

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

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(Question Serial No. 0962)

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:

During 2021-22, the Buildings Department will continue the large scale operation on inspection of sub-divided flats (SDFs) in target buildings and rectification of irregularities of building works associated with SDFs. Will the Department inform this Committee of the relevant work and estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 24)

Reply:

The Buildings Department (BD) has been conducting large scale operations (LSOs) for rectifying building irregularities associated with sub-divided flats (SDFs) since 2011. Where actionable building irregularities associated with SDFs are identified, BD will issue removal orders to the owners concerned and instigate prosecution against the owners who fail to comply with the orders.

For SDFs used for domestic purpose in industrial buildings, BD will also issue discontinuation orders against the owners requiring the cessation of the domestic use. In case of non-compliance, BD will instigate prosecution against the owners concerned, and consider applying to the court for a closure order to close down the premises and arranging government contractors to carry out the necessary rectification works.

The inspection of SDFs and rectification of the associated irregularities of building works under LSOs are carried out by the professional and technical staff of the two Existing Buildings Divisions of BD as part of their overall duties to implement BD's building safety and maintenance enforcement programmes. BD is not able to provide a breakdown of the expenditure involved solely for these tasks.

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