

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)032

Question Serial No.

0365

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 :

The Department has indicated that, after the operation of the Joint Office with the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department to handle public complaints about water seepage problems has been extended to the whole territory for 18 months, an interim review would be carried out. What is the completion date of the review? For the Joint Office, what will be the staffing establishment and expenditure involved in 2007-08?

Asked by : Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply :

Since July 2006 the Buildings Department (BD) and the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department have extended the operation of the pilot Joint Office (JO) to handle public complaints about water seepage problems to the whole territory under a three-year programme. BD plans to conduct a mid-term review on the effectiveness of the programme 18 months after the extension of operation. The review will commence towards the end of this year for completion before mid-2008.

We will continue with the existing staffing arrangement for the operation of the JO in 2007-08 and no additional resources will be required. The expenditure of the JO in 2007-08 will be about \$28.2 million, of which \$12 million will be allocated for outsourcing of investigation work to private consulting firms.

Signature _____

Name in block letters CHEUNG Hau-wai

Post Title Director of Buildings

Date 15 March 2007

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