

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

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(Question Serial No. 0965)

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 2021-22, the Buildings Department will continue to prepare Stage 2 legislative amendments to the Building (Standards of Sanitary Fitments, Plumbing, Drainage Works and Latrines) Regulations for transforming the existing prescriptive requirements to performance-based standards, as well as rationalising and updating the relevant statutory provisions. Will the Department provide the details of the relevant work, including the targets/indicators, the timetable and the arrangement for stakeholder consultation in relation to the legislative amendments?

Asked by: Hon SHIU Ka-fai (LegCo internal reference no.: 26)

Reply:

The main objectives of the Stage 2 legislative amendments to the Building (Standards of Sanitary Fitments, Plumbing, Drainage Works and Latrines) Regulations are to replace the prescriptive requirements by performance-based requirements to cater for advancement in building technology and introduce a higher standard for the design of drainage systems of new buildings. In order to achieve early implementation of some enhanced design standards of drainage system and to allow the industry sufficient time to familiarise with the enhancements, the Buildings Department (BD) is consulting the stakeholders of the building industry in accordance with its established consultation mechanism so as to implement some of the proposed enhanced design standards through a Practice Note for Authorized Persons, Registered Structural Engineers and Registered Geotechnical Engineers (PNAP). BD will draw on the experience of implementing the PNAP after it comes into effect in preparing the legislative amendments, with a target to submit the Stage 2 legislative amendments in the next legislative session.

Stakeholder consultation on the legislative amendments proposal will be via the established communication platforms, viz. the Building Sub-committee under the Land and Development Advisory Committee and the Authorized Persons, Registered Structural Engineers and Registered Geotechnical Engineers Committee. These committees comprise representatives of professional institutions and other stakeholder associations of the building industry and relevant government departments.

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