

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**DEVB(PL)095****(Question Serial No. 1732)**

Head: (82) Buildings Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (1) Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer: Director of Buildings (CHEUNG Tin-cheung)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

What were the numbers of water seepage complaints investigated by the Joint Office, the average expenditure and time taken for each case, and the numbers of cases where the source of water seepage could be identified and could not be identified in each of the past three financial years?

What are the estimated number of cases of water seepage in buildings to be investigated in the coming financial year, the average expenditure and time to be taken for each case? What are the percentage changes as compared with the previous three financial years?

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chun, Paul (Member Question No. 4)

Reply:

Statistics on water seepage reports received, reports handled and results of investigation in the past three years are tabulated below –

Number of Cases	2014	2015	2016
Reports received	27 896	29 617	36 376
Reports handled ⁽¹⁾	22 056	25 093	29 148
• Cases screened out ⁽²⁾	10 961	12 000	13 196
• Cases with investigations concluded	11 095	13 093	15 952
- Source of water seepage identified	4 816	4 679	6 846
- Source of water seepage could not be identified and investigation terminated	2 133	3 494	3 721
- Seepage ceased during investigation	4 146	4 920	5 385

Note ⁽¹⁾: The figures do not necessarily correspond to the number of reports received in the same year.

Note ⁽²⁾ : These include unjustified cases and withdrawal cases, in respect of which no investigation will be made by the Joint Office (JO) set up by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the Buildings Department.

The JO is unable to predict the number of cases of water seepage in buildings to be investigated in 2017, which depends on the number of reports received.

The JO does not compile statistics on the average expenditure and the time taken for handling water seepage reports. The time required for investigating a water seepage case varies due to a number of factors, including the nature and complexity of the case and whether the relevant owners and occupants are cooperative. Therefore, the JO is unable to predict the average expenditure and time to be taken for each case in 2017.

- End -