

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)168**

**(Question Serial No. 0797)**

Head: (49) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department

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

Programme: (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Food and Health

Question:

Regarding the proposal in the Budget that a total expenditure of \$600 million be allocated for rolling out the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme to improve the design and facilities of existing public toilets by phases, involving about 240 public toilets -

1. Please set out the details of improvement to the 240 public toilets in each phase, including the estimated commencement and completion dates of the works, the manpower involved and the estimated expenditure.
2. Please provide the names and locations of the 240 public toilets and the expected number of users in the coming 5 years, with a breakdown by district.
3. What are the priority order and selection criteria for the 240 public toilets to be refurbished under the programme?
4. How will the \$600 million be allocated to the 240 public toilets? What measures will be taken to monitor the use of the \$600 million and ensure that it will be well spent without being abused?

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 46)

Reply:

1. 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. 26 additional staff will be deployed to implement the refurbishment programme, incurring an estimated annual expenditure of about \$19.8 million.
- 2-3. 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 facelifting 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.

4. The estimated cost of refurbishment or facelifiting works for a specific public toilet will be determined with regard to the scope of works as well as the design and materials to be used. The improvement works will be vetted by a working group formed by the Architectural Services Department and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department.

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