

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)213**

**(Question Serial No. 0588)**

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:

On rolling out the Enhanced Public Toilet Refurbishment Programme to improve the design and facilities of existing public toilets by phases in 2019-20, please advise this Committee on:

- (1) the manpower involved, the estimated expenditure and the work items in each phase;
- (2) the expected items and schedule of enhancement; and
- (3) the details of the existing repair and maintenance works as well as the maintenance works in 2019-20, given that repair and maintenance works are equally important as compared to enhancement measures.

Asked by: Hon TIEN Puk-sun, Michael (LegCo internal reference no.: 16)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows:

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. New design and layouts will generally be adopted for the refurbishment of public toilets, with beautified facades and modern facilities, with a view to making them hygienic, clean and safe. The improvement works may cover exterior design, installations and equipment, materials, ventilation, odour control, lighting, infra-red sensor-activated taps and flushing facilities, etc. The Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) will adjust the scope of the refurbishment of individual toilets having regard to the actual circumstances.

3. FEHD's staff inspect daily the hygiene, cleanliness and other conditions of public toilets. In respect of minor defects or damage, the cleansing contractors will carry out minor repairs or replacement within 24 hours. For more serious cases, FEHD's staff will notify the Architectural Services Department or the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department for arranging repairs as soon as possible.

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