

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

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(Question Serial No. 0386)

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. 10):

Regarding commencing the consultancy studies on the comprehensive review of Cap. 123F to modernise the requirements, and on the standards for the structural use of glass in buildings, has any preparation work been done for carrying out comprehensive public consultation, and what is the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply:

The Buildings Department (BD) has commissioned a consultancy study to comprehensively review the Building (Planning) Regulations (B(P)R) (Cap. 123F) and make recommendations on the planning and design standards of buildings stipulated therein so as to 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. The study, which commenced in November 2013, is steered by a committee under BD with members comprising representatives from professional institutions, associations of the building industry as well as relevant government departments. The consultant will conduct consultation sessions with stakeholders on the findings and recommendations. The contract sum for the consultancy study is \$2.38 million, including the expenditure on consultation with stakeholders.

In addition, BD has also commissioned a consultancy study to develop a set of standards for the structural use of glass in buildings and to prepare a draft code of practice for use by building professionals. The consultancy study, which commenced in October 2012, is steered by a committee under BD with members comprising representatives from professional institutions, associations of the building industry, academia as well as relevant government departments. The draft code of practice is expected to be ready for consultation with stakeholders of the building industry in 2014. The contract sum for the consultancy study is \$1.28 million, including the expenditure on consultation with stakeholders.