

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(PL)136

(Question Serial No. 1629)

Head: (82) Buildings Department

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

Programme: (1) Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer: Director of Buildings (CHEUNG Tin-cheung)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Regarding the Joint Office for Investigation of Water Seepage Complaints (JO) under the Buildings Department and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) the operational expenses of JO in 2019-20; and the percentage changes as compared with last year;
- (2) the manpower engaged in the investigation of water seepage in Kwun Tong and Wong Tai Sin districts under the existing establishment.

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chun, Paul (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 60)

Reply:

- (1) The changes in expenditure of the Buildings Department (BD) and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) in connection with the operation of Joint Office (JO) in 2018-19 and 2019-20 are tabulated below –

BD	2018-19 (a)	2019-20 (b)	Percentage change <u>(b) – (a)</u> (a)
Staff cost and departmental expenses (\$ million)	42.2 (estimated)	50.8 (estimated)	+20%
Expenditure for engaging outsourced consultants (\$ million)	36.0 (estimated)	52.8 (estimated)	+47%

FEHD	2018-19 (a)	2019-20 (b)	Percentage change <u>(b) – (a)</u> (a)
Staff cost and departmental expenses (\$ million)	109.2 (estimated)	130.6 (estimated)	+20%

- (2) There are a total of nine BD staff and 27 FEHD staff handling water seepage reports of Kwun Tong and Wong Tai Sin districts in JO. The nine BD staff also handle water seepage reports of two other districts.

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