building in Hong Kong. Existing manpower is deployed for the activities. As the staff concerned have other responsibilities, we do not have separate breakdown on the resources involved.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 3 April 2013

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

ENB344

Question Serial No.

2300

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: To reduce the supply of incandescent light bulbs, the Administration plans to launch a Charter Scheme. What are the details, service targets, objectives of the Scheme, the expenditure and manpower involved, as well as the implementation timetable of the Scheme? What are the annual production output and utilisation of incandescent light bulbs in Hong Kong at present? What are the estimated impacts on the production of incandescent light bulbs after the Charter Scheme is launched? Moreover, regarding the publicity for energy efficient lamps, what are the specific measures? What are the details of and expenditure, manpower and implementation timetable for these measures? Has an overall assessment been conducted on the effectiveness of the Government's publicity for energy efficient lamps in the past? If yes, what are the details? If no, will such assessment be conducted in future?

Asked by: Hon. TSE Wai-chuen, Tony

Reply:

With the support of the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Environmental Affairs, the Administration has adopted a two-pronged approach in expediting the phasing out of incandescent light bulbs (ILB) by launching a Charter Scheme with retailers and suppliers to reduce the supply of ILB¹, and stepping up public education on the benefit of using more energy-efficient lamps.

We expect that the Charter Scheme will help expedite the phasing-out of ILB in the market considering that ILB is highly energy-inefficient, that there are already sufficient replacement options and that there is a strong economic case for using more energy-efficient lamps.

We will step up publicity efforts to educate the public and major lamp users on the benefit of using more energy-efficient lamps. The promotional activities will include TV and radio APIs, distribution of posters and publicity materials, and dissemination of information through the Internet.

The estimated expenditure for the Charter Scheme and promotion activities is about \$1.3 million in 2012-13 and 2013-14. Existing manpower will be deployed for the activities, and no separate account is provided for these activities.

¹ The Charter Scheme currently covers 25 watt or above non-reflector type ILB, including general lighting service lamps, candle shape, fancy round and other decorative lamps, but excluding tungsten halogen lamps.

According to a market study, the estimated annual sale of ILB in Hong Kong was about 13.5 million in 2011. While we do not have readily available statistics on the overall local production output, according to the figures from the Census and Statistics Department, no ILB ² had been produced locally for exports in 2011 and 2012.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 2 April 2013

² Referring to “Tungsten Halogen Electric Filament Lamps” and “Electric Filament Lamps Nesoi, of a Power not Exceeding 200W and for a Voltage Exceeding 100V” classified under the Hong Kong Harmonized System.

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

ENB345

Question Serial No.

4264

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In Programme (2), the Administration has indicated that it will continue to study the long-term structure of the electricity market. In this connection, would the Administration provide the following information:

- (1) The Administration's timetable for studying the liberalization of electricity market and introduction of competition in local power supply, as well as the date of implementation of an open electricity market;
- (2) The Administration's timetable for publication of the feasibility study and report on the interconnection between the power networks of the two power companies, i.e. CLP Power Hong Kong Limited and The Hong Kong Electric Company Limited; and
- (3) The exact date of commencement of the public consultation on the interim review of the Scheme of Control Agreements with the two power companies.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

The current Scheme of Control Agreements (SCAs) with the two power companies will expire in 2018, with an option exercisable by the Government to extend the agreements for five more years until 2023. The SCAs stipulate that the two power companies and the Government shall have the right during 2013 to request modification of any part of the current SCAs which shall continue to operate until 2018, and mutual agreement is needed before implementing any proposed modification. The Administration has been collecting views on the SCA mid-term review from various stakeholders, including the Legislative Council (LegCo), Energy Advisory Committee, professional bodies, academia and non-governmental organisations. We will conduct the mid-term review with the two power companies in the coming few months. In proceeding with the review, we will take into account the comments and suggestions received from stakeholders and will brief the LegCo and the public on the results of the review at an appropriate time.

The mid-term review in 2013 would provide a useful platform for us to listen to different views of the community, and help our work in the long-term planning of electricity market development after 2018. As stipulated in the current SCAs, before implementing any changes to the regulatory regime, the Government will take into account all relevant factors and discuss with the power companies market readiness and potential future changes to the electricity supply regulatory framework and transition issues before 2016. We are undertaking preparatory work for the electricity market review, including studying and analysing

possible models for market liberalization and changes to the regulatory framework, such as segregation of electricity generation from the power grids and strengthening interconnection between the power grids.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Date: 22 March 2013

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

ENB346

Question Serial No.

5483

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: It is mentioned in the Budget Speech that the Government would grant each residential electricity account a subsidy of \$1,800, which would cost the Government \$4.5 billion. In this connection, would the Government provide the following information:

1. What was the balance of the Fuel Clause Recovery Account (FCA) of the two power companies in the past five years (i.e. 2008-09 to 2012-13)? Does the Administration know the expenditure for procuring fuels of the two power companies? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
2. The FCAs of the two power companies are in deficit most of the time. What measures does the Government have to avoid further deepening of the deficits of the FCAs while maintaining the stability of electricity tariff, so that the two power companies will not use it as an excuse to increase tariff substantially?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

1. The year end deficit balances of the Fuel Clause Recovery Account (FCA) and the fuel costs of the two power companies in the past five years are as follows -

Year	Year-end FCA deficit balance (\$ million)		Fuel cost (\$ million)	
	CLP	HKE	CLP (Note 1)	HKE
2008	800	998	6,768	3,597
2009	14	551	7,029	4,104
2010	294	569	7,848	4,570
2011	212	1,035	8,784	5,538
2012	337	820	10,061	(Note 2)

Note 1: Including fuel costs of both local and Mainland sales.

Note 2: To be released in early April 2013.

2. The Government monitors the fuel costs of the power companies from various perspectives. Before approving long term gas supply contracts of the two power companies, the Government would, with the support of independent energy consultant, carry out due diligence vetting to ensure that the terms of the contracts, including the pricing formulae, are acceptable and in line with international practices. We also regularly review the procurement policies of the two power companies to ensure that established procedures are in place for procuring fuel at competitive prices. In determining the level of annual electricity tariff adjustment, we would also check that the fuel price projections by the power companies are reasonable and consistent with the approved long term contracts. Apart from FCA balances, the Government would also critically examine factors such as electricity demand and sales, operating costs, fuel prices, capital investment, Tariff Stabilisation Fund (TSF) balances etc, with a view to safeguarding consumers' interests.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 25 March 2013

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

ENB347

Question Serial No.

0987

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: On taking follow-up actions having regard to the recommendations of the Task Force on External Lighting in tackling excessive external lighting, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the manpower and expenditure involved as well as the progress and timetable of the above-mentioned work in 2013-14?
- (b) Does the Administration have any plans to regulate excessive external lighting by legislation? If yes, what are the details of the plans?
- (c) How many complaints about (excessive) external lighting and "light pollution" were received in the past year? What are the details of the follow-up actions taken by the Administration and the time required? Please list the details by the 18 District Council districts. Among these complaints, how many involved (i) government departments/public organisations and (ii) private properties, and how many were the ones repeated by the complainants?
- (d) Has the Administration assessed whether there has been a reduction of complaints involving external lighting installations of new buildings and advertisements after the announcement of the recommendations of the Task Force?
- (e) When will the Task Force submit its recommendations to the Environment Bureau? What are the details of the recommendations? What follow-up actions will the Government take? When will the Government consult the Legislative Council and the public on the recommendations? Since the Government has indicated that it will regulate "light pollution" by legislation, when will the Government launch the legislative proceedings?
- (f) As regards the light pollution problem caused by refraction of glass façade of buildings, will the Government adopt any improvement measures? What are the details?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Pik-wan, Helena

Reply:

In 2012, the Environmental Protection Department received 225 complaints against light nuisance, of which 195 cases involved private organizations and 30 involved government departments. There were 3 repeated complaints. A breakdown of the complaints by district is provided at the Annex.

To address the concerns about the light nuisance and energy wastage problems that may be caused by external lighting installations, the Government set up the Task Force on External Lighting (Task Force) in August 2011, with members drawn from different professional bodies, relevant trades and green groups. The Task Force is studying whether technical standards and parameters may be set for regulating external lighting in the local circumstances. It is planning to consult relevant stakeholders later this year before submitting its recommendations to the Government. We will brief the LegCo Panel on Environmental Affairs in mid-2013.

In 2013-14, \$1 million has been allocated for the organisation of stakeholder engagement activities related to external lighting.

As the Task Force is still developing its recommendations, we are unable to assess the impact of the announcement of its recommendations on the number of complaints against external lighting.

As advised by the Development Bureau, the material, design and construction of glass curtain walls are subject to the control of the Building (Construction) Regulations (B(C)R) under the Buildings Ordinance. The B(C)R provides, inter alia, that glass curtain walls shall safely sustain the combined dead loads, imposed loads and wind loads, and shall be constructed with non-combustible materials. Currently, the B(C)R does not regulate on reflected glare from glass curtain walls. The Administration will study the practices and experience of other countries and jurisdictions in handling reflected glare from buildings.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 25 March 2013

Breakdown of 2012 light nuisance complaint cases by district

District	No. of cases
Central & Western	23
Wan Chai	30
Eastern	22
Southern	8
Yau Tsim Mong	34
Sham Shui Po	9
Kowloon City	16
Wong Tai Sin	4
Kwun Tong	7
Tsuen Wan	2
Tuen Mun	13
Yuen Long	18
North	6
Tai Po	4
Sai Kung	4
Sha Tin	16
Kwai Tsing	7
Islands	2
Total	225

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

ENB348

Question Serial No.

2201

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: What is the expenditure earmarked for the salaries of Secretary for the Environment, Under Secretary for the Environment and Political Assistant to Secretary for Environment for 2013-14?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

For budgetary purposes, the provisions for the salary in respect of the positions of Director of Bureau, Deputy Director of Bureau and Political Assistant to Director of Bureau in the Environment Bureau for 2013-14 are \$3.39 million, \$2.54 million and \$1.18 million respectively.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 28 March 2013

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

ENB349

Question Serial No.

2222

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: In respect of promoting the use of electric vehicles in Hong Kong, please advise this Committee on the following:

- (a) What is the work progress of the Administration in promoting the setting up of charging infrastructure, facilitating the introduction of relevant vehicles into the Hong Kong market and expanding the government fleet of electric vehicles?
- (b) What is the expenditure involved in the work target in 2013-14?
- (c) Has the Administration studied whether vehicles which operate on renewable energy, such as battery-driven vehicles, can be introduced to replace some of the motorcycles? If yes, what are the details of such plan?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

The Government has been actively promoting the wider use of electric vehicles (EVs). To encourage the procurement of EVs, we have already extended the waiver of First Registration Tax for EVs for a period of five years till end March 2014. We have also accelerated the tax deduction for capital expenditure on EVs such that enterprises can enjoy a 100% profits tax deduction in the first year of procurement. The Government has also been taking the lead in procuring and using more EVs. In terms of infrastructural development, there are now some 1 000 standard EV chargers, covering all 18 districts, and some 10 quick chargers, in Hong Kong.

In addition, the Government will fully fund the procurement of 36 electric buses at an estimated cost of \$180 million for testing out their operational efficiency and performance under local conditions by franchised bus companies with the ultimate policy objective of having zero emission buses running across the territory. The franchised bus companies are making preparations to procure the electric buses for commencing the trial in 2014. As for public transport operators and goods vehicle owners, the Government set up in March 2011 a \$300 million Pilot Green Transport Fund to encourage them to test out green and innovative transport technologies, including electric vehicles. Successful applicants will be required to share the trial findings with their peers to promote the use of successful technologies. As of 11 March 2013, approval has been given to put 43 electric vehicles on trial, including 14 electric taxis, 11 electric coaches and 18 electric goods vehicles.

At present, 18 EV models are available in Hong Kong. They are of various vehicle types, including private cars, motorcycles, goods vehicles and buses. More than 430 units of EVs are in use on the road, up from 74 in end 2010 and 242 in end 2011. For the Government fleet, we now have 75 units, and about 150 units are being delivered in 2013. The total procurement cost for these EVs is around \$63.5 million. In 2012-13, the average maintenance cost for EV was around \$6,300 per unit, while that of a petrol or hybrid unit is around \$12,000.

In the coming year, we will continue to liaise closely with EV dealers to encourage them to introduce EVs into the Hong Kong market, and launch publicity activities to promote the wider adoption of EVs. We will also closely monitor the growth in the number of EVs and consider the need to further expand the charging network in a timely manner. About \$8.4 million has been reserved in 2013-14 for promoting the use of EVs through various channels, including the provision for the dedicated support team in Electrical and Mechanical Services Department and other publicity activities.

We have not conducted any studies on the deployment of vehicles that are charged up by renewable energy, given its limited application.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 27 March 2013

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

ENB350

Question Serial No.

2247

Head: 137 Government Secretariat :
Environment Bureau

Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (2) Power

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: Regarding the Scheme of Control Agreements (SCAs) with the two power companies and the development of the electricity market after 2018, please inform the Committee of the following:

- (1) Since the increase in electricity tariffs has always aroused controversy in recent years, will the Government consider introducing performance indicators or measures during the interim review of SCAs to cater for the affordability of the public? If yes, what are the details of the measures? If no, what are the reasons?
- (2) Will additional resources be allocated in 2013-14 to study the structure of the electricity market beyond 2018, including issues such as the interconnection between the networks of the two power companies and segregation of the generation sector from the network sector? If yes, what is the expenditure involved?
- (3) In respect of the tariff adjustments, how will the Government enable the public to obtain more related information and conduct the public consultation work well?
- (4) Will the Government include any incentives in the interim review to encourage the two power companies to promote energy conservation?

Asked by: Hon. WU Chi-wai

Reply:

(1) and (4)

The current Scheme of Control Agreements (SCAs) with the two power companies will expire in 2018, with an option exercisable by the Government to extend the agreements for five more years until 2023. The SCAs stipulate that the two power companies and the Government shall have the right during 2013 to request modification of any part of the current SCAs which shall continue to operate until 2018, and mutual agreement is needed before implementing any proposed modification. We have been collecting views from various stakeholders, and would conduct the mid-term review of the SCAs with the two power companies in the coming few months. We will brief the Legislative Council and the public on the results of the review at an appropriate time.

- (2) The mid-term review in 2013 would provide a useful platform for us to listen to different views of the community, and help our work in respect of long-term planning of the electricity market. As stipulated in the current SCAs, before implementing any changes to the regulatory regime, the Government will take into account all relevant factors and discuss with the power companies market readiness and potential future changes to the electricity supply regulatory framework and transition issues before 2016. Given the complexity of this review and other reviews relating to the operation of the electricity market in the pipeline, such as the review of the future fuel mix for electricity generation, we envisage financial and technical studies would have to be conducted to examine the relevant issues involved, e.g. study on segregation of electricity generation from the power grids. An allocation of about \$3.5 million has been set aside in 2013-14 for the purpose.
- (3) At the meeting of the Panel on Economic Development on 11 December 2012, the two power companies submitted information papers on the 2013 Tariff Review to enhance the transparency of the tariff adjustments and also provided explanation to questions raised by Members at the meeting. In carrying out future tariff reviews, the Government will continue to listen to the views of the public and ensure that the electricity supply in Hong Kong can achieve the policy objective of striking a balance amongst safety, reliability, environmental protection and affordability.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the
Environment

Date: 26 March 2013

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

Reply Serial No.

ENB351

Question Serial No.

4927

Head: 704 - Drainage

Subhead (No. & title): 4276DS – Sha Tin sewage treatment works, stage 3 extension

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

The Sha Tin sewage treatment works (STSTW), stage 3 extension is marked as 'completed' on the website of Drainage Services Department. Please advise on the use of the \$500 million that remained. What is the life span of the STSTW upon completion of the stage 3 extension?

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

The Sha Tin sewage treatment works (STSTW), first commissioned in 1982, have undergone several stages of extension to meet the continuous population growth in Sha Tin. Works under 4276DS "STSTW stage 3 extension" were completed in phases starting 2004 and were substantially completed in April 2012. All sewage treatment facilities have been put into operation. The design lives of the civil/building works and electrical and mechanical equipment are 50 years and 15 years respectively.

Out of the approved project estimate of \$2,425 million, the cumulative project expenditure up to 31 March 2013 would be about \$1,935 million. The anticipated expenditures in 2013-14 and 2014-15 are \$31.3 million and \$21.5 million respectively which would be used for contract finalization. Subject to finalization of the project account in March 2015, we expect that there would be a project saving of about \$430 million.

Name in block letters: CHAN Chi-chiu

Post Title: Director of Drainage Services

Date: 3.4.2013

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

ENB352

Question Serial No.

3242

Head: 704 - Drainage Subhead (No. & title): 4276DS - Sha Tin sewage treatment works, stage 3 extension

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Drainage Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

The approved project estimate for "Sha Tin sewage treatment works, stage 3 extension" is \$2,425 million, whereas the actual expenditure is only around \$1,918 million up to 31 March 2012. Of the remaining provision of around \$506 million, the revised estimate for 2012-13 is only around \$16 million and the estimate for 2013-14 is \$31 million.

What is the timetable for drawing down the remaining provision? How can the progress of works be expedited so as to serve the public? Will the Administration set out in detail the distribution of resources allocated for this project? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. QUAT, Elizabeth

Reply:

The treatment facilities constructed under 4276DS "Sha Tin sewage treatment works, stage 3 extension" commenced in February 2001 and were progressively put into operation starting from 2004 and all the construction works were substantially completed in April 2012.

Out of the approved project estimate of \$2,425 million, the cumulative project expenditure up to 31 March 2013 would be about \$1,935 million. The anticipated expenditures in 2013-14 and 2014-15 are \$31.3 million and \$21.5 million respectively which are to be used for contracts finalization. We expect that the project account will be finalized in March 2015.

Name in block letters: CHAN Chi-chiu

Post Title: Director of Drainage Services

Date: 28.3.2013

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

ENB353

Question Serial No.

2107

Head: 705 Civil Engineering

Subhead (No. & title): (5042DR –
Development of Southeast New
Territories landfill)

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for the Environment / Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question: The approved project estimate for the development of Southeast New Territories Landfill is \$3.22 billion. As at 31 March 2012, the actual expenditure was only over \$1.827 billion. Of the remaining approved estimate of over \$1.39 billion, the revised estimate for 2012-13 is only \$22.5 million, whereas the estimate for 2013-14 is \$17.5 million.

What is the timetable for the utilization of the remaining approved estimate? How can the progress of the project be expedited to provide service for the public as soon as possible? Would the Administration list in detail the distribution of resources involved in various facilities included in the project? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. QUAT, Elizabeth

Reply:

The Southeast New Territories landfill is estimated to be filled up by 2014-15. The anticipated expenditure in 2013-14 is \$17.5 million and the remaining provision will be used for the design and construction works required to develop the remaining part of the landfill site for receiving waste until 2014-15 as well as the subsequent landfill restoration works. The bulk of the expenditure for the latter restoration works would not be incurred until towards the end of the landfill's lifespan.

Name in block letters: ANISSA WONG

Post Title: Permanent Secretary for the Environment /
Director of Environmental Protection

Date: 28 March 2013

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2013-14

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

Reply Serial No.

ENB354

Question Serial No.

4933

Head: (706) Highways

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

Regarding 6848TH - retrofitting of noise barriers on Tai Po Tai Wo Road near Po Nga Court, please advise on the following:

- (A) What is the progress of the works?
- (B) In which aspect will the estimated expenditure of 2013-14 be spent on?
- (C) What is the anticipated date of completion for the works?

Asked by: Hon. FAN Kwok-wai, Gary

Reply:

- (A) The construction works commenced in March 2012. Progress of works is generally on schedule.
- (B) The estimated expenditure in 2013-14 would mainly cover the costs of construction works, site supervision costs and the associated consultant fees.
- (C) The project is expected to be completed in May 2014.

Name in block letters:

K K LAU

Post Title:

Director of Highways

Date:

2.4.2013