

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY****DEVB(PL)295****(Question Serial No. 3837)**

Head: (82) Buildings Department

Subhead (No. & title): (000) Operational Expenses

Programme: (1) Buildings and Building Works

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

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Would the Bureau inform this Committee of the numbers of inspections conducted, warning letters issued, monitoring made and successful prosecutions instigated in the past three years broken down by financial year; and successful enforcement taken against the 4 437 New Territories Exempted Houses?

Asked by: Hon YEUNG Alvin (Member Question No. 71)

Reply:

Out of the 4 437 New Territories Exempted Houses (NTEHs) surveyed in 2016, the Buildings Department (BD) has identified 577 NTEHs with suspected unauthorised building works (UBWs) that constitute a serious contravention of the law or pose higher potential risks to building safety. The BD is still processing these cases, with a total of 27 removal orders issued as of end December 2016. The BD will continue to issue the remaining removal orders and monitor the compliance status of the removal orders issued. Where necessary, the BD will consider instigating prosecution against owners who fail to comply with removal orders without any reasonable excuse.

Statistics on NTEHs surveyed, removal orders issued, removal orders complied with, prosecutions instigated and convictions associated with UBWs in NTEHs in the past three years are tabulated below –

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of NTEHs surveyed</b>	<b>Number of removal orders issued</b>	<b>Number of removal orders complied with</b> <small>Note</small>	<b>Number of prosecutions instigated</b> <small>Note</small>	<b>Number of convictions</b> <small>Note</small>
2014	5 210	454	234	79	47
2015	5 274	415	236	97	93
2016	4 437	529	315	201	93

Note : The figures do not necessarily correspond to the number of removal orders issued in the same year.

- End -