

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**DEVB(PL)295**

**(Question Serial No. 4685)**

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 mandatory window inspection under the Programme, please inform this Committee:

- 1) of the respective numbers of mandatory window inspection notices received and discharged in 2014 and 2015 in each of the 18 districts;
- 2) whether the Buildings Department (BD) has instigated prosecution against non-compliant mandatory window inspection notices in 2014 and 2015; if so, of the number concerned?
- 3) of the measures to be taken by the Department in 2016-17 to cope with contractors exaggerating or overcharging the works cost for window inspection? What are the expenditure and details involved?

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (Member Question No. 94)

Reply:

- 1) The geographical distribution of statutory notices issued and discharged under the Mandatory Window Inspection Scheme (MWIS) in 2014 and 2015 is shown at the Annex.
- 2) In 2014 and 2015, while no prosecution was instigated, the Buildings Department (BD) issued over 13 000 warning letters and 800 fixed penalty tickets against building owners who failed to comply with the MWIS statutory notices. In late 2015, the BD began preparatory work for instigating prosecution against building owners who failed to comply with the statutory notices without reasonable excuse despite having been served with warning letters and fixed penalty tickets. These cases are expected to enter the formal prosecution stage in 2016-17.

- 3) In 2016-17, the BD will continue its public education and publicity efforts on the MWIS. In particular, the BD will make use of pamphlets and Announcement of Public Interest (API) to advise building owners of their rights as consumers and that they should exercise caution in selecting service providers for carrying out window inspection. The BD will also make available useful and relevant reference materials, such as the market price range for window inspection and parts repair (e.g. hinges, screws), to assist building owners in making informed decisions. Public education and publicity activities in relation to the MWIS 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 the MWIS.

**Number of Mandatory Window Inspection Notices  
issued and discharged in 2014 and 2015**

Districts	No. of MWIS Statutory Notices			
	2014		2015	
	Issued	Discharged <sup>Note</sup>	Issued	Discharged <sup>Note</sup>
<b>Central &amp; Western</b>	9 819	3 192	7 943	8 752
<b>Eastern</b>	11 467	4 926	18 027	17 323
<b>Southern</b>	3 166	4 484	5 138	3 538
<b>Wan Chai</b>	7 522	3 236	7 556	8 989
<b>Kowloon City</b>	8 628	3 175	8 363	9 595
<b>Kwun Tong</b>	5 633	4 346	7 353	5 443
<b>Sham Shui Po</b>	6 322	1 829	7 180	7 337
<b>Wong Tai Sin</b>	5 268	2 321	1 418	3 847
<b>Yau Tsim Mong</b>	12 628	10 081	8 295	11 792
<b>Islands</b>	145	2 265	2 272	970
<b>Kwai Tsing</b>	6 641	2 177	7 135	8 391
<b>North</b>	3 617	967	333	2 564
<b>Sai Kung</b>	501	2 090	89	508
<b>Sha Tin</b>	10 206	4 071	8 013	9 369
<b>Tai Po</b>	3 539	1 647	2 281	2 023
<b>Tsuen Wan</b>	5 899	2 051	11 376	7 611
<b>Tuen Mun</b>	2 048	3 649	17 222	13 747
<b>Yuen Long</b>	2 894	1 457	3 265	1 828
<b>Total</b>	<b>105 943</b>	<b>57 964</b>	<b>123 259</b>	<b>123 627</b>

Note : These figures do not necessarily correspond to the notices issued in the same year.

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