

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

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(Question Serial No. 0840)

Head: (82) Buildings Department

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

Programme: (1) Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer: Director of Buildings (YU Tak-cheung)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

In 2020-21, the Buildings Department plans to continue the legislative exercise to amend the Building (Construction) Regulations (Cap. 123B) and Building (Minor Works) Regulation (Cap. 123N), and the review of various building regulations, standards and codes of practice with a view to modernising building design and construction standards. Would the Government provide the details, the implementation timetable and the expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 8)

Reply:

The Buildings Department (BD) reviews, from time to time, the Buildings Ordinance, its subsidiary legislations as well as codes of practices to ensure that they continue to meet modern day standards and latest building technology.

We consulted the Legislative Council (LegCo) Panel on Development on 26 February 2019 on the technical amendments to the Building (Construction) Regulations (B(C)R) and the Building (Minor Works) Regulation (B(MW)R), and Members generally supported the amendments. We published the revamped B(C)R and the associated amendments in the Gazette on 10 January 2020, and the regulations will come into operation on 1 February 2021. BD is finalising the amendments to the extant B(MW)R with a view to gazetting the amendments within the current LegCo session.

The aforesaid review is part of BD's overall duties. BD could not provide a breakdown of the expenditure solely for these tasks.

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