

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**THB(T)270**

**(Question Serial No. 4419)**

Head: (60) Highways Department  
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified  
Programme: (2) District and Maintenance Works  
Controlling Officer: Director of Highways (Jimmy P M CHAN)  
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

- (1) Under Programme (2), provision for 2019-20 has seen a significant increase of \$754.2 million (40.9%) and 30 posts will be created. What are the reasons and details?
- (2) Please provide a breakdown of the 30 new posts by their respective programmes, ranks, natures of work and salaries.

Asked by: Hon LAU Ip-keung, Kenneth (LegCo internal reference no.: 500)

Reply:

The provision for Programme (2) District and Maintenance Works in 2019-20 is \$754 million higher than the revised estimate for 2018-19. The estimated increase is mainly due to the increase in the cost of works, additional provisions to cater for the projects commissioned in 2018-19 or scheduled to be commissioned in 2019-20, and filling of vacancies as well as creation of new posts in 2019-20.

Under Programme (2), the Highways Department will create 33 new posts in 2019-20. However, in the same year, three time-limited posts including one Senior Engineer and two Engineer/Assistant Engineer posts will lapse. Therefore, there is a net increase of 30 posts in the staff establishment under Programme (2) in 2019-20.

The ranks, annual staff costs (in terms of notional annual mid-point salary) and duties of the 33 new posts are summarised below –

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Number of Posts</b>	<b>Annual Staff Cost (\$)</b>	<b>Duties</b>
Chief Engineer (subject to the approval of the Legislative Council)	2	3,673,200	To take over maintenance responsibilities of new connecting roads and associated highway facilities, to implement maintenance works of the aged highway structures and to handle various tasks associated with the land supply and site production initiatives in the New Territories and Urban regions.
Senior Engineer	2*	2,891,880	To provide input on and coordinate land supply and site production matters in the New Territories and Urban regions
Engineer/Assistant Engineer	3*	2,341,710	
Senior Engineer	1	1,445,940	To take over maintenance responsibilities of new connecting roads and associated highway facilities constructed under the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge and related projects, as well as Liantang / Heung Yuen Wai Boundary Control Point
Engineer/Assistant Engineer	2	1,561,140	
Senior Electrical and Mechanical Engineer	1	1,445,940	
Estate Surveyor	1	983,700	
Senior Inspector of Works	1	897,960	
Inspector of Works	2	1,400,280	
Assistant Inspector of Works	2	879,960	
Works Supervisor I	2	723,960	
Works Supervisor II	3	873,720	
Principal Technical Officer	1	841,080	
Senior Technical Officer	1	609,900	
Technical Officer/Technical Officer Trainee	1	280,710	
Senior Executive Officer	1	1,073,520	
Clerical Officer	1	439,980	
Assistant Clerical Officer	2	548,760	
Personal Secretary II	1	274,380	
Clerical Assistant	1	214,260	
Assistant Information Officer	1	485,040	To establish a new Media Communication Unit
Assistant Clerical Officer	1	274,380	To strengthen clerical support to the Personnel Section of the Administration Division
<b>Total:</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>24,161,400</b>	

\* Three existing time-limited (one Senior Engineer and two Engineer/Assistant Engineer) posts which will lapse this year are converted into permanent posts.

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