Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2013-14

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

Head: 60 - Highways Department   Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Capital Projects

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

Regarding the 'investigation and preliminary design (I&PD) for the Tuen Mun Western Bypass (TMWB)', will the Administration provide the following information:

(a)   expenditure and manpower distribution from the beginning of the aforesaid programme until now;

(b)   progress of the design work;

(c)   anticipated dates of commencement and completion; and

(d)   anticipated numbers of professional, technical and supporting posts to be created for the aforesaid programme.

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

The cost of the I&PD work for the proposed TMWB project until now is about $25 million. It is estimated that the consultant will require eight professional and 11 technical staff for conducting the work. The Highways Department has been deploying internal staff to oversee the I&PD work.

We are continuing with the preliminary design and the relevant impact assessment of the proposed TMWB. During this process, we will review the technical issues arising from the project, taking into account comments raised by the public (in particular, their concern over the impact of the northern viaduct section and the exit of the southern tunnel section at Tsing Tin Interchange on residents and facilities nearby), and update the related forecast traffic demand. We will continue to consult the stakeholders with a view to completing the abovementioned tasks as soon as possible, and making an assessment of the details involved

(including the construction timetable and the number of posts to be created) upon completion of the detailed design of the project.

Name in block letters: K K LAU

Post Title: Director of Highways

Date: 8.4.2013