

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

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(Question Serial No. 1261)

Head: (82) Buildings Department
Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified
Programme: (1) Buildings and Building Works
Controlling Officer: Director of Buildings (Ms Clarice YU)
Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

Question:

Regarding the consultancy study on the enforcement against dangerous or abandoned signboards under this programme in 2022-23, please inform this Committee of the following:

Implementation-wise, how effective are the consultant's recommendations on the enforcement against dangerous or abandoned signboards? Will the Buildings Department consider applying these recommendations to the handling of other unauthorised building works?

Asked by: Hon TSE Wai-chuen, Tony (LegCo internal reference no.: 36)

Reply:

The consultancy study to develop a defective signboards diagnostic system (DSDS) is currently underway. It makes use of a patrolling vehicle equipped with cameras and lidar equipment to carry out surveys of signboards along busy streets, and applies artificial intelligence to analyse and identify defective signboards. The first round of trials involving street surveys of selected street sections in Yau Tsim Mong and Sham Shui Po Districts has been completed. Pending completion of the remaining two rounds of trials, the consultancy study is expected to be completed in 2023.

DSDS is a pilot system and its effectiveness in identifying defective signboards will be reviewed after the completion of the consultancy study. It is premature to consider if the technology can be applied to the handling of other unauthorised building works.

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