

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

ENB191

Question Serial
No.

0733

Head: 60 - Highways Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Capital Projects

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question:

In 2010-2011, a number of noise barrier retrofitting works commenced whilst some were being studied. Apart from the retrofitting of noise barriers, are there other traffic noise mitigation works being carried out and studied to alleviate noise problem at roads where retrofitting of noise barriers is infeasible? If yes, please explain in detail and list the amount of money involved in such works.

Asked by: Hon. LI Fung-ying

Reply:

To mitigate the noise impact of existing roads on neighbouring residents, it is the government's policy to consider the implementation of direct engineering solutions, where practicable, by way of retrofitting of barriers and enclosures, and resurfacing with low noise material on roads with a traffic noise level exceeding the limit of 70 dB(A).

Apart from the retrofitting works, we have identified since 2000 over 90 sections of local roads under a trial programme for applying low noise surfacing material to test out the practicability. Resurfacing work was carried out upon confirmation on the technical feasibility of the proposal. So far, resurfacing works at 50 road sections have been completed. In 2010-11, we completed resurfacing with low noise material on four road sections at a cost of \$7 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters K K LAU

Post Title Director of Highways

Date 15.3.2011