

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)044

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : Buildings and Building Works

1654

Controlling Officer : Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question :

In this financial year, the Buildings Department plans to extend the electronic "Building Records Management System" to cover the whole territory. Could the Administration briefly tell us the content, manpower required and financial impact of the above project?

And, could the Administration tell the public how to use this plan?

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

In early 2001, the Buildings Department (BD) started a pilot project for the digitization of building records and setting up a computerized Building Records Management System (BRMS) covering Tsim Sha Tsui, Yau Ma Tei, Mongkok and Wanchai districts. The pilot BRMS has been open to public access in the Building Information Centre of BD since June 2001 offering instant viewing and copying service of building records. Staff in the Centre will provide assistance to the public in using the system where necessary.

With the success of the pilot BRMS, we will commission a project in 2004-05 to extend the BRMS to cover all districts in the territory. The project will digitize all the building plans and related documents kept by BD and store the electronic images in the BRMS for easy retrieval. Upon completion of the project by the end of 2005, the records of existing buildings in the entire territory will be available for instant viewing and copying by the public via workstations in BD's Building Information Centre.

The funding for the project approved by the Finance Committee in July 2003 is \$50.3 million which comprises \$37.8 million for data conversion and \$12.5 million for the purchase of computer hardware and software, implementation services, site preparation and project administration. The digitization of the building records will be outsourced to a service provider. The estimated recurrent expenditure for maintaining and operating the system is \$3.2 million per annum which will be absorbed by BD within the existing resources.

The manpower involved in overseeing and administering the project will be one professional staff, supported by seven clerical staff as well as six to seven IT staff.

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