

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)041

Question Serial No.

0122

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 Buildings Department will strengthen its removal actions against abandoned advertisement signboards, and the Department will create four posts in 2007-08. Are these additional posts created for the purpose of enhancing the removal work of abandoned signboards? If so, will these additional resources be sufficient to handle the work and will other service areas be affected?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Heung-man

Reply :

The Government attaches great importance to signboard safety. In 2004, 2005 and 2006, the number of dangerous or abandoned signboards removed or repaired were 1 496, 1 597 and 1 690 respectively. Among them, about 4 000 are abandoned signboards. To further enhance the safety of the public, the Buildings Department (BD) has launched a special operation in 2007 to remove more dangerous or abandoned signboards. The target set for repair or removal of such signboards in 2007 is 2 000. Sufficient resources have been allocated for this operation.

The four additional posts (one Executive Officer II, one Accounting Officer II and two Clerical Officers) to be created in 2007-08 will be deployed to provide administrative, accounting and clerical support for BD's other operations.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

CHEUNG Hau-wai

Post Title _____

Director of Buildings

Date _____

15 March 2007