Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(PL)077

Question Serial No.

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

1046

Programme: Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer: Director of Buildings

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

Question:

Upon the implementation of the Mandatory Building Inspection Scheme (MBIS) and the Mandatory Window Inspection Scheme (MWIS), the Buildings Department will target 2 000 buildings aged 30 or above and 5 800 buildings aged 10 or above each year respectively requiring mandatory inspection and repair of the buildings. What is the estimated administrative expenditure in this regard?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Kam-lam

Reply:

The proposed Mandatory Building Inspection Scheme (MBIS) and Mandatory Window Inspection Scheme (MWIS) are a part of the overall package of measures to enhance building safety in Hong Kong. The Schemes are closely linked with other large-scale operations to be launched by the Buildings Department (BD). For instance, buildings identified with unauthorised building works (UBWs) in the MBIS may be included in large-scale operations for removal of UBWs, while those with poor maintenance identified through inspections/ complaints may be included in the MBIS.

Work arising from the MBIS, MWIS, as well as other building safety and maintenance enforcement programmes, will be handled by the 477 existing professional and technical staff in the Existing Buildings Divisions of the BD together with 124 additional professional and technical staff proposed for allocation to the Department in 2011-12. It is not possible to provide a breakdown of the total expenditure solely for handling enforcement work for MBIS and MWIS target buildings.

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