

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(W)080

(Question Serial No. 3183)

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): Not specified

Programme: (2) Mechanical Installations Safety

Controlling Officer: Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (Alfred W H SIT)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

In 2018, a lift accident occurred at Waterside Plaza in Tsuen Wan, causing injuries to two people and revealing the safety problems of aged lifts. Please provide in the table below information on the expenditure incurred by the Government on inspection of lifts, the numbers of lifts inspected, etc. in this year and the past five years.

	Expenditure	Number of Lifts	Age of Lifts				
			9 years or below	10-19 years	20-29 years	30-39 years	40 years or above
2019 (estimate)		Inspection					
		With safety issues identified	-	-	-	-	-
2018		Inspection					
		With safety issues identified					
2017		Inspection					
		With safety issues identified					
2016		Inspection					
		With safety issues identified					
2015		Inspection					
		With safety issues identified					
2014		Inspection					

		With safety issues identified					
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Under the existing subsidy scheme, will the Government allocate additional resources to subsidise upgrading or replacement of safety devices or lifts in private estates? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Han-pan (LegCo internal reference no.: 56)

Reply:

The number of lifts inspected in the past five years and the estimated number of lift inspection in this year are tabulated below:

		Number of Lifts				
		Aged 9 years or below	Aged 10-19 years	Aged 20-29 years	Aged 30-39 years	Aged 40 years or above
2019	Inspection	27 000 (estimate)				
2018	Inspection	640	2 730	3 746	3 281	3 222
	With safety issues identified	0	3	5	0	0
2017	Inspection	143	770	1 472	1 929	4 487
	With safety issues identified	0	2	2	4	0
2016	Inspection	1 002	2 056	1 910	2 128	1 712
	With safety issues identified	4	1	0	1	0
2015	Inspection	1 835	2 040	2 205	2 258	1 750
	With safety issues identified	0	1	1	0	0
2014	Inspection	1 839	2 063	2 697	2 409	1 842
	With safety issues identified	3	2	0	1	0

The administration and enforcement of the Lifts and Escalators Ordinance (Cap. 618) are collectively undertaken by a dedicated team of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department and the related expenditure in the financial year 2019-20 and the past five financial years is listed below:

Financial Year	Expenditure (\$ million)
2019-20	66.4 (estimate)
2018-19	51.6

2017-18	37.7
2016-17	32.6
2015-16	35.9
2014-15	37.8

As the dedicated team is responsible for a number of tasks during its daily operation, no breakdown of the expenditure on individual item of work such as lift inspection is available.

The Government formally launched the \$2.5 billion Lift Modernisation Subsidy Scheme (LIMSS) in March 2019 with a view to facilitating modernisation of about 5 000 aged lifts in six years through provision of financial incentive with appropriate professional support to private building owners in need. Invitation for the first-round applications has commenced on 29 March 2019 for closing on 31 July 2019. We will review the effectiveness of the LIMSS in about two years after its implementation.

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