

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**DEVB(PL)337****(Question Serial No. 6729)**

Head: (91) Lands Department

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

Programme: (1) Land Administration

Controlling Officer: Director of Lands (Thomas CHAN)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Regarding "land clearance", "maintenance of man-made slopes on unallocated and unleased government land", please provide a breakdown by District Council district of: 1. the respective numbers of cases completed and actual expenditures incurred in the past five years; 2. the respective numbers of outstanding cases, estimated expenditures and average time taken to handle these cases.

Asked by: Hon CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando (LegCo internal reference no.: 7030)

Reply:

A breakdown of the total number of inspections and cases of improvement works carried out by the Lands Department (LandsD) for man-made slopes on unallocated and unleased government land in the past five financial years (i.e. 2014-15 to 2018-19) by districts, together with the expenditure involved, is set out below:

No.	District	Total no. of slope inspections	Total no. of cases of slope improvement works completed	Total expenditure (\$ million)
1	Central & Western	1 420	840	10.7
2	Wan Chai	1 090	640	8.2
3	Eastern	460	270	3.5
4	Southern	1 420	840	10.7
5	Yau Tsim Mong	90	50	0.7
6	Sham Shui Po	290	170	2.2
7	Kowloon City	170	100	1.3
8	Wong Tai Sin	330	190	2.5
9	Kwun Tong	600	350	4.5
10	Tsuen Wan	4 130	2 440	31.1

No.	District	Total no. of slope inspections	Total no. of cases of slope improvement works completed	Total expenditure (\$ million)
11	Tuen Mun	5 030	2 970	37.9
12	Yuen Long	4 940	2 910	37.2
13	North	6 830	4 030	51.5
14	Tai Po	5 920	3 490	44.6
15	Sai Kung	9 770	5 760	73.6
16	Sha Tin	7 300	4 310	55.0
17	Kwai Tsing	2 030	1 200	15.3
18	Islands	8 540	5 040	64.4

In 2019-20, we plan to inspect 12 000 man-made slopes on unallocated and unleased government land. A breakdown of the number of inspections LandsD plans to carry out in 2019-20 and by districts is summarised below:

No.	District	No. of planned slope inspections
1	Central & Western	280
2	Wan Chai	220
3	Eastern	90
4	Southern	280
5	Yau Tsim Mong	20
6	Sham Shui Po	60
7	Kowloon City	30
8	Wong Tai Sin	70
9	Kwun Tong	120
10	Tsuen Wan	820
11	Tuen Mun	1 000
12	Yuen Long	980
13	North	1 360
14	Tai Po	1 180
15	Sai Kung	1 940
16	Sha Tin	1 450
17	Kwai Tsing	400
18	Islands	1 700

Improvement works will be carried out where necessary and will generally be completed within three months after the inspection. LandsD will earmark a provision of about \$85 million in 2019-20 for carrying out the inspections and necessary improvement works.

A total of 165 land clearance exercises were completed in the past five years, the breakdown as set out below-

No.	District	Number of completed clearance exercises (including both clearances supporting development projects and emergency clearances)				
		2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (up to end of February 2019)
1	Central and Western	0	1	0	0	0
2	Wan Chai	2	0	0	1	1
3	Eastern	0	0	1	0	0
4	Southern	0	0	1	0	0
5	Yau Tsim Mong	1	0	1	1	0
6	Sham Shui Po	0	0	0	1	0
7	Kowloon City	4	0	1	3	7
8	Wong Tai Sin	1	0	1	2	1
9	Kwun Tong	2	1	1	3	3
10	Tsuen Wan	0	1	0	1	3
11	Tuen Mun	9	7	5	1	4
12	Yuen Long	2	2	5	0	2
13	North	3	1	3	0	4
14	Tai Po	6	1	3	4	4
15	Sai Kung	2	0	2	2	3
16	Sha Tin	3	8	1	2	3
17	Kwai Tsing	2	4	2	5	1
18	Islands	2	0	4	1	6

The expenditure on compensation payments in the past five financial years were about \$598 million in 2014-15, \$657 million in 2015-16, \$563 million in 2016-17, \$441 million in 2017-18, \$538 million (up to end of February 2019) in 2018-19. The figure for each year covers compensation payments in respect of projects launched in or before that year.

Land clearance exercises are carried out for supporting development projects and emergency clearances. The handling time for land clearances depends on a number of factors, including statutory procedures and requirements, the scale of the projects concerned, the number of occupiers involved, and discussion with the affected land owners and occupiers on compensation and rehousing.

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