

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)103**

**(Question Serial No. 2115)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not specified

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services  
(4) Public Education and Community Involvement

Controlling Officer: Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (Miss Vivian LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

1. It is mentioned in paragraph 169 of the Budget Speech that a total expenditure of over \$600 million will be incurred in the coming 5 years for improving 240 public toilets. What are the distribution of the 240 public toilets by district?
2. What are the prioritisation criteria for public toilets to be refurbished? Will the Department consider soliciting public views through consultation before deciding on the final list?
3. There are quite a few refurbished or newly built public toilets where the facilities are soon damaged, stolen or defaced, which reflects the importance of public education. Will the Government allocate resources to step up publicity to promote civic-mindedness in this respect?

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan (LegCo internal reference no.: 44)

Reply:

- 1-2. About 240 public toilets will be refurbished or facelifted in the coming 5 years from 2019-20 to 2023-24 at an estimated capital expenditure of \$600 million. The list of these public toilets is being worked out with regard to their conditions and level of utilisation. We are planning to commence the refurbishment or facelifiting works for about 40 public toilets in 2019-20. Further details such as the location and geographical distribution, as well as the estimated cost of the works of these toilets will be available at a later stage. The improvement programme will gather momentum when all the dedicated staff are in post. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (the Department) will consult the relevant District Councils on refurbishment of public toilets, including the layout, duration of the refurbishment works as well as the temporary arrangement during closure.

3. The Department will continue to make use of the Facebook and Instagram pages of Keep Clean Ambassador Ah Tak as well as other publicity materials to step up public education on the importance of toilet hygiene and the proper use of toilet facilities. With the experience of setting up health education promotional booths at selected public toilets with a high utilisation rate, the Department plans to extend implementation of the measure to other suitable public toilets to remind the public of being mindful and considerate when using public toilets.

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