

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2006-07
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)032

Question Serial No.

2212

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

Programme : Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer : Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question : Regarding the target set for the advertisement signboards removed/repared, the planned figure for 2006 is 197 less than the actual one for 2005. What are the reasons for such decrease? Is it because the number of the unauthorised signboards has been greatly reduced? Or because of the lack of manpower?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Kam-lam

Reply :

The target for removal/repair of signboards was set having taken into account the staff resources available to patrol, identify and enforce the removal or repair of signboards. Based on the resources available and given that the Buildings Department provides a wide variety of services to the public including taking enforcement actions against unauthorised building works to ensure building safety and dealing with reports from the public on dilapidated buildings, we have set a target of removing/repairing 1,200 signboards per year.

Notwithstanding this, we have been urging our staff to pay extra efforts in dealing with building safety issues, in particular signboards, in order to enhance public safety. Therefore we have been able to achieve slightly more than the set target in the removal/repair of signboards. In anticipation of our staff continuing to pay extra efforts in 2006, we have set our performance target for signboards removed/repared in 2006 at 1400. The number of signboards removed/repared also partly depends on the number of reports on defective signboards received from the public. In the event that the number of reports from the public on defective signboards in 2006 is more than expected, we would consider redeploying resources to deal with them.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

CHEUNG Hau-wai

Director of Buildings

10 March 2006

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