

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**FHB(FE)422**

**(Question Serial No. 6325)**

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:

With regard to the proposal under the heading "A Liveable City" in the Budget Speech that a total expenditure of \$600 million be allocated for refurbishing 240 public toilets by phases,

- (1) please provide the work plan, including the number of phases, and the expected commencement date of the first phase with its objectives, number of public toilets to be refurbished, duration and estimated expenditure.
- (2) please set out the assessment criteria for the quality of public toilets, the requirement for refurbishment and the cleanliness, including odour and dryness.
- (3) does the Department have any statistics on the average lifespan and times of use of a public toilet?

Asked by: Hon KWOK Ka-ki (LegCo internal reference no.: 58)

Reply:

The information sought is provided as follows -

- (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 plan to commence refurbishment or facelifiting works for about 40 public toilets in 2019-20. The improvement programme will gather momentum when all the dedicated staff are in post.

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 (the Department) will adjust the scope of the refurbishment of individual toilets having regard to the actual circumstances.

The Department has stepped up inspection and monitoring of contractors' performances of the public toilets with relatively high utilisation rates or located at tourist spots with focus on the following 4 performance indicators -

- (a) dry floor;
- (b) floor, wall and facilities free from stains and dirt;
- (c) no foul smell; and
- (d) proper performance of toilet facilities.

(3) We do not keep the information sought.

- End -