

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

DEVB(PL)306

(Question Serial No. 3621)

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:

With regard to the control of unauthorised building works (UBWs) in New Territories Exempted Houses (NTEHs) as mentioned in the Programme, please inform this Committee:

- 1) of the respective numbers of NTEHs surveyed and removal orders issued against UBWs for the surveyed NTEHs each in 2017 and 2018, broken down by administrative districts, as well as the number of compliance cases among the removal orders issued;
- 2) of the respective numbers of NTEHs surveyed and First Round Targets, broken down by administrative districts, as well as the work plan for the survey of NTEHs in 2018-19;
- 3) of the number of NTEHs requiring priority enforcement action among those identified as targets in 2017 and 2018, as well as the number of prosecutions instigated by the Department and number of convictions regarding the outstanding removal orders;
- 4) of the detailed work plan for the Programme, as well as the manpower and expenditure for implementing the work plan in 2019-20.

Asked by: Hon WU Chi-wai (LegCo internal reference no.: 78)

Reply:

In line with the enhanced enforcement strategy against unauthorised building works (UBWs) in New Territories exempted houses (NTEHs), on top of responding to reports on UBWs in progress, the Buildings Department (BD) has been conducting village by village surveys of NTEHs to identify UBWs that constitute serious contravention of the law and pose higher potential risks to building safety (i.e. the First Round Targets) for priority enforcement action. Besides, BD has been taking enforcement action against non-reported UBWs in NTEHs through village by village surveys since 2015. The numbers of NTEHs surveyed,

NTEHs surveyed with suspected First Round Targets, removal orders issued, removal orders complied with, prosecutions instigated and convictions under the village by village survey exercise in 2017 and 2018 by districts are tabulated below –

2017

District	NTEHs surveyed	NTEHs with suspected First Round Targets	Removal Orders issued ⁽¹⁾	Removal Orders complied with ⁽¹⁾	Prosecutions instigated ⁽¹⁾	Convictions ⁽¹⁾
Islands	390	29	1	0	0	0
Kwai Tsing	0	0	0	0	0	0
North	453	15	6	2	0	0
Sai Kung	705	45	27	3	0	0
Sha Tin	576	83	10	1	0	0
Tai Po	688	151	5	0	0	0
Tsuen Wan	105	11	0	0	0	0
Tuen Mun	372	56	0	0	0	0
Yuen Long	913	189	78	1	0	0
Total	4 202	579	127	7	0	0

2018

District	NTEHs surveyed	NTEHs with suspected First Round Targets ⁽¹⁾	Removal Orders issued ⁽¹⁾	Removal Orders complied with ⁽¹⁾	Prosecutions instigated ⁽¹⁾	Convictions ⁽¹⁾
Islands	227	8	0	0	0	0
Kwai Tsing	0	0	0	0	0	0
North	437	18	3	0	0	0
Sai Kung	319	35	9	0	0	0
Sha Tin	201	44	1	0	0	0
Tai Po	712	96	0	0	0	0
Tsuen Wan	144	5	0	0	0	0
Tuen Mun	721	61	12	0	0	0
Yuen Long	1 414	158	0	0	0	0
Total	4 175	425	25	0	0	0

Note ⁽¹⁾: Enforcement action against First Round Targets is underway and the figures may increase.

BD estimates that some 4 000 NTEHs will be surveyed to identify First Round Targets for priority enforcement action in 2019. The task will be carried out by 39 professional and technical staff of the Village Houses Section (VHS) of BD as part of their overall duties in implementing the enhanced enforcement strategy against UBWs in NTEHs. The estimated expenditure to be incurred by VHS in 2019-20 is \$41.7 million.

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