

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

DEVB(PL)097

Question Serial No.

1459

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

Programme: Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer: Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

The Building (Minor Works) (Amendment) Regulation 2012 (“the Regulation”) came into effect on 3 October 2012. Please provide information on the following:

1. How many enquiries have been received from building owners, minor works practitioners and members of the public since the commencement of the Regulation?
2. Have complaints been received about the carrying out of minor works illegally since the commencement of the Regulation? If yes, what are the details of the follow-up action? What are the penalties involved?
3. Are there any new publicity measures to disseminate the message of the legislative amendments in question and technical guidelines to members of the public and the industry?

Asked by: Hon. LO Wai-kwok

Reply:

1. Since the commencement of the Building (Minor Works) (Amendment) Regulation 2012 (“the Regulation”), 121 enquiries related to the Regulation have been received by the Buildings Department (BD). We are not able to provide the respective numbers of enquiries received from members of the public, building owners or minor works practitioners as enquirers were not required to specify their identity.
2. Under the Regulation, several new items of works associated with the subdivision of flats are designated as minor works so as to strengthen the control of these building works under the Minor Works Control System (MWCS). From 3 October 2012 to 31 December 2012, the BD had received 209 reports on unauthorised building works relating to subdivision of flats that are either newly implemented or in progress. In accordance with section 24 of the Buildings Ordinance, a removal order has been issued in one case, and appropriate enforcement action is being taken against the other cases.

