

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

THB(H)014

(Question Serial No. 0495)

Head: (62) Housing Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (2) Private Housing

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing (Housing)
(Stanley YING)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Transport and Housing

Question:

Regarding the work of “implementing the Residential Properties (First-hand Sales) Ordinance (Cap. 621) to regulate the sale of first-hand residential properties” as mentioned in the Brief Description of the Estimates of Expenditure, please inform this Committee of the number of complaints received by the Sales of First-hand Residential Properties Authority since the commencement of the Ordinance with a breakdown by nature. Please also provide the outcome of these complaints after investigation.

Asked by: Hon FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick (Member Question No. 21)

Reply:

The Sales of First-hand Residential Properties Authority (“SRPA”) received 159 complaints since it came into full operation on 29 April 2013 and up to end 2015.

A breakdown of the complaints by year and categories are as follows:

	Categories of complaints	2013 (from 29 April onwards)	2014	2015	Accumulative Total
(a)	Sales brochure	4	10	12	26
(b)	Price list	1	1	0	2
(c)	Sales arrangements	14	10	6	30
(d)	Show flats	0	0	0	0
(e)	Viewing of completed residential properties	0	5	1	6
(f)	Preliminary agreement for sale and purchase and/or agreement for sale and purchase	1	0	1	2
(g)	Register of transactions	1	1	0	2
(h)	Advertisements	2	6	15	23
(i)	Websites	1	0	0	1
(j)	Misrepresentation and/or dissemination of false or misleading information	6	15	9	30
(k)	Others	5	24	8	37
	Total	35	72	52	159

Among the 159 complaints aforementioned, 122 are related to the Residential Properties (First-hand Sales) Ordinance (the Ordinance), while the remaining 37 are not. Amongst those 122 complaints relating to the Ordinance, 1 is substantiated. 109 complaints are not substantiated. The SRPA is still following up on the remaining 12 complaints.

Contraventions of the provisions in the Ordinance are criminal offences. The SRPA carries out investigations on cases which are suspected of contravening the Ordinance and, depending on the investigation results, refers cases to the Prosecutions Division of the Department of Justice for follow-up action as appropriate.

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