Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2018-19

Reply Serial No.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

THB(T)027

(Question Serial No. 1924)

Head: (60) Highways Department

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

<u>Programme</u>: (3) Railway Development

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Director of Highways (Daniel K W CHUNG)

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

Please advise on the following regarding the Northern Link under Subhead 000:

Has the Government reserved any provision for taking forward the proposed Northern Link (and Kwu Tung Station)? What is the implementation progress? Has the Government already got a timetable for the project?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Hak-kan (Member Question No. (LegCo use): 14)

Reply:

Having regard to the indicative implementation window recommended in the Railway Development Strategy 2014, the Transport and Housing Bureau (THB) invited the MTR Corporation Limited (MTRCL) to submit a proposal for the implementation of the Northern Link (and Kwu Tung Station). The MTRCL submitted the proposal for the Northern Link (and Kwu Tung Station) to the Government in end-March 2017. The THB, the Highways Department and relevant bureaux/departments are evaluating the proposal and have requested the MTRCL to provide additional information and supplement details. In carrying out the evaluation, our focus is to ensure that its proposal is practically feasible and can bring maximum benefits to the community.

We aim to consult the public on the detailed alignment, locations of stations, mode of implementation, cost estimate, mode of financing and actual implementation timetable of the Northern Link (and Kwu Tung Station) within 2018.