

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 1794)

Head: (42) Electrical and Mechanical Services Department
Subhead (No. & title): (700) General non-recurrent
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 the 2018 Policy Address, the Chief Executive proposed the launch of the Lift Modernisation Subsidy Scheme (LIMSS) with a provision of \$2.5 billion with a view to facilitating building owners in expediting lift modernisation works, thereby enhancing the safety level of aged lifts and further safeguarding public safety. In collaboration with the Urban Renewal Authority, the first-round application was closed in July 2019. While applications involving 5 000 lifts were received, only about 1 400 lifts were included in the first round for subsidy. The Government also decided to inject an additional \$2 billion into the LIMSS. Please advise this Committee of the following:

1. A breakdown by 18 districts of the applications involving 5 000 lifts received in the first round;
2. A breakdown by 18 districts of the 1 400 lifts included in the first round for subsidy;
3. The latest progress of granting subsidies and funding arrangement under the LIMSS.

Asked by: Hon CHENG Wing-shun, Vincent (LegCo internal reference no.: 19)

Reply:

The first-round application of the Lift Modernisation Subsidy Scheme (LIMSS) was closed on 1 August 2019. A total of 1 171 valid applications involving 4 971 lifts were received. We have fully considered the industry capacity in the formulation of the LIMSS. To avoid inflating market prices and affecting works quality, the LIMSS will be rolled out in an orderly manner by granting subsidies in batches according to risk assessment results over seven years starting from 2019-20. The number of lifts involved in the valid applications and approved applications in the first round by district is shown as follows:

| District | Number of lifts involved in the valid applications in the first round | Number of lifts involved in the approved applications in the first round |
|---------------------|--|---|
| Central and Western | 189 | 106 |
| Wan Chai | 166 | 86 |
| Eastern | 358 | 115 |

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|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| Southern | 82 | 17 |
| Yau Tsim Mong | 543 | 295 |
| Sham Shui Po | 309 | 188 |
| Kowloon City | 356 | 175 |
| Wong Tai Sin | 346 | 50 |
| Kwun Tong | 405 | 136 |
| Kwai Tsing | 222 | 44 |
| Tsuen Wan | 182 | 20 |
| Tuen Mun | 455 | 64 |
| Yuen Long | 312 | 50 |
| North | 211 | 9 |
| Tai Po | 223 | 5 |
| Sha Tin | 461 | 39 |
| Sai Kung | 150 | 4 |
| Islands | 1 | 1 |
| Total: | 4 971 | 1 404 |

For the approved applications in the first round, the Urban Renewal Authority has been assigning case officers and consultants to assist the applicants concerned in pursuing the lift modernisation works, including assessment of modernisation works, cost estimation and tender document preparation. Subject to the progress of modernisation works of each case, the subsidies are being disbursed in stages.

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