

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**DEVB(W)100**

**(Question Serial No. 0645)**

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 (POON Kwok-ying)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

As mentioned in paragraph 235 of the Budget Speech, the Government will allocate \$1 billion to extend the Lift Modernisation Subsidy Scheme (LIMSS). In this connection, will the Government advise this Committee on:

1. the expected number of additional lifts to be subsidised under the Government's allocation of \$1 billion for extending the LIMSS; and
2. the number of lifts subsidised under the LIMSS in the past 3 years, with the addresses of these subsidised lifts set out by the 18 districts across Hong Kong, and the effectiveness of modernisation?

Asked by: Hon LAU Man-kwan, Julia (LegCo internal reference no.: 9)

Reply:

Our reply to the Member's questions is as follows:

In 2018, the Government, in partnership with the Urban Renewal Authority (URA), launched the Lift Modernisation Subsidy Scheme (LIMSS), with the aim to assist eligible residential and composite buildings in retrofitting aged lifts with modern safety devices or to replace the entire lifts, thereby enhancing the safety standards of aged lifts. The LIMSS was allocated \$4.51 billion, and 2 rounds of applications were invited between 2018 and 2019 with a total of approximately 2 000 eligible applications (involving about 8 000 lifts) received. Subsequently, some applicants (involving about 590 lifts) chose to withdraw from the LIMSS, bringing the overall number of eligible applications down to 1 808 (involving 7 406 lifts). As at December 2025, 1 687 cases (involving 6 051 lifts) were granted an "Approval-in-Principle" Letter (including those with modernisation completed), involving an estimated total amount of approximately \$4.43 billion.

According to our latest estimate, the \$4.51 billion allocation for the LIMSS is only sufficient to cover the modernisation works for around 6 200 lifts, which means that some 1 200 lifts (involving about 120 applications) currently on the waiting list with lower priority will not be

benefitted. To address this, the Government will allocate an additional \$1 billion to deal with the remaining cases. As we are not launching a new round of the LIMSS, the applicants concerned are not required to submit new applications separately.

In the past 3 years (from January 2023 to December 2025), a total of 3 006 lifts were subsidised. Their distribution by 18 districts is tabulated as follows:

<b>District</b>	<b>Number of Subsidised Lifts (from January 2023 to December 2025)</b>
Central and Western	173
Wan Chai	138
Eastern	281
Southern	76
Yau Tsim Mong	485
Sham Shui Po	277
Kowloon City	218
Wong Tai Sin	193
Kwun Tong	204
Kwai Tsing	110
Tsuen Wan	115
Tuen Mun	256
Yuen Long	121
North	91
Tai Po	43
Sha Tin	220
Sai Kung	2
Islands	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 006</b>

Note 1: As for the addresses of the subsidised lifts, we are unable to disclose the information due to privacy concerns.

Note 2: The number of subsidised lifts corresponds to the number of lifts covered by the awarded works contracts.

Under the LIMSS, owners may choose to retrofit their aged lifts with 4 modern safety devices (including double braking system, unintended car movement protection device, ascending car overspeed protection device, and car door locking device and door safety edge), or to replace the entire lifts. Modernised lifts not only achieve a higher level of safety, but also operate with greater reliability and comfort.