

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)031

Head : 82 Buildings Department Subhead (No. & title) : Question Serial No.

Programme : Buildings and Building Works

1020

Controlling Officer : Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question :

How much time is required for a property agent to verify the building structural particulars with the Buildings Department? Has the Administration improved or expedited such process during the past three years?

Asked by : Hon. CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, Selina

Reply :

The Buildings Department provides service to the public for viewing and copying of building records, including building plans, structural plans, structural calculations and other related documents. We have pledged to make the records available for viewing and copying within 10 working days from the date of application. The performance we have achieved in processing applications within the pledged time over the past three years expressed in terms of the percentage of the total applications has improved from 90% in 2001 to 95% in 2003.

In early 2001, we started a pilot project to digitise building records and to set up a computerized Building Records Management System (BRMS) covering Tsim Sha Tsui, Yau Ma Tei, Mongkok and Wanchai districts. The pilot BRMS has been accessible by the public since June 2001 offering instant viewing of building records in these districts. We have recently obtained funding to extend the BRMS to cover all existing private buildings in Hong Kong. Upon completion of the project by the end of 2005, instant viewing and copying of building records will be available for all existing buildings.

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| Signature | _____ |
| Name in block letters | Marco WU |
| Post Title | Director of Buildings |
| Date | 26.3.2004 |