

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

**DEVB(PL)074**

Question Serial No.

3172

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

Programme:                      Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer:                      Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau:                      Secretary for Development

Question:

In 2011 and 2012, what were the respective numbers of new submissions of building plans and applications for consent to commence building works processed by the Department each year? What will be the respective estimated numbers in 2013? Besides, the Department will create 87 posts in 2013-14. How many of these newly-created posts will be assigned the above duties? What duties will the remaining posts be assigned?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Hak-kan

Reply:

The numbers of new submissions of building plans and applications for consent to commence building works processed by the Buildings Department (BD) in 2011 and 2012 are tabulated below:

	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
<b>Number of new submissions of building plans processed by the BD</b>	5 633	5 564
<b>Number of applications for consent to commence building works processed by the BD</b>	10 656	11 354

The total number of building plans received and processed by the BD, including new submissions and re-submissions of building plans, is estimated to increase from 15 616 in 2011 and 16 540 in 2012 to 17 700 in 2013 due to increase in land supply for private developments. The BD has not estimated the respective increase in the number of new submissions or re-submissions of building plans in 2013. As for applications for consent to commence building works, while the BD has not specifically estimated the increase in the number of such applications to be processed in 2013, it is expected that the number will increase in similar order as that of building plans.

Amongst the 87 new posts to be created in the BD in 2013-14, 20 posts for professional and technical staff will be assigned to strengthen services in the approval of building plans and related applications for private development projects. The remaining posts comprising ten posts for professional and technical staff and 57 posts for clerical grade staff will be engaged for strengthening departmental and supporting services, as well as enhancing the BD's building safety and maintenance enforcement programme through strengthening the research and development capacity, enhancing the audit function and reinforcing the support for various divisions in implementing the BD's enforcement programme.

Name in block letters: AU Choi-kai  
Post Title: Director of Buildings  
Date: 2.4.2013