

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

DEVB(PL)074

Question Serial No.

Head : 82 Buildings Department Subhead (No. & title) :

0192

Programme : Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer : Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

Question :

Regarding an earlier incident about open kitchen design in a luxury development in Mid-levels, does the Administration have any plans to step up the processing of building plans for new buildings in order to avoid similar cases in the future? Moreover, are there any plans to step up site audit checks on new buildings? If so, what is the estimated expenditure?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Kam-lam

Reply :

In an earlier incident, there was concern about the information provided in the promotion materials for sale of the units in a newly completed domestic building in Mid-levels. The incident is not related to the processing of building plan applications by the Buildings Department (BD). The BD has established procedures and performance pledges for processing building plan applications. The Department has all along been examining building plans in accordance with the provisions of the Buildings Ordinance (BO), Cap. 123 and its subsidiary regulations to ensure that the proposed building works are in compliance with the statutory requirements, and will continue to do so. Taking open kitchen design as an example, in examining building plans, the BD will ensure that the design complies with the statutory requirements in relation to fire-resisting construction and fire services installations. In 2010, the BD fully met the performance pledges in processing building plan applications.

The BD will continue to monitor the proposed building works of new buildings to ensure that the building works under construction comply with the statutory requirements in respect of site safety and quality control of the building works. Upon completion of the building works of a new building, the BD will examine if the building has been constructed in accordance with the approved building plans and is in compliance with the requirements of the BO before considering issuance of an occupation permit.

The Department will continue with the above-mentioned practice in processing building plan applications (including those involving open kitchen design), monitoring the building works under construction and processing applications for occupation permit.

Signature _____

Name in block letters AU Choi-kai

Post Title Director of Buildings

Date 16.3.2011