Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2013-14

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(PL)108

Question Serial No.

2301

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

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 Buildings Department will commence a consultancy study on the comprehensive review of the Building (Planning) Regulations (Cap. 123F) with a view to updating and modernising the requirements in 2013. Will the Government advise on the scope and timetable of study and the estimated consultancy fee? And what are the manpower and expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. TSE Wai-chuen, Tony

Reply:

The Building (Planning) Regulations (B(P)R) lay down the prescriptive requirements for the planning and design standards of buildings to achieve a safe and healthy built environment. In recent years, there have been rising public concerns over the quality and sustainability of the built environment. The Buildings Department intends to commission a consultancy study to comprehensively review the B(P)R and make recommendations on the planning and design standards stipulated therein so as to bring them in line with the prevailing community aspiration on sustainable building design and keep abreast with the advancement of technology and energy efficiency in building design. The study will also seek to update the B(P)R generally to facilitate modern and innovative building design with a view to developing a performance-based regulatory system.

As the consultancy study is currently in the tendering process, we cannot provide the cost of the study for the time being. The study is expected to commence in the third quarter of 2013 and will take about 18 months to complete.

Name in block letters: AU Choi-kai

Post Title: Director of Buildings

Date: 2.4.2013