

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

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(Question Serial No. 0139)

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 Mandatory Window Inspection Scheme (MWIS), would the authorities inform this Committee:

whether the Department has reviewed the implementation of the MWIS after a tourist was killed by a window falling from a hotel in Tsim Sha Tsui; if so, what are the details? If not, what are the reasons?

whether the Department has conducted site inspection to examine the implementation of the MWIS; if so, what are the details of the inspection in the past three years? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon SHEK Lai-him, Abraham (LegCo internal reference no.: 22)

Reply:

Since the implementation of MWIS in 2012, the Buildings Department (BD) has been reviewing from time to time the progress and implementation of the scheme in the light of the operational experience, market condition, feedback from stakeholders and the community, etc. BD has all along adopted a risk-based approach in selecting target buildings annually for issuing statutory notices under MWIS. In the light of the window falling incident in Tsim Sha Tsui, BD is now conducting a review on the selection criteria for MWIS target buildings with a view to including more buildings in areas with high pedestrian flow as target buildings. In addition, BD will continue to enhance its efficiency in implementing MWIS through simplifying procedures and application of information technologies with a view to utilising resources in a more effective manner (e.g. allowing the electronic submission of specified forms under MWIS).

To regulate the service providers, BD will conduct on-site audit checks to ascertain that the inspections and repairs have been carried out in accordance with the regulations and the guidelines issued by BD. If irregularities of the service providers are found, BD will consider instigating prosecution or disciplinary action against them. The numbers of on-site audit checks conducted in the past three years are tabulated below –

Year	Number of on-site audit checks conducted
2016	2 476
2017	1 336
2018	949

- End -