

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(PL)351

(Question Serial No. 5231)

Head: (82) Buildings Department
Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational Expenses
Programme: (1) Buildings and Building Works
Controlling Officer: Director of Buildings (HUI Siu-wai)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question (Member Question No. 7):

What is the 2014-15 estimate for the Building Department's duty visits or exchanges to the Mainland? Please provide information on the themes of the duty visits or exchanges to the Mainland planned for 2014-15. How will the Administration prevent activities irrelevant to official duties from taking place during duty visits outside Hong Kong? And how will the Administration prevent applications for revising visit destinations from becoming a mere formality?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Yuk-man

Reply:

Same as for official duties overseas, officers of the Buildings Department will conduct duty visits to the Mainland in 2014-15 based on needs arising from their official duties. All colleagues are required to obtain prior approval from their respective supervisors for their duty visits. In considering the applications, the supervisory officers will examine the reasons for the proposed visits and will only grant approval if they are satisfied that the need for the proposed visits arise from the official duties of the colleagues concerned. Any change of visit destination would also be considered in the same manner under the established system.