

**Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the
Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12**

**Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office
Session No. : 7**

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
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**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

CEO001

Question Serial No.

0389

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:

Regarding the social engagements and visitor receiving duties undertaken by the Chief Executive and his wife, what are the actual, revised and estimated expenses in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively? Please give a breakdown of the expenses according to the activities attended by the Chief Executive, his wife and both of them.

Asked by: Hon. HO Chun-yan, Albert

Reply:

A breakdown of the expenses incurred by the Chief Executive and his wife in social engagements or entertaining guests is as follows -

Host	2009-10 Actual Expenses (\$)	2010-11 Revised Estimate (\$)	2011-12 Estimated Expenses (\$)
CE	240,990	205,000	205,000
CE and his wife	45,800	120,000	120,000
CE's wife	0	0	0
Total:	286,790	325,000	325,000

In addition, the Chief Executive receives a non-accountable entertainment allowance (NEA), which is a perquisite associated with an official residence for meeting expenses for official entertainment at the official residence. The annual rate for NEA in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 is \$768,300.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Kenneth Mak

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office

Date _____ 16 March 2011

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

CEO002

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

Question Serial No.

1051

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:

Regarding the increase of provision by \$2.6 million for 2011-12, what are the main items for which the increase is made to meet their operating expenses?

Asked by: Hon. TONG Ka-wah, Ronny

Reply:

The increase of provision by \$2.6 m mainly relates to –

- (a) expenses for relocation of the Chief Executive's Office to the new Central Government Complex at Tamar;
- (b) salary provision of an Executive Officer I post to be created in 2011-12 to strengthen support in handling enquiries, complaints and petitions to the Chief Executive and the Chief Executive's Office; and
- (c) expenses for enhancing communication between the Government and the general public (e.g. through new media), including the salary of two contract staff involved.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Kenneth Mak

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office

Date _____ 16 March 2011

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2011-12

Reply Serial No.

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

CEO003

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

Question Serial No.

0894

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 list out the criteria for planning and implementing arrangements for the Chief Executive's public and social engagements (including entertaining Legislative Council Members, District Councils members, Hong Kong Deputies to the National People's Congress (NPC) and Hong Kong members of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC)) according to the aims of the estimated expenditure. Please also provide the expenses and details of entertaining the aforesaid people over the past 5 years (2006-07 to 2010-11).

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Mo-po, Paul

Reply:

The purposes of the Chief Executive's public and social engagements are mainly to make and maintain contacts with various sectors of the community, to introduce Hong Kong's latest situation to overseas guests, to gauge public opinion for policy formulation and to explain Government policies. The expenses and associated details of official entertainment in the past 5 years for Legislative Council Members, District Councils members, Hong Kong Deputies to the National People's Congress and Hong Kong members of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference are listed out at Annex.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Kenneth Mak

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office

Date _____ 16 March 2011

Annex

Year	Date	Event	Expenses (\$)
2006-07	20/9/2006	Luncheon for Members of Legislative Council	42,880
	23/2/2007	Spring Reception *	60,000
2007-08	20/9/2007	Luncheon for Members of Legislative Council	46,000
	15/2/2008	Spring Reception *	34,000
	5/3/2008	Reception in Beijing for Hong Kong Deputies to the National People's Congress (NPC) and Hong Kong members of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC)	138,550
2008-09	1/8/2008	Dinner for Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of District Councils	29,233
	1/12/2008	Luncheon for Members of Legislative Council	50,820
	12/12/2008	Dinner for some Members of Legislative Council	4,309
	16/12/2008	Dinner for some Members of Legislative Council	7,000
	5/1/2009	Luncheon for some Members of Legislative Council	4,655
	19/1/2009	Luncheon for some Members of Legislative Council	4,070
	3/2/2009	Spring Reception *	36,075
2009-10	4/3/2009	Reception in Beijing for Hong Kong Deputies to NPC and Hong Kong members of CPPCC	136,326
	5/11/2009	Luncheon for Members of Legislative Council	64,356
	22/2/2010	Spring Reception *	34,800
2010-11	5/3/2010	Reception in Beijing for Hong Kong Deputies to NPC and Hong Kong members of CPPCC	158,446
	21/7/2010	Luncheon for Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of District Councils	37,973
	5/11/2010	Luncheon for Members of Legislative Council	63,690
	14/2/2011	Spring Reception *	37,140
	6/3/2011	Reception in Beijing for Hong Kong Deputies to NPC and Hong Kong members of CPPCC	134,555

* Guests from different sectors of the community including Members of Legislative Council, Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of District Councils, Hong Kong Deputies to NPC and Hong Kong members of CPPCC are invited to the Spring Reception.

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

CEO004

Question Serial No.

2655

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:

Regarding consultancy studies (if any) commissioned by the Chief Executive's Office and its departments for the purpose of formulating and assessing policies, please provide information in the following format.

- (a) Using the table below, please provide information on studies on public policy and strategic public policy for which funds had been allocated between 2008-09 and 2010-11:

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start Date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	Follow-ups taken by the Administration on the study reports and their progress (if any)	If completed, have they been made public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?

- (b) Are there any projects for which funds have been reserved for conducting consultancy studies in 2011-12? If yes, please provide the following information:

Name of consultant	Mode of award (open auction/tender/others (please specify))	Title, content and objectives of project	Consultancy fee (\$)	Start Date	Progress of study (under planning/ in progress/ completed)	For the projects that are expected to be completed in 2010-11, is there any plans to make them public? If yes, through what channels? If no, why?

- (c) What are the criteria for considering the award of consultancy projects to the research institutions concerned?

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

- (a) No consultancy studies have been commissioned by the Chief Executive's Office and hence no funds have been allocated between 2008-09 and 2010-11 for such purpose.
- (b) No funds have been reserved for conducting consultancy studies in 2011-12.
- (c) Not applicable to the Chief Executive's Office.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Kenneth Mak

Post Title Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office

Date 16 March 2011

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

CEO005

Question Serial No.

2756

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:

In regard to the implementation of the Framework Agreement on Hong Kong/Guangdong Co-operation (the Framework Agreement) and growing co-operation between Hong Kong and the Mainland in recent years, please provide relevant information on Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes in which the Chief Executive's Office are or have been involved.

(a) For Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes from 2008-09 to 2010-11, please provide information by using the following table:

Project/ programme title	Details, objectives and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement	Expenditure involved	Name of Mainland department/ organisation involved	Progress (% completed, start date, anticipated completion date)	Have the details, objective, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology been released to the public? If yes, through which channels and what were the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons.
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(b) For Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes in 2011-12, please provide information by using the following table:

Project/ programme title	Details, objectives and whether it is related to the Framework Agreement	Expenditure involved	Name of Mainland department/ organisation involved	Progress (% completed, start date, anticipated completion date)	Will the details, objective, amount involved or impact on the public, society, culture and ecology be released to the public? If yes, through which channels and what will be the manpower and expenditure involved? If no, what are the reasons.
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(c) Apart from the projects or programmes listed above, are there any other modes of cross-boundary co-operation? If yes, what are they? What were the manpower and expenditure involved in the past 3 years, and how much financial and manpower resources are earmarked in the 2011-12 Estimates?

Asked by: Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply:

In the Chief Executive's Office, no manpower or expenditure was directly involved in the implementation of the Framework Agreement or other Hong Kong/Mainland cross-boundary projects or programmes in the past 3 years. No manpower or financial resources have been earmarked for the above purposes in the 2011-12 Estimates.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Kenneth Mak _____

Post Title Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office

Date _____ 16 March 2011 _____

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

CEO006

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

Question Serial No.

1531

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:

Regarding the post for managing networking media such as Facebook and Blog in the Chief Executive's Office, will the Administration inform the Committee:

- (a) What are the rank and main duties of the post?
- (b) Has the cost effectiveness of the post been ever examined? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply:

(a) In the Chief Executive's Office, public communications through the new media are managed day-to-day by two Project Officers under the supervision of Special Assistant. Project Officer is a non-civil service post, with a monthly salary ranging from \$23,000 to \$27,000. The main duties of this post are to conduct research; assist in planning and implementing new-media related projects; assist in organizing and managing events; assist in collating public opinion; and assist in liaison with community organizations.

(b) The two Project Officer posts were filled in the second half of 2010. We have conducted a preliminary evaluation of the cost-effectiveness of the posts. We consider that the posts are necessary and effective in the management of this Office's new media platforms for public communications, through which Government messages may be disseminated to the public (especially the younger generation) more directly, enhancing public understanding of government policies. The posts have been useful in collating public opinion and feedback, and have provided necessary backup support for online dialogue between this Office and the public. In addition, the posts have provided useful support to senior officers in research and liaison work.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Kenneth Mak

Post Title Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office

Date 16 March 2011

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

CEO007

Question Serial No.

3888

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

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:

Regarding the post of Special Assistant in the Chief Executive's Office, will the Administration inform this Committee:

- (a) What is the amount of public expenditure involved for 2011-12?
- (b) Has the Administration ever considered to examine the need of retaining the post? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (c) What was the amount of annual expenditure incurred by the post over the past 5 years (i.e. 2006-07 to 2010-11)?

Asked by: Hon. CHAN Tanya

Reply:

- (a) The estimated expenditure for the post of Special Assistant in 2011-12 is \$0.97 m.
- (b) Special Assistant assists Director, Chief Executive's Office in liaising with various sectors of the community; formulating and implementing new media strategies; conducting research and preparing briefs for the Chief Executive and senior officials. His work has effectively enhanced the Government's communications with various sectors of the community, community organisations as well as the general public. There is an operational need to retain the post.
- (c) The annual expenditure incurred for the post is as follows -

2006-07	\$0.88 m
2007-08	\$1.06 m
2008-09	\$0.37 m
2009-10	\$0
2010-11 (estimate)	\$0.82 m

Signature _____

Name in block letters Kenneth Mak

Post Title Permanent Secretary, Chief Executive's Office

Date 16 March 2011