

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(PL)099

(Question Serial No. 2875)

Head: (82) Buildings Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Buildings and Building Works
Controlling Officer: Director of Buildings (AU Choi-kai)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question (Member Question No. 25):

As regards “implemented the Mandatory Building Inspection Scheme and Mandatory Window Inspection Scheme in 1 576 and 3 943 buildings respectively”, how many of these buildings have made applications under the Mandatory Building and Window Inspection Subsidy Scheme of the Urban Renewal Authority, and how many applications have been granted the subsidy?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Kam-lam

Reply:

In 2013, the Buildings Department (BD) issued pre-notification letters to 1 576 and 3 943 buildings selected for implementation of the Mandatory Building Inspection Scheme (MBIS) and the Mandatory Window Inspection Scheme respectively. The Mandatory Building Inspection Subsidy Scheme (MBISS) is jointly administered by the Urban Renewal Authority (URA) and the Hong Kong Housing Society (HKHS) to subsidise eligible building owners the full cost of the first building inspection under the MBIS, subject to a cap. According to information provided by URA and HKHS, as at 28 February 2014, a total of 259 applications under the MBISS had been received, of which 228 applications had been granted “approval-in-principle”. As there is a lapse of time between the issue of pre-notification letters to target buildings by BD and the making of subsidy application by buildings owners and subsequent granting of approval by URA or HKHS, the above figures also cover target buildings selected in 2012. We do not have separate statistics about the number of applications that are related to target buildings selected in 2013.