Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(PL)075

Question Serial No.

<u>Head</u>: 82 Buildings Department <u>Subhead</u> (No. & title):

0448

Programme: Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer: Director of Buildings

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Development

Question:

On the processing of new building proposals, it is mentioned in the 2011-12 Budget that land supply will be much increased and it follows that more new building proposals will have to be processed. Why is the estimated number of new building proposals to be approved in 2011-12 reduced instead of increased, i.e. from 341 in the past two years (the actual figure in 2009 and 2010) to 300 (the estimated figure in 2011)?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Kam-lam

Reply:

The estimate of 'new building proposals approved' for 2011 is an indicator projected from the actual figures of the first nine months in 2010. Although there has been an increase in the number of submissions in 2010, it is anticipated that this trend will return to normal after the commencement of the new policy on gross floor area concessions in April 2011. The Buildings Department will continue to monitor the trend and process building plan applications in accordance with its performance pledges.

| Signature _ | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Name in block letters | AU Choi-kai |
| - | Director of Buildings |
| - Date | 16.3.2011 |