Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No. HPLB(PL)027

Question Serial No. 2003

<u>Head</u>: 82 Buildings Department <u>Subhead</u> (No. & title):

Programme: Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer: Director of Buildings

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Housing, Planning, and Lands

Question:

Over the past three years, how many new plans for food business premises were processed each year? Since 18 April 2006, food business premises have to be free of unauthorised building works before application for or transfer of licences. In this regard, as at the end of 2006, has the number of plans processed increased compared with the corresponding period in 2005? Will the performance pledge for processing building plans be affected? Has assessment been made on the need for additional manpower and expenditure to cope with the service demand?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply:

The Buildings Department (BD) does not maintain separate statistical breakdown on the number of building plan submissions for food business premises. In respect of applications for new and transfer of food business premises licences in existing buildings, an applicant who intends to carry out alteration and addition (A&A) works will need to submit an A&A building plan for approval under the Buildings Ordinance. In 2006, the total number of submissions for all types of A&A works (including food business premises) processed by BD was 1 347, which is higher than the corresponding number in 2005 of 1 116.

Regarding the processing of building plan submissions (including A&A works) by BD, in both 2005 and 2006, we were able to achieve a performance rate of 99.9% in meeting our performance target of processing new building plan submissions within 60 days. We consider that the existing level of resource provision is adequate.

Signature	
Name in block letters	CHEUNG Hau-wai
Post Title	Director of Buildings
Date	16 March 2007