

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

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(Question Serial No. 0846)

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:

What is the work plan for handling unauthorised building works in 2016? What are the respective staff establishment and estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon TAM Yiu-chung (Member Question No. 46)

Reply:

The Buildings Department (BD) will continue to adopt a multi-pronged approach to address building safety issues related to unauthorised building works (UBWs). In addition to taking enforcement action against UBWs in response to public reports and through large scale operations, the BD will continue to enhance its public education and publicity campaign on building safety and foster a building safety culture in the community.

In 2015-16, enforcement action against UBWs is carried out by the 630 professional and technical staff of the two Existing Buildings Divisions, the Mandatory Building Inspection Division and the Minor Works and Signboard Control Section of the BD as part of their overall duties to implement the BD's building safety and maintenance enforcement programmes. 36 additional professional and technical posts will be created in 2016-17 to assist in the implementation of the above-mentioned programmes. We are not able to provide a breakdown of the manpower resources and expenditure involved solely for the enforcement action against UBWs.

Public education and publicity activities in relation to UBWs are handled by six staff of the Public Education and Publicity Unit, and assisted by three staff of the Information Unit of the BD as part of their overall duties. We are not able to provide a breakdown of the manpower resources and the manpower-related expenditure incurred solely for the activities in relation to UBWs.

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