

民政事務總署  
第四科  
香港灣仔軒尼詩道一百三十九號  
中國海外大廈二十一樓



HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

Division IV  
21st Floor, China Overseas Building,  
139 Hennessy Road,  
Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

本署檔號 Our Ref.: (88) in HAD HQ IV /20/5/30 Pt.3

來函檔號 Your Ref.: CB2/PL/HA

電話 Tel.: 2123 8395

傳真 Fax.: 2147 0984

By Fax and Email

8 January 2009

Ms Betty FONG  
Clerk to the Panel on Home Affairs  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
Legislative Council Building  
8 Jackson Road  
Central  
Hong Kong

(Fax number: 2509 9055)  
(E-mail: bfong@legco.gov.hk)

Dear Ms FONG,

**Panel on Home Affairs  
Procurement of Third Party Risks Insurance by  
Owners' Corporations**

In response to the issues raised by the Members concerning the procurement of third party risks insurance by owners' corporations (OCs) at the panel meeting on 12 December 08, we would like to provide further information as follows.

**Clearance of UBWs**

At the meeting, Members enquired about the manpower of the Buildings Department (BD) in clearing unauthorized building works (UBWs). As advised by BD, a full range of duties in relation to building

safety and maintenance, including the enforcement against UBWs, is discharged by the 667 professional and technical officers of BD. It is not possible to apportion the manpower of BD staff solely responsible for the clearance of UBWs.

BD estimates that there are some 470,000 UBWs in the territory as at December 2008. Since 2001, BD has removed 330,000 UBWs and will continue to remove some 40,000 UBWs, including unauthorized signboards, per year.

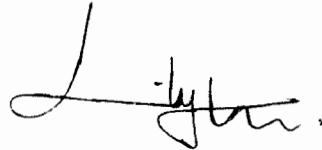
### **Quarterly Work Target and Progress of Insurance Procurement by OCs**

At the meeting, some Members requested information on the quarterly work target and progress of OCs in procuring third party risks insurance. Our current work plan is provided below.

<i>1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2009</i>	District offices (DOs) will individually contact OCs which have not procured third party risks insurance to promote the importance of third party risks insurance, explain to members of the Management Committee (MC) the details of the mandatory requirement; and ascertain the situation of each OC.
<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2009</i>	
<i>3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2009</i>	Depending on the individual situation of each OCs, DOs to facilitate the OCs in convening meetings to fill vacancies of MCs and discuss matters on procurement of third party risks insurance and/or maintenance works
<i>4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2009 and beyond</i>	If maintenance works will be carried out, DOs to facilitate the carrying out of maintenance works and procure third party risks insurance.

Given that OCs need lead time to convene meetings and/or carry out maintenance works, we expect that significant progress on actual procurement of third party risks insurance would occur starting from the third/fourth quarter of 2009. We shall provide an interim report on the progress of OCs in procuring third party risks insurance for Members' information in late 2009 or the first quarter of 2010.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lily Lee', with a stylized flourish at the end.

( Miss Lily LEE )

for Director of Home Affairs

c.c. Home Affairs Bureau  
Development Bureau  
Buildings Department

(Attn: Miss Ellen CHAN)  
(Attn: Mr Kenny LING)  
(Attn: Mr Paul PANG)