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Replies to supplementary questions raised by Legislative Council Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2022-23

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Session No. : 16

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CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

S-DEVB(PL)01

(Question Serial No. SV017)

Head: (138) Government Secretariat: Development Bureau
(Planning and Lands Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational expenses

Programme: (2) Buildings, Lands and Planning

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Development (Planning and Lands)
(Ms Bernadette LINN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Regarding the Government's vision to implement a 12-km long shared-use cycle track along the Hong Kong Island and a 13-km long cycle track in Kai Tak in the long run, please provide a specific timetable for the completion of these cycle tracks.

Asked by: Hon NG Chau-pei, Stanley

Reply:

Enabling cycling activities on both sides of the Victoria Harbour has been the shared vision of the Government and the Harbourfront Commission. For Hong Kong Island, with the recent efforts in promoting a vision-driven management approach and Harbourfront Shared Spaces, some one kilometre (km) promenades which allow different kinds of cycling and biking activities have already been introduced in the Western District, Wan Chai and Eastern District since October 2019. In addition, shared-use cycle track provisions have been included in the Boardwalk underneath the Island Eastern Corridor to be completed in 2024, and similar hardware provisions would be allowed for in the open space project in Eastern Street North in Sai Ying Pun to be completed in 2025. Together they could make cycle possible on about 3.5 km promenade on the Hong Kong Island. For the remaining sections of the harbourfront, many of them are being occupied by existing developments and some of them are relatively narrow in terms of width of the promenade. To address such constraints, we have commissioned a consultancy study for identifying possible solutions for linking up the various parts and implementing progressively a 12-km long shared-use cycle track along the northern shore of the Hong Kong Island from the Central Ferry Piers to Shau Kei Wan. A trial along the promenade between Admiralty and Wan Chai for shared use of pedestrians and cyclists will be conducted in the second half of 2022. Findings of the consultancy study are expected in 2023-2024.

As for Kai Tak, the proposed Greenway network (i.e. a network of shared-use cycle track) of about 13 km in length in the public open space of the Kai Tak Development will be

implemented in two phases. The first phase of about 7.5 km long is scheduled to be opened in 2023; while the second phase is expected to be completed gradually after 2025 in line with the implementation schedule of various development projects and open spaces in the area.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**S-DEVB(PL)02****(Question Serial No. S0046)**

Head: (82) Buildings Department

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

Programme: (1) Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer: Director of Buildings (Ms Clarice YU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Regarding the Joint Office for Investigation of Water Seepage Complaints under the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the Buildings Department, the statistics on handling water seepage reports in the past five years have been provided in a table. In this connection, please provide the numbers of cases yet to be handled in each of the past five years, including: a) the cumulative number of cases yet to be handled brought forward from the above years; and b) the numbers of cases yet to be handled as at the above years.

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chuen, Tony

Reply:

- a) As of 8 April 2022, the numbers of water seepage reports received by the Joint Office (JO) in the past five years with investigation still in progress are tabulated below –

Number of Cases	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Cumulative Total
(i) Reports received	36 002	36 684	34 169	39 166	43 233	189 254
(ii) Among the cases in (i) above, cases with investigation still in progress	47	83	188	1 479	8 210	10 007

- b) JO does not compile statistics on the numbers of cases yet to be handled as at the above years.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

S-DEVB(PL)03

(Question Serial No. S0034)

Head: (91) Lands Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Survey and Mapping
Controlling Officer: Director of Lands (Andrew LAI)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Regarding the written reply on implementation of Building Information Modelling (BIM) in the approval processes, the Government advises that the Lands Department and the Buildings Department have jointly commissioned a consultancy to develop a plug-in tool for BIM software for checking area calculations of building plans under lease conditions and the Buildings Ordinance. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee of:

- a. the expenditure on this consultancy study; and
- b. the timetable for completion of this consultancy study.

Asked by: Hon LOONG Hon-biu, Louis

Reply:

The estimated expenditure for the consultancy study to develop a plug-in tool for Building Information Modelling software for checking area calculations of building plans under lease conditions and the Buildings Ordinance (Cap. 123) is \$6.12 million.

The consultancy study is scheduled for completion in the first quarter of 2023.

- End -

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

S-DEVB(PL)04

(Question Serial No. S0038)

Head: (91) Lands Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (2) Survey and Mapping
Controlling Officer: Director of Lands (Andrew LAI)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Building Information Modelling (BIM) facilitates effective project management of the Government and the industry throughout the entire building life cycle from design to construction, and helps expedite the development process. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee of the following:

1. How will the Government encourage the adoption of such technology in the industry in the face of no standardised specifications but high development cost of a BIM system?
2. Does the Government have any plans to require departments involved in the development approval processes to adopt a BIM system in the future for higher efficiency; if yes, please list the relevant departments; if not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuen-shan

Reply:

Within the Government, various departments are working on the wider application of Building Information Modelling (BIM). The Lands Department plans to make use of the BIM data in checking area calculations of building plan under lease conditions upon the launch of the Buildings Department's Electronic Submission Hub in the first quarter of 2023.

As for the wider efforts to promote the use of BIM technology in the industry, from 2018 onwards, the Development Bureau has required consultants and contractors of the Works Departments to use BIM technology when undertaking major government capital works projects with project estimates more than \$30 million. The policy is applicable to projects in the investigation, feasibility study, planning, design or construction stage in the Capital Works Programme. It is also applicable to entrustment works, subvented capital works projects and works undertaken by private parties but will be handed back to the Government for maintenance.

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