

**Replies to supplementary questions raised by Finance Committee Members  
in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04**

**[Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works]  
[File name: S-ETWB(E)-e.doc]**

<b>Reply Serial No.</b>	<b>Question Serial No.</b>	<b>Name of Member</b>	<b>Head</b>	<b>Programme</b>
<a href="#">S-ETWB(E)001</a>	Oral	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	44	Air
<a href="#">S-ETWB(E)002</a>	Oral	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	44	Noise

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

Reply Serial No.

S-ETWB(E)001

Head : 44 – Environmental      Subhead (No. & title) :  
Protection Department

Question Serial No.

Oral

Programme : (2) Air

Controlling Officer : Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Would the Government advise this Council the details of the vacant post under Programme 2, category I of the Environmental Protection Department, as well as whether and when the post would be deleted to achieve savings (Re: Reply Serial No. ETWB(E)062).

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply : The vacancy arises from a temporary secondment of an Assistant Director from the Environmental Protection Department to the Environment, Transport and Works Bureau for six months from 15 October, 2002 and the incumbent will return to the Department in April 2003 when the secondment ends.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ ROBERT J. S. LAW \_\_\_\_\_

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Director of Environmental Protection \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 27 March 2003 \_\_\_\_\_

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04  
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

S-ETWB(E)002

Head : 44 Environmental Protection  
Department

Subhead (No. & title) : 700  
General other non-recurrent

Question Serial No.

Oral

Programme : (3) Noise

Controlling Officer : Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau : Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : Would the Government advise this Council details, such as the scope, methodology, timing and cost, of the Study to evaluate the adverse impact of environmental noise on public health in Hong Kong. (Re: Reply Serial No. ETWB(E) 053)

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply : The Environment, Transport and Works Bureau has reviewed the approach to the study in conjunction with the Environmental Protection Department (EPD). It has been decided that a step-by-step approach should be adopted with Phase One focusing on an appraisal of the noise environment of Hong Kong. For this part of the study, we will measure noise at specified locations in both urban and rural areas. Measurements will be taken at the recipient's point and largely divided into day and night. It will include people who live next to noise barriers of different designs and those without the protection of noise barriers. The measurements will also cover common social activities of our population such as taking tea at restaurants, listening to Discman, watching TV and pop concerts, playing mahjong as well as outings at beaches and barbecue spots. For comparison purpose, samples will be taken at tranquil environments such as on outlying islands for use as baselines. After obtaining the basic data, we will then plan for the next phase on people's perception.

We expect that \$ 3.5 million will be sufficient for the whole study. The EPD plans to invite tender for the Phase One study in mid 2003. The Phase One study is expected to start around August 2003.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block  
letters \_\_\_\_\_

ROBERT J. S. LAW

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_

Director of Environmental  
Protection

Date \_\_\_\_\_

28 March 2003