## Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08

## CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.
HPLB(PL)037

Question Serial No.
0674

<u>Head</u>: 82 Buildings Department <u>Subhead</u> (No. & title):

**Programme:** Buildings and Building Works

**Controlling Officer**: Director of Buildings

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Housing, Planning, and Lands

## Question:

On the performance target of processing the applications for occupation permits for new buildings within 14 days, the Administration has achieved the 100% target in 2005 and 2006. In this connection, will the Administration consider shortening the processing time? If so, what is the estimated increase in staffing establishment and expenditure? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. LI Kwok-ying

## Reply:

Under the Buildings Ordinance, an occupation permit may only be issued for a new building after all the statutory requirements have been complied with. The processing of an application for an occupation permit involves a series of procedures including the carrying out of site inspection, vetting of relevant records and documents (including statutory forms, certificates and test reports) as well as consultation with relevant government departments. Taking into account the abovementioned procedures and the development trend of modern buildings, involving more complex design and construction, we consider that the existing performance target of 14 days is appropriate.

Signature	
Name in block letters	CHEUNG Hau-wai
Post Title	Director of Buildings
Date	15 March 2007