Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2020-21

Reply Serial No.

DEVB(PL)221

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

(Question Serial No. 3853)

Head: (82) Buildings Department

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

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

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Director of Buildings (YU Tak-cheung)

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

Question:

According to the indicators under the Programme, the number of reports from members of the public attended to in relation to dangerous retaining walls/slopes in 2019 has increased substantially by 30 times when compared with that in 2018. The Department stated that it was due to high number of repeated reports in connection with particular locations. Would the Department inform this Committee of the locations involving repeated reports, and the number of substantiated complaints among the repeated reports? What is the latest progress in following up the above repeated reports?

Asked by: Hon CHAN Chi-chuen (LegCo internal reference no.: 150)

Reply:

The Buildings Department (BD) received 314 and 10 912 reports in relation to dangerous retaining walls/slopes in 2018 and 2019 respectively. Amongst the 10 912 reports in 2019, 10 659 were repeated reports received by BD in late November to early December 2019 from members of the public in relation to suspected dangerous slopes in private lots in the New Territories. Joint site inspection by BD and the Geotechnical Engineering Office of the Civil Engineering and Development Department revealed that the slopes concerned had no obvious danger. However, minor slope maintenance works were required at some locations, including clearing of debris and repair of damaged slope cover and surface channels. The required works were completed by the owners concerned in December 2019.