

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**ENB302****(Question Serial No. 0329)**

Head: (60) Highways Department

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

Programme: (1) Capital Projects

Controlling Officer: Director of Highways (K K LAU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for the Environment

Question (Member Question No. 9):

In this Programme, the Highways Department is responsible for works for retrofitting of noise barriers. Will the Administration give information on:

1. the staffing and expenditure involved in 2013-14 and the estimated resources to be allocated in 2014-15; and
2. the number of noise barrier installation works across the territory over the next five years and the locations and timetable of such works.

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-kok

Reply:

1. In 2013-14, the Highways Department (HyD) has engaged consultants in the design and supervision of the retrofitting of noise barriers and deployed in-house staff to oversee the implementation of the projects. In 2014-15, the anticipated staffing and resources devoted to this project will be similar to that of 2013-14.
2. In the coming five years, HyD will continue with the 7 retrofitting noise barriers projects in progress. The relevant locations and dates of commencement are listed below:

Retrofitting of noise barriers item	Area/location (approximate length)	Date of commencement
1 - 6	Tuen Mun Road — Near Anglers' Beach (0.9 km) — Near Sham Tseng (0.6 km) — Near Yau Kom Tau (1 km) — Near Tsing Lung Tau (0.9 km) — Near Tsuen Wan (2.2 km) — Near Castle Peak Bay (0.5 km)	January 2009
7	Tai Po Tai Wo Road near Po Nga Court (0.2 km)	March 2012

HyD is also inviting tenders for the project of retrofitting noise barriers of approximately 0.8 km long on Tuen Mun Road (Town Centre Section near Tseng Choi Street) and having the project of retrofitting approximately 0.8 km of noise barriers on Tuen Mun Road (Fu Tei section) gazetted. Upon approval by the Finance Committee, these two projects will commence in 2014-15 and 2015-16 respectively. In the coming five years, HyD and the Environmental Protection Department will continue to launch other retrofitting projects through the Public Works Programme.