

Our Ref.: CAB in C1/1/1

Tel No: 2810 2106

Fax No: 2840 1976

28 October 2002

*(By fax: 2509 9055)*

Mrs Percy Ma  
Clerk to LegCo Panel on Constitutional Affairs  
Legislative Council  
3/F., Citibank Tower  
3 Garden Road, Central  
Hong Kong

Dear Percy,

**Panel on Constitutional Affairs**

Thank you for your letter of 11 October.

The Administration as a whole is in the early stage of preparing for the 2003-04 Budget and Expenditure Estimates. As to how this bureau is going to achieve the efficiency savings and how these savings are to be spread out among the various programme areas, at this stage, we can only confirm that the Secretary for Constitutional Affairs is considering how resources in his operating expenditure envelope should be deployed. In so doing, we will ensure that the level and quality of our services to other bureaux/departments and members of the public would be upheld. We will also set aside sufficient resources to ensure that our core activities, including the 2003 District Council elections and 2004 Legislative Council elections, would not be affected.

The picture will become clear, when the 2003-04 Expenditure Estimates are made available for Members' examination in March 2003.

Yours sincerely,

( Patricia Woo )  
for Secretary for Constitutional Affairs

PW0032