

**Replies to initial written questions raised by Financial Committee Members
in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2006-07**

[Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office]

[Session No.: 7] [File name: CEO-el.doc]

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Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2006-07
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

CEO001

Question Serial No.

0009

Head: 21 – Chief Executive's Office

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Chief Executive's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office

Director of Bureau: Director of the Chief Executive's Office

Question:

It is proposed that one new post will be created under the Chief Executive's Office, which will involve additional salary expenses of millions of dollars. Will the Administration please provide details of the duties and responsibilities and salary of this new post?

Asked by: Hon. TAM Heung-man

Reply:

The increase in "Personal Emoluments" for 2006-07 against the revised estimate for 2005-06 is \$3.5M. The bulk of the increased provision is attributable to the full-year effect of the establishment of a directorate post, namely Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office (D6) and four non-directorate supporting staff (two Personal Secretary grade, one Confidential Assistant grade and one Motor Driver grade) required to serve the expanded structure, which the Finance Committee has noted and approved in January 2006. The increase in the number of non-directorate supporting staff will be offset by the deletion of four non-directorate posts at the same time (three Domestic Staff grade and one Workman grade).

Notwithstanding the above, there is the net increase of a non-directorate Executive Officer grade post to share out increased administrative work in the Office, including effective processing of invitations and requests put to the Chief Executive from local and overseas organizations and bodies. The annual mid-point salary of the post is \$0.7M only.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms CHANG King-yiu _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office _____

Date _____ 8 March 2006 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2006-07
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

CEO002

Question Serial No.

0010

Head: 21 – Chief Executive's Office

Subhead (No. & title): 000 Operational expenses

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office

Director of Bureau: Director of the Chief Executive's Office

Question:

Regarding the estimated expenses on remuneration for special appointments, there is an increase of \$2,338,000 as compared with the revised estimate of the previous year. Will the Administration please inform this Committee of its use?

Asked by: Hon. TAM Heung-man

Reply:

The estimated increase of \$2.3M in 2006-07 is attributable to the additional provisions for the positions of Director of the Chief Executive's Office (DCEO) (\$2M), Information Coordinator (IC) (\$1.8M), and Special Assistant (SA) (\$0.8M), offset by some savings. The DCEO position was filled in late January 2006 while IC and SA were filled substantively effective from February 2006. They accounted for about two months' remuneration in the 2005-06 revised estimate.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms CHANG King-yiu

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office

Date _____ 8 March 2006

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**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

CEO003

Question Serial No.

0469

Head: 21 – Chief Executive's Office Subhead (No. & title): 000 Operational expenses

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office

Director of Bureau: Director of the Chief Executive's Office

Question:

Will the Administration please provide details about and expenses incurred from the proposed creation of one permanent post in 2006-07?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply:

In 2006-07, there will be the net increase of one non-directorate post, namely an Executive Officer grade post, to share out increased administrative work in the Office, including effective processing of invitations and requests put to the Chief Executive from local and overseas organizations and bodies. The annual mid-point salary of the post is \$0.7M.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms CHANG King-yiu _____

Post Title Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office _____

Date 8 March 2006 _____

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**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

CEO004

Question Serial No.

0541

Head: 21 – Chief Executive's Office

Subhead (No. & title): 000 Operational expenses

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office

Director of Bureau: Director of the Chief Executive's Office

Question:

It is proposed that one permanent post will be created under the Chief Executive's Office in 2006-07. What are the emoluments and duties of this post?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply:

In 2006-07, there will be the net increase of one non-directorate post, namely an Executive Officer grade post, to share out increased administrative work in the Office, including effective processing of invitations and requests put to the Chief Executive from local and overseas organizations and bodies. The annual mid-point salary of the post is \$0.7M.

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Reply Serial No.

CEO005

Question Serial No.

0631

Head: 21 - Chief Executive's Office Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Chief Executive's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office

Director of Bureau: Director of the Chief Executive's Office

Question:

Please inform this Committee of the staff establishment of the Government House and the Chief Executive's country residence in Fanling, and their respective estimated expenses in 2006-07.

Asked by: Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply:

In 2006-07, we have a total of 25 staff for providing comprehensive household services in Government House and the country residence (Fanling Lodge). Staff are deployed to work in the two places interchangeably in accordance with operational needs. The total estimated expenses for the posts in 2006-07 are \$5.86M.

Signature _____

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Post Title Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office

Date 8 March 2006

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2006-07
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

CEO006

Question Serial No.

1370

Head: 21 - Chief Executive's Office Subhead (No. & title): 000 Operational expenses

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office

Director of Bureau: Director of the Chief Executive's Office

Question:

It is proposed that one non-directorate post will be created under the Chief Executive's Office in 2006-07. What are the emoluments and duties of this post?

Asked by: Hon. LEUNG Kwok-hung

Reply:

In 2006-07, there will be the net increase of one non-directorate post, namely an Executive Officer grade post, to share out increased administrative work in the Office, including effective processing of invitations and requests put to the Chief Executive from local and overseas organizations and bodies. The annual mid-point salary of the post is \$0.7M.

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Name in block letters _____ Ms CHANG King-yiu

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office

Date _____ 8 March 2006

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**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

CEO007

Question Serial No.

1499

Head: 21 – Chief Executive's Office Subhead (No. & title): 000 Operational expenses

Programme:

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office

Director of Bureau: Director of the Chief Executive's Office

Question:

As indicated under Subhead 000 Operational expenses, Mandatory Provident Fund contribution is estimated to be \$24,000 for 2006-07, a reduction of \$17,000 over the actual expenditure in 2004-05. Will the Administration inform the Committee of the reasons for the reduction in Mandatory Provident Fund contribution?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply:

The provision of Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) contribution in this Office is for the payment of MPF for officers on civil service agreement terms and new terms. In 2004-05, MPF contribution amounting to \$41,000 was paid for four such officers. In 2006-07, payment of MPF totaling \$24,000 is required for two officers only as one has left the service and another has been confirmed to permanent establishment terms. The resulting reduction in expenditure is \$17,000.

Signature _____

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Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office

Date _____ 8 March 2006

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2006-07
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INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

CEO008

Question Serial No.

1500

Head: 21 – Chief Executive's Office Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Chief Executive's Office

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office

Director of Bureau: Director of the Chief Executive's Office

Question:

As indicated under Programme (1), financial provision to the Chief Executive's Office for 2006-07 will increase by 15.6% over the original estimate for 2005-06. The Administration said the increase of \$6.3 million is mainly due to the net creation of one post and increased requirement for departmental expenses. Will the Administration inform the Committee of the title, emoluments and duties of the post, and provide the breakdown of the Office's revised expenses for 2005-06 and estimated expenses for 2006-07?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply:

The increase of \$6.3M comprises \$3.5M in "Personal Emoluments", \$2.3M in "Remuneration for special appointments" and \$0.5M for "General departmental expenses".

The increase in "Personal Emoluments" for 2006-07 against the revised estimate for 2005-06 is \$3.5M. The bulk of the increased provision is attributable to the full-year effect of the establishment of a directorate post, namely Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office (D6) and four non-directorate supporting staff (two Personal Secretary grade, one Confidential Assistant grade and one Motor Driver grade) required to serve the expanded structure, which the Finance Committee has noted and approved in January 2006. The increase in the number of non-directorate supporting staff will be offset by the deletion of four non-directorate posts at the same time (three Domestic Staff grade and one Workman grade).

Notwithstanding the above, there is the net increase of a non-directorate Executive Officer grade post to share out increased administrative work in the Office, including effective processing of invitations and requests put to the Chief Executive from local and overseas organizations and bodies. The annual mid-point salary of the post is \$0.7M only.

The increase of \$2.3M in "Remuneration for special appointments" is attributable to the additional provisions for the positions of Director of the Chief Executive's Office (DCEO) (\$2M), Information Coordinator (IC) (\$1.8M), and Special Assistant (SA) (\$0.8M), offset by some savings. The DCEO position was filled in late January 2006 while IC and SA were filled substantively effective from February 2006. They accounted for about two months' remuneration in the 2005-06 revised estimate.

The additional "General departmental expenses" (\$0.5M) are for covering operational expenses due to the expanded structure.

The breakdown for revised expenses for 2005-06 and estimated expenses for 2006-07 of Programme (1)- Chief Executive's Office is as follows-

	Revised Estimate in 2005-06 (a)	Draft Estimate in 2006-07 (b)	Difference (b)- (a)
Personal Emoluments	\$30.8M	\$34.3M	\$3.5M
Personnel Related Expenses	\$0.02M	\$0.02M	-
Departmental Expenses			
- Remuneration for special appointments	\$5.3M	\$7.6M	\$2.3M
- General departmental expenses	\$13.1M	\$13.6M	\$0.5M

Signature _____

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