

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)039

Question Serial No.

1900

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 Comprehensive Building Safety Improvement Loan Scheme, it is estimated that the Buildings Department will process 2 800 loan applications in 2006. What is the loan ceiling per unit of accommodation? Will the estimated budget for this Scheme be increased following the implementation of the proposed mandatory scheme of building maintenance?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

The Comprehensive Building Safety Improvement Loan Scheme (CBSILS) has a commitment of \$700 million. Individual owners of all private buildings may apply for loans commensurate with the works required from CBSILS for the carrying out of works to improve the safety of their buildings and/or private slopes, up to a ceiling of \$1 million per unit of accommodation.

Since the CBSILS is a revolving loan facility it has plenty of scope to meet the increase in demand for loans that may arise from the implementation of the proposed mandatory building inspection scheme (MBIS). As the MBIS is still under consultation, we will reassess the loan requirements later should the proposed MBIS be adopted.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

CHEUNG Hau-wai

Director of Buildings

11 March 2006

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