

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY**

**DEVB(PL)282**

**(Question Serial No. 4858)**

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:

Last year the Buildings Department said that it had engaged Prudential Surveyors International Limited as consultant to study the latest technological methods in identifying sources of water seepage in buildings, and the study was expected to complete in early 2017, with an estimated expenditure of \$4.5 million. In this connection, please inform this Committee:

1. of the actual expenditure for the consultancy study as at the end of February 2017;
2. as deduced from the interim report, of the changes in expenditure as a result of the technical guideline developed based on the findings of the consultancy study.

Asked by: Hon MA Fung-kwok (Member Question No. 14)

Reply:

1. The cumulative expenditure of the consultancy study as of 13 March 2017 amounted to about \$1.6 million.
2. The consultant has identified a number of methods for ascertaining sources of water seepage in buildings and field tests are being conducted to assess the methods. The study will recommend the most suitable testing methods for use in private buildings and help formulate technical guidelines for use by the Joint Office (JO) 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 the implications of the technical guidelines to be developed on the JO's expenditure.

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