

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**DEVB(PL)109**

**(Question Serial No. 0971)**

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:

Regarding the fire safety improvement directions (FSIDns) issued to specified commercial buildings and the fire safety directions (FSDns) issued to composite buildings under the Programme, please inform this Committee:

- 1) of the number of FSIDns issued to and discharged from specified commercial buildings from 2013 to 2016;
- 2) of the number of FSIDns yet to be discharged from specified commercial buildings up to 2016;
- 3) of the number of FSDns issued to and discharged from composite buildings in each of the 18 districts in 2015 and 2016;
- 4) of the measures to clear the backlog of outstanding FSDns of composite buildings; of the details and estimated expenditure of the measures concerned.

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (Member Question No. 66)

Reply:

- 1) From 2013 to 2016, the Buildings Department (BD) issued 1 029 fire safety improvement directions (FSIDns) to specified commercial buildings (SCBs) and 2 515 FSIDns were discharged. The FSIDns discharged may not correspond to the FSIDns issued during the same period.
- 2) As at end of 2016, there were 5 922 outstanding FSIDns in respect of SCBs.
- 3) For composite buildings, the geographical distribution of the numbers of fire safety directions (FSDns) issued and discharged in 2015 and 2016 is tabulated below -

| District          | No. of FSDns issued |              | No. of FSDns Discharged(*) |              |
|-------------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------------------|--------------|
|                   | 2015                | 2016         | 2015                       | 2016         |
| Central & Western | 779                 | 521          | 174                        | 189          |
| Wan Chai          | 843                 | 571          | 173                        | 195          |
| Eastern           | 604                 | 432          | 164                        | 251          |
| Southern          | 175                 | 131          | 36                         | 49           |
| Yau Tsim Mong     | 881                 | 708          | 476                        | 491          |
| Sham Shui Po      | 691                 | 337          | 243                        | 240          |
| Kowloon City      | 755                 | 351          | 288                        | 199          |
| Wong Tai Sin      | 81                  | 84           | 43                         | 62           |
| Kwun Tong         | 190                 | 47           | 32                         | 21           |
| Tsuen Wan         | 154                 | 89           | 13                         | 33           |
| Tuen Mun          | 19                  | 21           | 1                          | 7            |
| Yuen Long         | 274                 | 112          | 16                         | 61           |
| North             | 151                 | 131          | 25                         | 16           |
| Tai Po            | 169                 | 86           | 7                          | 10           |
| Sai Kung          | 13                  | 0            | 0                          | 0            |
| Sha Tin           | 48                  | 9            | 0                          | 2            |
| Island            | 7                   | 39           | 6                          | 1            |
| Kwai Tsing        | 23                  | 7            | 6                          | 1            |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>5 857</b>        | <b>3 676</b> | <b>1 703</b>               | <b>1 828</b> |

**Note (\*):** The figures do not necessarily correspond to the FSDns issued in the same year.

- 4) In 2017-18, the BD will step up enforcement action concerning the outstanding FSDns, including instigating prosecution against building owners who fail to comply with FSDns without reasonable excuse. The BD will also take measures to encourage and render assistance to building owners in complying with FSDns. These measures include –
- (a) working with the Home Affairs Department to assist building owners in forming owners' corporations;

- (b) offering technical advice through meetings with the building owners and their appointed consultants;
- (c) in collaboration with the Hong Kong Housing Society and the Urban Renewal Authority, providing technical and financial assistance to eligible building owners; and
- (d) supporting District Fire Safety Committees and other organisations in organising seminars and activities to enhance public awareness of the importance of fire safety in old buildings.

In 2017-18, the 104 professional and technical staff of the BD's Fire Safety Section will follow up on the outstanding FSDns as part of their overall duties in implementing the Fire Safety (Commercial Premises) Ordinance (Cap. 502) and the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance (Cap. 572). We are not able to provide a breakdown of the expenditure involved solely for the work.

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