### Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2019-20

### Reply Serial No.

# CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY DEVB(PL)126

## (Question Serial No. 1916)

Head: (82) Buildings Department

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

<u>Programme</u>: (1) Buildings and Building Works

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

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

### Question:

With regard to the handling of sub-divided flats (SDFs) problem, would the authorities inform this Committee:

- a). whether the Buildings Department has compiled statistics on SDFs, including the number of SDFs and rent level; if yes, what are the details?
- b). of the current percentage and number of SDFs not complying with the requirements on structural safety and fire safety.

Asked by: Hon MAK Mei-kuen, Alice (LegCo internal reference no.: 36)

### Reply:

- a). The Buildings Department (BD) does not compile statistics on the number and rent level of sub-divided flats (SDFs).
- b). In 2018, 604 SDFs were identified with building irregularities. The commonly found building irregularities associated with SDFs are the formation of unauthorised door openings that contravene the fire-resisting construction requirements of fire escape routes, the erection of partition walls that block fire escape routes, sub-standard drainage works that result in water seepage and excessive installation of partition walls and/or thickening of floor screeding that result in overloading of the floor slabs.

As BD does not compile statistics on the number of SDFs, we are unable to provide the percentage of SDFs identified with building irregularities out of the total number of SDFs.