

**Replies to supplementary questions raised by Finance Committee Members in
examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06**

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Session No. : 6

File name : S-HPLB(H)-e.doc

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Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-HPLB(H)01

Question Serial No.

SV08

Head : 62 Housing Department Subhead :

Programme : Squatter Clearance and Squatter Control

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands (Housing)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question : To provide details on the planned transfer of the work of squatter clearance and control in the New Territories presently undertaken by Housing Department (HD) to the Lands Department, especially the implications thereof on contract staff.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply : To further enhance the efficiency of land administration, the Housing Department and the Lands Department have been actively discussing the timing and arrangements for the second phase transfer of squatter control duties in the New Territories. We are working out the details. It is envisaged that the implementation arrangements will be worked out in 2005-06.

Under Head 62, there are only eight contract Motor Drivers deployed on squatter control and clearance duties in the Housing Department. We intend to transfer them to the Lands Department.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C.M. LEUNG

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Housing,
Planning and Lands (Housing)

Date _____ 18 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-HPLB(H)02

Question Serial No.

SV10

Head : 62 Housing Department Subhead :

Programme : Squatter Clearance and Squatter Control

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands (Housing)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question : To provide information on how many of the 659 HD posts to be deleted by March 2007 involve architects and surveyors.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Sau-shing, Patrick

Reply : Of the 659 posts to be deleted in the Housing Department by March 2007, 31 are architect grade posts and 41 are surveyor grade posts (including both civil service and Housing Authority contract posts). These posts will be deleted when the incumbents retire or complete their contracts.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

C.M. LEUNG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for Housing,
Planning and Lands (Housing)

Date _____

18 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-HPLB(H)03

Question Serial No.

SV11

Head : 62 Housing Department Subhead :

Programme : Squatter Clearance and Squatter Control

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands (Housing)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question : To advise how many of the 659 HD posts to be deleted by March 2007 overlap with the 398 surplus posts under Head 62 referred to in paragraph (b) of the Administration's reply to question 0558 (HPLB(H)007).

Asked by : Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply : The reference to the 659 posts to be deleted by Housing Department by March 2007, as stated in SHPL's speech at the Special FC meeting on 11 April, covers all Housing Department staff, including those funded by the Government for squatter control duties (and charged to Head 62 of the Government's General Revenue Account) as well as those funded by the Housing Authority.

40 of these 659 posts are surplus posts in the squatter control programme area funded under Head 62. Of these, 35 will be deleted in 2005-06. The remaining five posts, which are among the 398 surplus posts under Head 62, will be deleted by March 2007.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

C.M. LEUNG

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for Housing,
Planning and Lands (Housing)

Date _____

18 April 2005