Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2017-18

Reply Serial No.

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(PL)111

(Question Serial No. 3009)

Head: (82) Buildings Department

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

Programme: (1) Buildings and Building Works

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

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Development

Question:

In "Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2017-18", the Buildings Department (BD) will "complete the consultancy study on the latest technological methods in identifying the sources of water seepage in buildings, including updating guidelines on testing methods for water seepage investigations". Please inform this Committee:

- 1) The consultancy study commenced in October 2014 and is expected to be completed in 18 months. Since the consultant already submitted the interim report to the BD in February 2015, is the BD currently testing any new technologies for assisting in the investigation of the sources of water seepage? If so, what are the results of the preliminary assessment?
- 2) When is the report expected to be published and the Legislative Council be briefed on it?
- 3) Are there any new technologies expected to be tested or adopted? If so, when are they expected to be officially used in the daily water seepage investigation?

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (Member Question No. 49)

Reply:

The consultant has identified a number of methods for identifying sources of water seepage and field tests are being conducted to assess the methods. Upon completion, the study will recommend the most suitable methods and help formulate technical guidelines for use by the Joint Office set up by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the Buildings Department for handling reports on water seepage. The study is expected to be completed this year. At this stage, it is difficult to assess whether, and if so, when new testing methods will be adopted.

The findings of the study are intended for internal reference and there is no plan to publish the report upon its completion.