

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)002

Question Serial No.

1492

Head : 138 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title) :
Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau 000 Operational expenses
(Planning and Lands Branch)

Programme : (2) Buildings, Lands and Planning

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands
(Planning and Lands)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question :

Under Programme (2), the Government states that it would proceed with the drafting of the legislation on the mandatory building inspection scheme and the mandatory window inspection scheme in 2007. Could the Government inform us of the details and progress of the work and the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

To put in place a permanent solution to resolve the long-standing problem of building neglect, the Government has conducted a two-stage public consultation on building management and maintenance. The results of both consultation exercises have confirmed the community's consensus that building owners should be responsible for upkeeping their buildings and shouldering the financial commitment. The community also supports the introduction of mandatory building inspection and mandatory window inspection. We have completed the analysis of the public views received in the second-stage consultation. Upon further exchange of views with the major stakeholders, the Government can finalize the details of the mandatory building inspection and mandatory window inspection schemes as well as the various support measures which would be put in place to ensure the smooth implementation of the schemes.

We will announce the results of the public consultation and the arrangements for the implementation of the mandatory building inspection and mandatory window inspection schemes once we are ready. We will proceed with the preparation of the relevant legislation for the mandatory schemes as our next step.

The preparation of the relevant legislation for the two schemes will be handled by existing manpower resources in the relevant departments and the Bureau. The resources required for the implementation of the two schemes will be assessed in due course.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs Rita Lau

Post Title _____
Permanent Secretary for Housing,
Planning and Lands (Planning and Lands)

Date _____ 15 March 2007

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