

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(PL)097

(Question Serial No. 2651)

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

Question:

Regarding “continue the joint benchmarking exercise with the industry on the quality of submission of plans to facilitate their preparation of plans for early approval”, what are the work details and the estimated time of completion? After the completion of the benchmarking exercise, what impact does the Buildings Department expect it will have on the time of plan approval?

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (Member Question No. 46)

Reply:

In July 2014, the Buildings Department (BD) set up a working group (WG) comprising representatives from professional institutions and other stakeholder associations of the building industry to conduct a joint benchmarking exercise on the quality of plans, with a view to facilitating the preparation of plans by authorized persons, registered structural engineers and registered geotechnical engineers for early approval. Under the WG, sub-working groups have been formed to develop comprehensive checklists on fundamental items to facilitate preparation of different types of submissions such as general building plans, foundation plans and superstructure plans. The WG's recommendations will be discussed in BD's established consultative committees, namely the Building Sub-committee of the Land and Development Advisory Committee and the Authorized Persons, Registered Structural Engineers and Registered Geotechnical Engineers Committee. It is estimated that the exercise will be completed in the second half of 2015.

We expect that the exercise will be conducive to the improvement in the quality of plan submissions, thereby reducing the plan processing time and enhancing the efficiency and competitive edge of the building industry.

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