

Bills Committee on Buildings (Amendment) Bill 2010

**List of follow-up actions arising from the discussion
at the meeting on 19 February 2010**

The Administration is requested to provide written response on the following points raised by individual members of the Bills Committee --

1. Under the proposed sections 30B(3) and 30C(3) of the Bill, the Building Authority may require "any owner" of a building to undertake a prescribed inspection and, if necessary, prescribed repair. The Administration should explain the interpretation of "any owner" and the impact of such an interpretation on the legal liabilities of an owner.
2. The Administration should consider the feasibility of specifying in the principal ordinance, instead of the relevant subsidiary legislation, certain aspects such as the standard and requirements of prescribed inspection and prescribed repair.
3. The Administration should explain why pre-war private buildings not exceeding three storeys in height in urban areas would not be covered under the Bill and provide, if available, the number of such buildings.
4. The Administration should explain how internal alteration works and unauthorized building works would be handled under the Bill and whether its existing policy of prioritizing enforcement actions should be reviewed to facilitate inspection and repair works under the Mandatory Building Inspection Scheme.
5. The Administration should provide the existing staff numbers of the Buildings Department, with breakdown by duty/function, and the projected numbers of staff for implementation of the two mandatory inspection schemes.
6. The Administration should provide further information on the Voluntary Building Classification Scheme, including the operational details, implementation time frame and how such a scheme would dovetail with the Mandatory Building Inspection Scheme.
7. The Administration should consider implementing measures to help organize owners to carry out inspection and repair works under the two mandatory inspection schemes.