

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****DEVB(PL)103****(Question Serial No. 1797)**

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. 640):

What were the numbers of units classified by the Buildings Department as unlawful residential units (broken down by district and type) in the past five years and the number of residents involved?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply:

The Buildings Department (BD) does not have statistics on the number of unauthorised residential units in Hong Kong. However, BD has been carrying out enforcement action against irregularities of building works associated with sub-divided flats (SDFs), through investigating reports from members of the public or other government departments on SDFs and conducting large scale operations (LSOs). The numbers of removal orders issued against SDFs in the past five years are as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of removal orders issued under LSOs*</b>	<b>Number of removal orders issued as a result of follow-up to reports received</b>
<b>2009</b>	N/A	20
<b>2010</b>	N/A	20
<b>2011</b>	99	35
<b>2012</b>	980	121
<b>2013</b>	369	153
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1 448</b>	<b>349</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 797</b>	

Note:

\* BD has been conducting LSO on SDFs since April 2011.

The distribution of the removal orders under LSOs on geographical basis is as follows:

<b>Number of removal orders issued under the LSOs against the irregularities of building works associated with SDFs</b>				
<b>District</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>Total</b>
Central and Western	19	8	1	<b>28</b>
Wan Chai	0	6	10	<b>16</b>
Eastern	7	52	18	<b>77</b>
Southern	0	2	0	<b>2</b>
Wong Tai Sin	0	3	0	<b>3</b>
Kwun Tong	16	32	2	<b>50</b>
Yau Tsim Mong	20	358	81	<b>459</b>
Sham Shui Po	3	393	228	<b>624</b>
Kowloon City	30	97	1	<b>128</b>
North	1	0	0	<b>1</b>
Sha Tin	2	2	17	<b>21</b>
Tai Po	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Sai Kung	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Tsuen Wan	0	6	10	<b>16</b>
Tuen Mun	0	7	0	<b>7</b>
Yuen Long	1	5	0	<b>6</b>
Kwai Tsing	0	9	1	<b>10</b>
Islands	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>980</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>1 448</b>

We have not kept geographical statistics on the removal orders issued as a result of follow-up to reports received.