

**Replies to initial written questions raised by Finance
Committee Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05**

**Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs
[Session No. : 3] [File name : HAB-e1]**

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Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB001

Question Serial No.

0021

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (2) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Under this Programme, the Home Affairs Bureau will continue the on-going administrative and educational measures to promote awareness of racial harmony and equality during 2004-05. Would the Administration inform this Committee of the following –

- (1) details and results of the work involved in previous years?
- (2) the number of staff involved and the amount of provision for such work in 2004-05?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

(1) **The work:** our work in this area began in 1996. Early initiatives included the first editions of our handbook: 'Your Guide to Services in Hong Kong', the publication of storybooks for children, a painting competition, anti-discrimination leaflets and the *Code of Practice Against Discrimination in Employment on the Ground of Race*. Additionally, we introduced the – ongoing – Equal Opportunities Funding Scheme, under which we sponsor projects organised by community-based organisations to spread the message of racial harmony at the grassroots level.

More recent measures have included -

- (a) in 2002-03, we established the Committee on Promotion of Racial Harmony to advise the Government on public education and publicity for the promotion of racial harmony. The Committee is underpinned by a dedicated Race Relations Unit (RRU) – also established in 2002 – to promote racial harmony and to handle complaints and enquiries about racial discrimination. Since then, the Committee has advised the Government on such major issues as the provision of language courses for the minorities; and
- (b) in 2003-04, the RRU delivered, inter alia, a Community Organiser Training Programme on a pilot basis. The aim was to equip community organisers from the minorities to take a proactive role in their respective communities and in the wider society of Hong Kong. Also ongoing is the Mobile Information Service (MIS) whose 'Information Ambassadors' provide information and assistance to migrant workers and non-Chinese persons entering for settlement on first arrival at the Airport. Other measures included giving talks to schools, maintaining a hotline for complaints and enquiries, and a mural project.

In 2004-05, we plan to spend \$5.87 million (provisional figure). We shall continue existing long-term initiatives, such as the language classes, the community organiser training programme, the Equal Opportunities Funding Scheme, the Committee on the Promotion of Racial Harmony, the service guidebooks, and public education campaigns (APIs, posters, and so forth). Other initiatives are currently under consideration.

Results: by their nature, the impact of some of these initiatives cannot readily be assessed. But those that can be provide an encouraging picture. For example, with feedback from the minority communities and NGOs, we have expanded and developed the service guidebooks, so that each edition has been more useful than the last. The MIS has proved a valuable service to its target clientele and has been commended by clients, NGOs, and the Consulate Generals of the main 'exporting' countries. The RRU has won the respect of the minority communities, the NGOs, and the schools where RRU staff have delivered talks. And our language classes - developed and delivered by three major NGOs - have received very positive feedback from students. Our approach in all these areas is demand-led: a process of closely monitoring user-response with a view to consistent adaptation, development, and improvement.

(2) **Staff and costs:** the work in this area is shared between the Bureau's human rights division and the RRU. The division (which is also responsible for human rights reporting) comprises a Principal Assistant Secretary (Administrative Officer Staff Grade 'C'), an Assistant Secretary (Senior Administrative Officer), an Executive Officer I, an Assistant Clerical Officer, a Personal Secretary I and a Personal Secretary II. The RRU comprises five full-time and two part-time staff, all of whom are non-civil servants. In 2004-05, the division will cost a total of \$3.49 million. The combined cost of the RRU and our activities in this area will total a further \$5.87 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Ms SHELLEY LEE

Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

17 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB002

Question Serial No.

0022

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (4) District and Community Relations

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The Home Affairs Bureau indicated that it will “continue to conduct public education on gambling-related issues, provide counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers, as well as conduct research on impact of gambling under their programme”. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) the specific measures taken to implement the above work and the expenditure involved in previous years; and
- (2) the details of the work to be implemented in 2004–05, the staffing establishment and amount of provision involved.

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

- (1) In 2003, we set up the Ping Wo Fund for the purpose of financing preventive and remedial measures to address gambling-related problems. The Hong Kong Jockey Club has made a commitment to contribute \$24 million to the fund in the first two years and \$12 million to \$15 million in the 3 years thereafter. The fund also accepts public donations.

In mid to late 2003, we implemented a series of preventive and remedial measures to address gambling-related problems, which were financed by the Ping Wo Fund. The major details are summarized below:

- a) Research on gambling-related issues

We commissioned an overseas expert in counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers to conduct a benchmarking study for introducing similar services in Hong Kong.

b) Public Education programme

We launched a public education programme with the objectives of enhancing public understanding about the nature and risks of gambling activities; increasing awareness of gambling-related problems; and fostering a responsible gambling attitude. The programme included television and radio commercials, TV documentary dramas, as well as posters and banners to warn against excessive gambling.

We have also commissioned the Hong Kong Education City to launch an education programme targetting adolescents. The project, known as “Say No to Gambling” Action, is a two-year programme which seeks to enhance the understanding of adolescents, parents and teachers towards gambling, and to strengthen the ability of adolescents to exercise self-control so as to prevent themselves from becoming addicted to, or developing compulsive or pathological gambling behaviour in any activity, including gambling. The project includes a central website, and the organization of different activities such as workshops, seminars and debating competition.

c) Counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers

We commissioned Caritas and Tung Wah Group of Hospitals to respectively operate two dedicated counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers for three years on a pilot basis. The two centres commenced operation in October 2003. The centres provide professional counselling and treatment for problem and pathological gamblers as well as their significant others.

(2) In 2004-05, we will continue to implement measures to address gambling-related problems this year. The specific measures are as follows:

a) Research and studies

We will commission a local university to conduct an evaluative study on the effectiveness of the services of the two counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers financed by the Ping Wo Fund. We will also commission an independent institute to conduct a study on the Hong Kong people’s participation in gambling activities. The study seeks to assess the impact of gambling participation and keep track of the prevalence of problem and pathological gambling in Hong Kong.

b) Public education programme

We will continue to implement the public education programme. We are planning to produce additional TV and radio commercials on problems associated with excessive gambling and to publicize the gambling counselling hotline operated jointly by the two counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers financed by the Ping Wo Fund. We are also planning to launch a special youth empowerment campaign aimed at engaging young people to drive home amongst their peers clear messages about gambling-related problems.

c) Counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers

The two dedicated counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers operated by Caritas and Tung Wah Group of Hospitals respectively would continue to provide professional services to problem and pathological gamblers as well as their significant others. We will shortly commission a university to conduct an evaluative study on the effectiveness of the services provided by the two centres. We will assess whether the resources for the services are adequate in meeting the demand for such services, having regard to the results of the study and operational experience.

The Home Affairs Bureau is responsible for the administration of the Ping Wo Fund, as well as co-ordinating the implementation of the various measures financed by the Fund. The relevant work is being undertaken by a team comprising an Administrative Officer Staff Grade B, an Administrative Officer Staff Grade C and a Senior Administrative Officer in the Bureau, with each of them devoting varying portions of their working hours to such duties.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 19.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB003

Question Serial No.

0287

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (4) District and Community Relations

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Under this programme, it is indicated that the Home Affairs Bureau will introduce a series of administrative reforms to improve the management and maintenance of Chinese temples and Chinese permanent cemeteries in Hong Kong in 2004-05. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) the details of such work; and
- (2) the number of staff deployed for such work and the amount of expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

- (1) We will continue to implement the remaining recommendations of the ICAC reports in enhancing the transparency and accountability of the Chinese Temples Committee (CTC) and the Board of Management of Chinese Permanent Cemeteries (BMCPC). These include introducing operational manuals on work processes and procedures and setting performance standards, pledges and indicators. A web site of the CTC will be launched and the one for the BMCPC will be updated and improved regularly.

As regards the CTC, we will review the tendering system for contracts for the management and operation of temples. We will also improve the supervisory mechanism regarding maintenance projects and temple management.

As regards the BMCPC, we will establish a more customer-oriented and accountable management culture in the secretariat serving the Board of the BMCPC. We will re-prioritise work including items such as the much needed footpath for the Junk Bay Cemetery. The Chinese Permanent Cemeteries Rules will be reviewed to bring them in line with present day requirements and so as to streamline and improve the quality of service and efficiency.

- (2) These measures will be carried out by the Trust Funds, Temples and Cemeteries Joint Secretariat and overseen by the Home Affairs Bureau. The Joint Secretariat is outside the Civil Service establishment and is paid by the statutorily established CTC and BMCPC. As for the Home Affairs Bureau, the work will be absorbed within existing resources.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 19.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB004

Question Serial No.

0288

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title): N/A
Bureau

Programme : (4) District and Community Relations

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Under this programme, it is anticipated that the Home Affairs Bureau will conduct 11 opinion surveys in 2004-05. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) the details of such opinion surveys, including the approach, the scope and the time needed; and
- (2) the number of staff deployed for such work and the amount of expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee

Reply :

- (1) For the purpose of financial planning, we made provision for conducting a total of 11 opinion surveys in 2004-05, having regard to the average number of surveys conducted in the past years. At present, two surveys are under concrete planning. The details are as follows:

a) Survey on Corporate Citizenship

This survey aims to assess public perception and expectations of corporate citizenship in Hong Kong. It will cover people aged 18 to 64 in all domestic households in Hong Kong, with a sample size of 1 500 to be randomly selected from the telephone directories. The survey is to be conducted through telephone interviews in April 2004. The survey report is expected to be completed in mid- 2004.

b) Survey on Civic Education

This is a biennial survey conducted in consultation with the Committee for the Promotion of Civic Education, which aims at assessing public perception of the degree of civic awareness and responsibility in Hong Kong. It will cover people aged 15 to 69 in all domestic households in Hong Kong, with a sample size of 1 000 to be randomly selected from a register of living quarters maintained by the Census and Statistics Department. The survey is to be conducted by way of face-to-face interviews in mid-2004. The survey report will be completed in late 2004.

- (2) We plan to commission private research firms/academic institutes to conduct the above surveys. The estimated total expenditure on conducting opinion surveys in 2004-05 is \$1 million. The work relating to the commissioning, supervision and monitoring of opinion surveys is undertaken by a team comprising one Administrative Officer Staff Grade C, one Senior Statistician, one Research Manager and three Statistical Officers, with each devoting varying portions of their working hours to such duties.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 19.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB005

Question Serial No.

1218

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (6) Recreation, Sport and Entertainment Licensing

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The estimated number of underprivileged or disabled persons and young people at risk assisted to take courses at the Outward Bound School in 2004-05 will be lower than that of 2003-04. What are the reasons for the anticipated decrease?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

The subvention provided by the Government to assist deserving underprivileged or disabled persons and young people at risk to take courses at the Outward Bound School (OBS) has to be revised downwards in 2004-05. According to OBS, the running cost for their courses cannot be cut in order to maintain an acceptable level of quality and safety. Consequently, the number of persons receiving training will have to be reduced.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date 25.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB006

Question Serial No.

0044

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The Home Affairs Bureau will continue with the on-going administrative and educational measures to promote awareness of racial harmony and equality. As such, what is the estimated expenditure and the number of staff involved in the work for this year? Is there any reduction in the staff establishment?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply :

The work in this area is shared between the Bureau's human rights division and the Race Relations Unit (RRU). The division (which is also responsible for human rights reporting) comprises a Principal Assistant Secretary (Administrative Officer Staff Grade 'C'), an Assistant Secretary (Senior Administrative Officer), an Executive Officer I, an Assistant Clerical Officer, a Personal Secretary I and a Personal Secretary II. The RRU comprises five full-time and two part-time staff, all of whom are non-civil servants. In 2004-05, the division will cost a total of \$3.49 million. The combined cost of the RRU and our activities in this area will total a further \$5.87 million. There will be no reduction in staff number.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 17 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB007

Question Serial No.

0045

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : 5304 District and Community Relations

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the co-ordination of major celebration activities, has the celebration for the 55th Anniversary of the Establishment of the People's Republic of China been included? If so, how many National Day celebration activities will the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) co-ordinate? What is the estimated total expenditure involved? Is there a special team in HAB for the work? If so, what is the staff establishment?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply :

The Home Affairs Bureau will co-ordinate celebration activities for the 55th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China. Whilst this year's activities have yet to be firmed up, it is expected that they will include a Flag-raising Ceremony at the Golden Bauhinia Square, a Reception and a Fireworks Display. A special team will be set up to co-ordinate these activities. As the activities are at a very preliminary planning stage, it is too early to estimate the total expenditure involved and the number of staff required.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE _____

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs _____

Date 24 March 2004 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB008

Question Serial No.

0046

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (4) District and Community Relations

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question : The Home Affairs Bureau will continue to provide counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers. As such, what is the amount of expenditure involved? Is there any increase in the expenditure as compared with the previous year? If so, what is the percentage of increase?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply :

In 2003, we set up the Ping Wo Fund for the purpose of subsidizing measures to address gambling-related problems. The Hong Kong Jockey Club committed to contribute \$ 24 million to the Fund in the first two years and \$12 million to \$15 million in the 3 years thereafter. The Fund also accepts public donations.

With the support of the Ping Wo Fund, we commissioned Caritas and Tung Wah Group of Hospitals to operate two counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers respectively for a period of three years. They commenced operation in October 2003. In 2004-05, the two centres will continue to provide professional counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers as well as their significant others. The funding for each centre is \$3.5 million per annum for three years as from October 2003.

We will shortly commission a university to conduct an evaluative study on the effectiveness of the services provided by the two centres. We will assess whether the resources for the services are adequate in meeting the demand for such services, having regard to the results of the study and operational experience.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 19.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB009

Question Serial No.

0047

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title): 286
Bureau

Programme 5305 Youth Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The Home Affairs Bureau estimates that there will only be 6,500 participants under the Community Participation Scheme for Organizing Study Tours to the Mainland in the coming year. In view of the decrease in the number of participants as compared with the previous year, will the Administration reduce the expenditure accordingly? If so, what is the amount of reduction?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply :

The estimated expenditure on the Community Participation Scheme for Organizing Study Tours to the Mainland in 2004-05 is \$8,097,100, representing a reduction of 4.74% for the estimated expenditure under the Scheme in 2003-04.

The Community Participation Scheme is a funding application scheme under the Commission on Youth whereby non-governmental organizations are invited to submit proposals seeking financial subsidy for organizing study tours to the Mainland for young people. The number of participants in study tours subsidized under the Scheme vary from year to year, depending on the number, type and required funding of the proposals received. The number of participants in such tours in 2004-05 was estimated having regard to operational experience and the reduction in funding allocation for this purpose.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 18 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB010

Question Serial No.

0048

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (6) Recreation, Sport and Entertainment Licensing

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

What is the estimated expenditure of the Home Affairs Bureau in 2004-05 on promoting the achievement of greater excellence by our elite athletes and raising our international profile on sport? What is the amount of reduction in expenditure as compared with the expenditure in 2003-04?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply :

For 2004-05, a subvention of \$90.93 million would be allocated to the Hong Kong Sports Development Board (SDB) for elite sports training and to maintain a support framework for elite athletes. The reduction in subvention from \$183.8 million in 2003-04 to \$90.93 million for 2004-05 is mainly attributable to the disbandment of two non-elite training functions of the SDB, i.e. allocation of subvention to National Sports Associations (NSAs) and management of Sports House. Funding for elite training programmes will remain at current level. The re-structuring exercise will enable the SDB to focus its resources and efforts on the training and development of elite sports in Hong Kong.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE _____

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs _____

Date 20.3.2004 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB011

Question Serial No.

0049

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (6) Recreation, Sport and Entertainment Licensing

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The Home Affairs Bureau will take forward the planning of major new sports and recreation venues in 2004-05. How many new venues are there under the plan? What is the total estimated expenditure on the plan?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply :

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department plans to start work on three major new sports and recreation venues in 2004-05. They are Sheung Lok Street Rest Garden in Kowloon City, Tseung Kwan O Sports Ground in Tseung Kwan O and Hin Tin Public Swimming Pool Phase II in Sha Tin. The total project costs are estimated to be about \$640 million.

In order to expedite the delivery of the capital works projects in a cost-effective manner, we plan to implement two pilot projects, i.e. a leisure and cultural centre in Kwun Tong and an ice sports centre, a tenpin bowling centre and a town park at Tseung Kwan O, by Private Sector Involvement (PSI) approach. We aim to invite tender in mid 2005 and anticipate that the projects would be completed by 2009. We will take into account the result of these two projects and consider the possibility of implementing other projects under PSI approach.

Apart from the above, we have engaged a feasibility study on the technical and financial aspects of constructing a multi-purpose stadium in the South East Kowloon Development (SEKD). Government is conducting a planning and engineering review of the development for SEKD. Upon completion, we will re-examine the layout, proposed facilities and financial viability of the proposed stadium to tie in with the overall planning of SEKD.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date 25.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB012

Question Serial No.

0098

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : 5302 Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question : In the coming year, the Home Affairs Bureau will, in conjunction with the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education, enhance the work on promotion of civic education outside schools, particularly in areas targeting young adults and the working population. What is the amount of expenditure and the number of staff involved?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply

The estimated expenditure on promotion of civic education outside schools is \$10,166,000 in 2004-05. As we have decided to focus our promotional efforts on young adults and the working population in 2004-05, this estimated total expenditure would predominantly be spent on initiatives targetting these groups. Specifically, we have designated “contribution and commitment to the community” as the central theme under the Community Participation Scheme, and we are planning to promote the concept of “corporate citizenship” in 2004-05.

The work relating to the promotion of civic education is undertaken by a team comprising one Administrative Officer Staff Grade C, one Administrative Officer, one Chief Executive Officer, two Senior Executive Officers and four Executive Officers in the Bureau, with each devoting varying portions of their working hours to such duties.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date 20 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB013

Question Serial No.

0087

Head : 53 –GS : Home Affairs Bureau
63 – Home Affairs Department
74 – Information Services Department
95 – Leisure and Cultural Services
Department
170 – Social Welfare Department
(Programme 6)
180 – Television and Entertainment
Licensing Authority
(Programme 4)

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : District and Community Relations;
Recreation, Culture, Amenities and Entertainment Licensing

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding consultancy studies for policy making and assessment (if any) commissioned by the above bureau, please provide details in the following format:

(1) Please provide the following details on the consultancy studies for which financial provision has been allocated respectively in 2003-04:

Name of consultants (if available)	Description	Consultancy fees (\$)	Progress on consultancy studies (planning/ in progress / completed)	The Administration's follow-up action on the study reports and the progress made (if available)	Whether study reports completed are publicized; if yes, their channels and if not, the reasons.

(2) Has financial provision been allocated for commissioning consultancy studies in 2004-05?

If yes, please provide the following details:

Name of consultants (if available)	Description	Consultancy fees (\$)	Progress on consultancy studies (planning/ in progress / completed)	Whether study reports scheduled for completion in 2004-05 will be publicized; if yes, their channels and if not, the reasons.

Asked by : Hon. HO Sau-lan, Cyd

Reply :

Details of the financial provision allocated for commissioning consultancy studies for policy making and assessment are as follows:

Head 53 – Government Secretariat – Home Affairs Bureau (HAB)

(1) Consultancy studies with financial provision allocated in 2003-04

Item No.	Name of Consultants (if available)	Description	Consultancy fees (\$)	Progress on consultancy studies (planning/ in progress/ completed)	The Administration's follow-up action on the study reports and the progress made	Whether study reports completed are publicized; if yes, their channels and if not, the reasons.
1	Policy 21 Ltd, The University of Hong Kong	Benchmark Survey Study on Civic Engagement and Social Networks of Youth in Hong Kong	\$252,800 (1 st installment of the total consultancy fee of \$505,600)	In progress	-	-
2	National Association for Gambling Care Educational Resources and	Benchmarking study for counselling and treatment services for problem and	Around \$140,000	Completed	The performance indicators and framework for service delivery proposed in the study were	The major findings of the report of the study have been adopted in drawing up the

Item No.	Name of Consultants (if available)	Description	Consultancy fees (\$)	Progress on consultancy studies (planning/ in progress/ completed)	The Administration's follow-up action on the study reports and the progress made	Whether study reports completed are publicized; if yes, their channels and if not, the reasons.
	Training - UK	pathological gamblers in Hong Kong – to establish benchmarks and performance indicators for the counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers in Hong Kong			adopted in drawing up the project brief for counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers in Hong Kong.	project brief for the counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers in Hong Kong which was issued to the public.
3	Consumer Search	Survey of Public Attitudes on Racial Discrimination - to gauge the public attitude towards racial discrimination and the public opinion on the proposed legislation against racial discrimination.	\$120,000	In progress	The Administration will analyse the survey. The fieldwork is in progress.	Survey is not completed yet.

(2) Financial provision allocated for commissioning consultancy studies in 2004-05

Item No.	Names of consultants (if available)	Description	Consultancy fees (\$)	Status of consultancy studies (planning/in progress/completed)	Whether study reports scheduled for completion in 2004-05 will be publicized; if yes, their channels and if not, the reasons.
1	Policy 21 Ltd, The University of Hong Kong	Benchmark Survey Study on Civic Engagement and Social Networks of Youth in Hong Kong	\$252,800 (final payment of the total consultancy fee of \$505,600)	In progress	The report will be published and distributed to academic institutions, youth organizations and through the Commission on Youth web-site.
2	Not yet confirmed	Opinion Survey on Civic Education 2004 – to assess the public perception about the degree of civic awareness and responsibility in Hong Kong	Not yet confirmed	Under planning	The report would be considered by the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education in formulating future promotional measures.
3	Not yet confirmed	Opinion Survey on Corporate Citizenship – to gauge the public perception and expectations of corporate citizenship in Hong Kong	Not yet confirmed	Under planning	The report would be considered by the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education with a view to formulating the appropriate promotional and publicity measures.
4	Not available	Ad hoc opinion surveys	\$1,000,000	Under planning	-

Head 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD)

(1) Consultancy studies with financial provision allocated in 2003-04

Item No.	Name of Consultants (if available)	Description	Consultancy fees (\$)	Progress on consultancy studies (planning/ in progress/ completed)	The Administration's follow-up action on the study reports and the progress made	Whether study reports completed are publicized; if yes, their channels and if not, the reasons.
1	Crow Maunsell Management Consultants Ltd. and Urbis Ltd.	Provision of Consultancy Service on the Planning and Development of Private Sector Finance Projects for the Provision of Leisure and Cultural Facilities in Kwun Tong and Tseung Kwan O	\$76,896 (1 st installment of the total consultancy fees of \$768,960)	In progress	The Administration will take into account the Consultants' recommendations and the public views collected to finalize the development briefs and the tender document for the two projects.	We have briefed the Kwun Tong and Sai Kung District Councils on the findings of the consultancy study. The development briefs will also be submitted to the Town Planning Board for endorsement. The report is for reference in planning the project brief and there is no plan to publish the report.
2	Hong Kong Policy Research Institute	Opinion Survey on Football Development in Hong Kong	\$96,000	Completed	The Administration will take into account the survey findings for the review of football development in Hong Kong.	The major findings were released to the press.
3	MDR Technology Ltd	The 2002 Benchmark Survey on LCSD to collect public opinions on the facilities and services	\$117,000 (This is the final payment; 1 st installment of \$117,000 was paid in 2002 -03)	Completed	The final report of the survey has been considered by the subject officers for improving the cleanliness of	The summary findings of the survey were uploaded to LCSD Homepage when the

Item No.	Name of Consultants (if available)	Description	Consultancy fees (\$)	Progress on consultancy studies (planning/ in progress/ completed)	The Administration's follow-up action on the study reports and the progress made	Whether study reports completed are publicized; if yes, their channels and if not, the reasons.
		provided by the department			outdoor leisure facilities and strengthening the publicity of the department.	survey was completed.

(2) Financial provision allocated for commissioning consultancy studies in 2004-05

Item No.	Names of consultants (if available)	Description	Consultancy fees (\$)	Status of consultancy studies (planning/in progress/ completed)	Whether study reports scheduled for completion in 2004-05 will be publicized; if yes, their channels and if not, the reasons.
1	Crow Maunsell Management Consultants Ltd. and Urbis Ltd.	Provision of Consultancy Service on the Planning and Development of Private Sector Finance Projects for the Provision of Leisure and Cultural Facilities in Kwun Tong and Tsueng Kwan O	\$692,064 (2 nd , 3 rd and final installments)	In progress	(same as Item 1 above)
2	Mercados Solutions Associates Ltd.	Opinion Survey on LCSD Sports Centres – to collect venue users' views on four Sports Centres before and after their management services are outsourced	\$67,500 (This is the 1 st installment for completion of the pre-outsourced phase of the survey. The final payment of \$67,500 will be made in 2005 –06)	In progress	-

Item No.	Names of consultants (if available)	Description	Consultancy fees (\$)	Status of consultancy studies (planning/in progress/completed)	Whether study reports scheduled for completion in 2004-05 will be publicized; if yes, their channels and if not, the reasons.
3	Mercados Solutions Associates Ltd.	Opinion Survey on Green Promotion – to obtain public opinions on greening efforts by LCSD	\$44,000	In progress	-
4	Not available	Three planned surveys, namely, Survey on Museum Services, Evaluation of the Training Programmes Organized by the Music Office, and Survey on Preference of Sports Activities and Facilities	\$765,000 (Preliminary estimate)	Under planning	-

For other departments, there have been no provisions for conducting such consultancy studies in 2003-04 and 2004-05.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB014

Question Serial No.

0136

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (4) District and Community Relations

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question : The work relating to measures to address gambling-related problems has been mentioned in matters requiring special attention in 2004–05. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the provision for the public education programme and details about the implementation?

Asked by : Hon.MA Fung-kwok

Reply :

In 2003, we set up the Ping Wo Fund for the purpose of subsidizing measures to address gambling-related problems. The Hong Kong Jockey Club has made a commitment to contribute \$24 million to the Fund in the first two years and \$12 million to \$15 million in the 3 years thereafter. The Fund also accepts public donations.

With the support of the Ping Wo Fund, we launched a public education programme for the purpose of preventing gambling-related problems in 2003. The objectives are to enhance public understanding about the nature and risks of gambling activities; increasing awareness of gambling-related problems; and fostering a responsible gambling attitude. The programme included television and radio commercials, TV documentary dramas, as well as posters and banners to warn the public against excessive gambling. In 2004-05, we will continue to implement the programme. Specifically, we are planning to produce additional TV and radio commercials on problems associated with excessive gambling and to publicize the gambling counselling hotline operated jointly by the two dedicated counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers which are also financed by the Ping Wo Fund.

Also with the support of the Ping Wo Fund, we have commissioned the Hong Kong Education City to launch a education programme targetting adolescents. The project, known as “Say No to Gambling” Action, is a two-year programme which seeks to enhance the understanding of adolescents, parents and teachers towards gambling, and to strengthen the ability of adolescents to

exercise self-control so as to prevent themselves from becoming addicted to, or developing compulsive or pathological gambling in any activity, including gambling. The project includes the setting up of a central website and the organization of different activities such as workshops, seminars and debating competition. In 2004-05, we will continue to implement this education programme. Specifically, we are planning to launch a special youth empowerment campaign aimed at engaging young people to drive home amongst their peers clear messages about gambling-related problems.

The estimated expenditure on the public education programme to be financed by the Ping Wo Fund in 2004-05 is around \$3.5 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 19.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB015

Question Serial No.

0137

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (4) District and Community Relations

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question : The work relating to measures to address gambling-related problems has been mentioned in matters requiring special attention in 2004–05. Would the Administration please inform this Committee the provision for the counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers and the estimated demand for such service.

Asked by : Hon. MA Fung-kwok

Reply :

With the financial support of the Ping Wo Fund, we commissioned Caritas and Tung Wah Group of Hospitals to each operate a counselling and treatment centre for problem and pathological gamblers for a period of three years. They commenced operation in October 2003. In 2004-05, the two centres will continue to provide professional counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers as well as their significant others. The funding for each centre is \$3.5 million per annum for three years as from October 2003.

We will shortly commission a university to conduct an evaluative study on the effectiveness of the services provided by the two centres. We will assess whether the resources for the services are adequate in meeting the demand for such services, having regard to the results of the study and operational experience.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date 19.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB016

Question Serial No.

0138

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : 5305 Youth Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the Community Participation Scheme for Organizing Study Tours to the Mainland, would the Administration please inform this Committee why the estimated number of participants in 2004 will drop by more than 15% when compared with the actual number of participants in 2003?

Asked by : Hon. MA Fung-kwok

Reply :

The number of participants in study tours to the Mainland subsidized under the Community Participation Scheme for Organizing Study Tours to the Mainland vary from year to year, depending on the number, type and required funding of the proposals received, as well as the designations of the visits involved. The number of participants in such tours in 2004-05 was estimated having regard to operational experience and the reduction in funding allocation for this purpose. The estimated expenditure on the Community Participation Scheme for Organizing Study Tours to the Mainland in 2004-05 is \$8,097,100, representing a reduction of 4.74% for the estimated expenditure under the Scheme in 2003-04.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 19 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB017

Question Serial No.

0139

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : 5305 Youth Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the Community Participation Scheme for Organizing Study Tours to the Mainland, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the details of such tours to be organized in 2004-05 and the amount of provision involved?

Asked by : Hon. MA Fung-kwok

Reply :

The Community Participation Scheme is a funding application scheme under the Commission on Youth whereby non-governmental organizations can submit proposals to seek financial subsidy for the organization of Mainland study tours for young people. The primary objective of this Scheme is to enhance the understanding and respect of Chinese culture and heritage among young people.

Non-governmental organizations are invited to submit funding applications for organizing study tours to the Mainland for young people aged between 12 and 24. We particularly encourage two-way exchange tours in order to facilitate in-depth exchanges and the development of enduring friendships. Since 2003-04, we have been according higher priority to proposals seeking subsidy for youth exchange programmes between Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta, with a view to fostering a closer connection and integration amongst young people in the two places.

To ensure effectiveness of the Scheme in achieving the intended objective, we have in place a mechanism whereby all successful applicant organizers under the Scheme are required, upon completion of the relevant study tours, to submit a self-evaluation report containing views and feedback of the youth participants. We would tighten the control and monitoring system by requesting the youth participants of selected subsidized study tours to make a presentation on the impact of the relevant study tours on their understanding of, and attitude towards Mainland China.

The estimated expenditure on the Scheme is \$8,097,100 in 2004-05.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 19 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB018

Question Serial No.

0140

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : 5305 Youth Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the Community Participation Scheme for Organizing Study Tours to the Mainland, would the Administration please inform this Committee whether it has conducted any review to ensure that the Scheme has achieved the objective of enhancing understanding of, and respect for, Chinese culture and heritage among young people? If so, what are the details?

Asked by : Hon. MA Fung-kwok

Reply :

The Home Affairs Bureau, in consultation with the Commission on Youth, regularly reviews the operation of the Community Participation Scheme for Organizing Study Tours to the Mainland to ensure its effectiveness in achieving its objective. For instance, we decided to accord a higher priority to proposals seeking subsidy for youth exchange programmes between Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta in 2003-04, in view of the increasing connections and integration between the two places. We also have in place a mechanism whereby successful applicant organizers under the Scheme are required, upon completion of the relevant study tours, to submit a self-evaluation report containing views and feedback of the youth participants. We would tighten the control and monitoring system by requesting the youth participants of selected subsidized study tours to make a presentation on the impact of the relevant study tours on their understanding of, and attitude towards the Mainland.

We would continue to monitor the operation of the Scheme to ensure its effectiveness in enhancing young people's understanding and respect of Chinese culture and heritage.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date 19 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

HAB019

Question Serial No.

0141

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
 Bureau

Programme : 5305 Youth Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding subventions to youth uniformed groups, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following:-

- (1) What is the current amount of subvention to each youth uniformed group and the existing number of members benefited in each group; and
- (2) Under “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2004-05”, it is mentioned that the Home Affairs Bureau will encourage youth uniformed groups to plan and provide youth development activities in line with its policy objective. What are the details and what is the amount of expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. MA Fung-kwok

Reply :

- (1) The estimated recurrent subventions provided to the ten uniformed youth groups for training and development programmes for young people aged 8 to 25 amounted to \$42,075,000 in 2003-04. The total number of youth members aged 8 to 25 is 129 252 in 2003-04. The relevant breakdown by organization is as follows:

Organization	Estimated number of youth members aged 8 to 25 in 2003-04	Subvention for 2003-04 (\$)
Scout Association of Hong Kong	53,734	17,665,000
The Hong Kong Girl Guides Association	36,574	10,096,000
Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps	3,100	927,000
Hong Kong Sea Cadet Corps	1,449	1,051,000
Hong Kong Adventure Corps	2,000	750,000
Hong Kong Red Cross	15,282	7,232,000
Hong Kong St John Ambulance	2,105	1,185,000
The Boys' Brigade, Hong Kong	4,900	1,856,000
The Girls' Brigade (Hong Kong)	1,130	764,000
The Hong Kong Road Safety Association	8,978	549,000
Total	129,252	42,075,000

- (2) As set out above, we provide recurrent subvention to 10 youth uniformed groups for offering all-rounded and structured non-formal education to young people aged 8 to 25. The youth uniformed groups provide a diverse range of structured, progressive, and target-based training and development programmes mainly in the areas of technical skills, life skills, physical strengths, leadership and team-building ability, civic awareness, and community services. By virtue of their unique membership structure and mentoring system, the youth uniformed groups also provide young people with the networking and support required during their growth and development process. These are conducive to the development of youth into capable and responsible citizens.

We would continue to work closely with these uniformed groups to ensure that our subvented programmes could effectively keep in pace with the developmental needs of youth and the expectations of the community.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date 19.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB020

Question Serial No.

0434

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (9) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission, Office of the Privacy
Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

In 2003, the actual completion percentages for the following performance targets were 83%, 99% or 100%.

- interview a walk-in enquirer within 30 minutes
- reply to written enquiries on simple issues within 5 working days
- reply to written enquiries on complex issues within 14 working days
- conclude a complain case within 6 months

Please explain why the Commission sets the planned completion percentages for the above targets at only 95% or 75% for 2004.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

Service standards and performance targets have been the same since they were first set in 1998. EOC has not lowered its standards and targets in 2004. Although the EOC was able to exceed its targets in 2003, this has not always been the case in the past years. The situation needs to be monitored over a longer period to consider if an adjustment in the performance targets should be called for. The existing targets are considered to be reasonable taking into account that some flexibility is required to cater for special circumstances and difficulties. The EOC will closely monitor the performance targets to ensure the service standards are met.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date 19.03.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB021

Question Serial No.

0501

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (4) District and Community Relations

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

- (a) What was the expenditure for each of the advisory and statutory bodies in 2003-04?
- (b) What will be the estimated expenditure for each of the advisory and statutory bodies in 2004-05; and
- (c) Please give the details of the review of the role and functions of advisory and statutory bodies to be conducted in 2004-05 and state the amount of expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. Emily LAU Wai-hing

Reply :

(a)&(b)

There are currently about 500 advisory and statutory bodies (ASBs) in the public sector. The expenditure incurred by some major ASBs for 2003-04 and 2004-05 are reflected under various Heads in the Estimates 2004-05. A list of these ASBs is at Annex.

The expenditure on other ASBs is not available as the secretarial support is often absorbed by existing resources of the responsible bureaux or departments.

(c)

The Home Affairs Bureau is reviewing the ASBs in the public sector. The Bureau will report to the Panel on Home Affairs by way of a series of interim reports. It is expected that the second round of public consultation would be conducted in early 2005. After the consultation, a final report will be submitted to the Panel. The review is part and parcel of the responsibilities of existing staff, and no separate breakdown of the expenditure is available.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date 20.03.2004

**Expenditure Incurred by Advisory and Statutory Bodies as reflected in the
Estimates 2004 – 05**

Item	Name of Body	Head	Expenditure	
			2003-04 (Revised) \$'000	2004-05 (Estimate) \$'000
1.	Hong Kong Sports Development Board	53	184,300	90,900
2.	Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts	53	183,400	166,800
3.	Equal Opportunities Commission	53	77,800	77,500
4.	Hong Kong Arts Development Council	53	106,600	102,200
5.	Independent Police Complaints Council	121	13,900	13,100
6.	Public Service Commission	136	17,400	18,600
7.	Legal Aid Services Council	142	5,200	4,900
8.	Consumer Council	145	66,200	64,700
9.	Hong Kong Tourism Board	145	507,200	544,700
10.	Hospital Authority	149	29,538,700	28,106,400
11.	Prince Philip Dental Hospital	149	119,300	117,600
12.	Hong Kong Trade Development Council	152	368,200	354,700
13.	Hong Kong Productivity Council	155	194,600	184,400
14.	Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Limited	155	86,200	86,700
15.	Vocational Training Council	156	1,962,700	1,865,900
16.	Employees Retraining Board	156	384,600	379,400
17.	University Grants Committee	190	13,947,100	12,042,500
Note: In the Estimates 2003-04, the above items except items 5,6 and 17 were under Head 177 – Subventions: Non-Departmental Public Bodies. In the Estimates 2004-05, they have been redistributed to the above individual Heads of Expenditure of respective Controlling Officers.				

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

HAB022

Question Serial No.

1126

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
 Bureau

Programme : (8) Subvention: Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, Hong Kong Arts Development Council, Hong Kong Sports Development Board

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

- (a) In 2003-04, what is the the establishment, strength and payroll costs by ranks of the Hong Kong Arts Development Council?
 (b) In 2004-05, what is the establishment, strength and estimated payroll costs by ranks of the Hong Kong Arts Development Council?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

The establishment, strength and salary by ranks of the Hong Kong Arts Development Council in 2003-04 and 2004-05 are as follows:

<i>Salary</i>				
Grade	03-04 Strength	03-04 Expenditure (\$million)	04-05 Strength	04-05 Estimate (\$million)
Chief Executive	1	1.795	1	1.678
Director	3	2.424	2	1.592
Manager	17 4*	7.904 0.234	11	5.094
Officer	25 12*	4.806 0.888	24 1*	4.953 0.213
Clerk/ Office Assistant	2 6*	0.292 0.106		0.145
<i>Total (Note)</i>	48 22*		39 1*	
Total		18.449		13.675

* Short term contract

Note: The Hong Kong International Film Festival will be corporatised in 2004-05 and separated from the Hong Kong Arts Development Council.

The strength of the Hong Kong Arts Development Council will decrease from 70 to about 40.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

MS SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____

25.3.2004

Reply Serial No.

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs
Bureau

Question Serial No.

1127

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

According to the indicators of the Hong Kong Arts Development Council in 2004-05, the estimated success rate of Project Grant will decrease from 27.60% of 2003-04 to 20.00%. What are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

The Hong Kong Arts Development Council (ADC) plans to deploy some of the resources from the Project Grant to intermediary organizations for supporting art activities (Devolved Grant). This new arrangement aims at building partnership with and bringing in resources from the intermediary organizations in order to gain more resources for arts development. Because of this new arrangement, ADC expects to see a slight decrease in the success rate of the Project Grant but a marked increase in the number of groups and individuals receiving the Devolved Grant.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date 25.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB024

Question Serial No.

1128

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (8) Subvention: Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, Hong Kong Arts Development Council, Hong Kong Sports Development Board

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

According to the indicators of the Hong Kong Arts Development Council in 2004-05, the estimated audience outreached of the One-Year Grant will decrease from 760 793 of 2003-04 to 600 000. What are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

The One-Year Grant is of one-off in nature. The Hong Kong Arts Development Council (ADC) uses the number of audience outreached in previous years as a basis for the estimation of the audience outreached in 2004-05. As compared with previous years, the audience outreached in 2003-04 is higher. The reasons are:

- (a) A number of school and community programmes were organised by a few drama groups in 2003-04, making an increase of around 40 000 in the overall number of audience outreached. For instance, the Prospects Theatre Company joined the Community Ambassadors Scheme organised by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and reached out to 12 000 audience.
- (b) Two territory-wide visual arts programmes, “Danny Yung’s Retrospective Exhibition” and “In-between 2003”, were launched by a visual arts group - 1A Group - in 2003-04, reaching out to 80 000 and 10 000 audience respectively.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date 25.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB025

Question Serial No.

1129

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (9) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission, Office of the Privacy
Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

- (a) In 2003-04, what is the staffing establishment of the Equal Opportunities Commission and the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data? What is the number of staff for each rank? What are the staff expenses for each rank?
- (b) In 2004-05, what is the staffing establishment of the Equal Opportunities Commission and the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data? What is the number of staff for each rank? What are the estimated staff expenses for each rank?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

- (a) The requested information is at the Annex.
- (b) The staffing structure of the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) in 2004-05 is subject to its organizational review which is currently underway. The organizational review is expected to be completed by mid 2004. It is therefore difficult to estimate the staffing establishment and staff expenses for each rank at this moment. However, the overall expenditure on staff expenses after the review for 2004-05 will be within the allocation provided to the EOC.

The requested information in respect of the Office of the Privacy Commission Personal Data is at the Annex.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date 23.3.2004

Annex

**Number of Established Posts and Staff Expenses by Ranks of
Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) and
the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCO)
in 2003-04 & 2004-05**

EOC

Rank	Number of Posts in 2003-04	Staff Expenses¹ in 2003-04 (\$'000)
Directorate	4	8,250
Non-directorate Legal Professional Staff	2	2,268
Chief Equal Opportunities Officer	4	5,800
Senior Equal Opportunities Officer	16	14,919
Equal Opportunities Officer	13	7,615
Administrative and Supporting Staff	28	7,905
Total	67	46,757

Note: EOC is conducting an organizational review. The number of posts at each rank in 2004-05 is subject to the review outcome which is expected to be available by mid 2004.

PCO

Rank	Number of Posts in 2003-04	Staff Expenses¹ in 2003-04 (\$'000)	Number of Posts in 2004-05	Estimated Staff Expenses¹ in 2004-05 (\$'000)
Directorate	3	6,441	3	6,846
Non-directorate Professional Staff	3	3,022	4	4,628
Chief Personal Data Officer	1	902	1	1,209
Senior Personal Data Officer	4	2,457	3	2,334
Personal Data Officer	5	3,244	5	3,200
Assistant Personal Data Officer	3	725	3	754
Administrative & Training, Public Relations & Promotion	8	4,803	8	4,845
Supporting Staff	12	3,224	12	3,097
Total	39	24,818	39	26,913

Note: PCO intends to regrade one Senior Personal Data Officer as a Chief Privacy Compliance Officer in 2004-05.

- ¹ Including whole-year salary, cash allowances, gratuity paid/to be paid, and contributions for Mandatory Provident Fund.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB026

Question Serial No.

0560

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (4) District and Community Relations

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question : The Home Affairs Bureau will continue to conduct public education on gambling-related issues, provide counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers, as well as conduct research on impact of gambling. How many problem and pathological gamblers have approached the Government for such services after the enactment of the legislation regulating football betting? What is the estimated expenditure in this area?

Asked by : Hon FOK Tsun-ting, Timothy

Reply :

In 2003, we set up the Ping Wo Fund for the purpose of subsidizing measures to address gambling-related problems. The Hong Kong Jockey Club has made a commitment to contribute \$24 million to the Fund in the first two years and \$12 million to \$15 million in the 3 years thereafter. The Fund also accepts public donations.

With the support of the Ping Wo Fund, we commissioned Caritas and Tung Wah Group of Hospitals to each operate a counselling and treatment centre for problem and pathological gamblers for a period of three years. The two centres commenced operation in October 2003. In 2004-05, the two centres will continue to provide professional counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers as well as their significant others. The funding for each centre is \$3.5 million per annum for three years as from October 2003.

As at the end of February 2004, the two centres have received a total of 476 cases (comprising both gamblers and their significant others) which require counselling and treatment services.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____

19.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB027

Question Serial No.

0561

Head : 53 –GS : Home Affairs
Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (7) Culture

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

In 2004-05, the bureau will strengthen the efforts in developing a cultural network with the neighbouring cities in the Greater Pearl River Delta. What is the specific plan? How much expenditure will be incurred?

Asked by : Hon. FOK Tsun-ting, Timothy

Reply :

Following the signing of an agreement on Greater Pearl River Delta Cultural Co-operation in August 2003, the authorities in Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau have resolved to strengthen collaboration and exchange in the following five areas:

- (i) Exchange and training of talents for performing arts and the possibility of co-organising international events;
- (ii) Cultural information interflow and co-operation in the ticketing network;
- (iii) Development of a museum network and the excavation, conservation and promotion of heritage;
- (iv) Inter-library collaboration and exchanges and digital networking; and
- (v) Promotion of Cantonese opera.

Details of Pearl River Delta Co-operation projects for 2004-05 are as follows:

- The website “Pearl River Delta cultural information network” will be launched in April 2004.
- Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau’s online library enquiry systems will be interconnected to serve all readers of all three places in April 2004.
- Promotional activities for the “International Museum Day” will be organised in all three places in May. Guangdong and Macau museums will be invited to participate in the “2004 Hong Kong International Museum Day Expo” on 15-16 May 2004.
- Young musicians from Guangdong and Macau will be invited to participate in the “2004 Hong Kong Youth Music Camp” in July 2004.
- The three places agree to launch concurrently the “Cantonese Opera Day” or related promotional activities in the last week of every November. Our preliminary plan is to launch activities in various local civic centres and a series of programmes in line with “The 4th Guangzhou International Cantonese Opera Festival”.

Funding of these projects will be shared by the parties concerned. The expenditure of Hong Kong is estimated to be about \$4 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Ms SHELLEY LEE

Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

25.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB028

Question Serial No.

0562

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (6) Recreation, Sport and Entertainment Licensing

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The Home Affairs Bureau will take forward the planning of major new sports and recreation venues and work out a cost-effective implementation plan. What are the specific plans? When will such plans be completed? Please state how the bureau will assess the cost-effectiveness of all the plans.

Asked by : Hon. FOK Tsun-ting, Timothy

Reply :

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department plans to start work on three major new sports and recreation venues in 2004-05. They are Sheung Lok Street Rest Garden in Kowloon City, Tseung Kwan O Sports Ground in Tseung Kwan O and Hin Tin Public Swimming Pool Phase II in Sha Tin. The total project costs are estimated to be about \$640 million.

In order to expedite the delivery of the capital works projects in a cost-effective manner, we plan to implement two pilot projects, i.e. a leisure and cultural centre in Kwun Tong and an ice sports centre, a tenpin bowling centre and a town park at Tseung Kwan O, by Private Sector Involvement (PSI) approach. We aim to invite tender in mid 2005 and anticipate that the projects would be completed by 2009. Upon completion of the PSI projects, we shall assess its cost-effectiveness and consider whether it is possible to implement other projects through this approach.

Apart from the above, we have engaged a feasibility study on the technical and financial aspects of constructing a multi-purpose stadium in the South East Kowloon Development (SEKD). Government is conducting a planning and engineering review of the development for SEKD. Upon completion, we will re-examine the layout, proposed facilities and financial viability of the proposed stadium to tie in with the overall planning of SEKD.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date 25.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB029

Question Serial No.

0714

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme :5305 Youth Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Under this programme, the estimated number of participants under the Community Participation Scheme for organizing study tours to the Mainland is 6 500 in 2004, a decrease of 16% when compared with the actual number of 7 732 participants in 2003. Would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following:

(a) the estimated savings to be achieved as a result of the reduction in the number of participants? How can the Administration ensure that the objective of enhancing understanding of and respect for Chinese culture and heritage among young people can be achieved despite the reduction in resources? And

(b) the number of study tours organized in 2003 and the estimated number of tours to be organized in 2004? Please also state the destination and number of participants for each tour in the respective years.

Asked by : Hon. WU King-cheong, Henry

Reply :

- (a) The Community Participation Scheme is a funding application scheme under the Commission on Youth whereby non-governmental organizations can submit proposals to seek financial subsidy for the organization of Mainland study tours for young people. The estimated amount of subsidy to be allocated for the Scheme in 2004-05 is \$8,097,100, representing a 4.74% drop from the amount allocated under the Scheme in 2003-04.

We regularly review the operation of the Scheme, so as to ensure its effectiveness in achieving the objective of enhancing understanding and respect of Chinese culture and heritage among young people. Since 2003-04, we have been according higher priority to proposals seeking subsidy for youth exchange programmes between Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta, with a view to fostering a closer connection and integration amongst young people in these two places. We particularly encourage two-way exchange tours in order to facilitate in-depth exchanges and the development of enduring friendships.

We have in place a mechanism whereby all successful applicant organizers under the Scheme are required, upon completion of the relevant study tours, to submit a self-evaluation report containing views and feedback of the youth participants. We would tighten the control and monitoring system in 2004-05, by requesting the youth participants of selected subsidized study tours to make a presentation on the impact of the relevant study tours on their understanding of, and attitude towards the Mainland.

- (b) In 2003, we subsidized a total of 205 study tours participated by a total of 7,732 youths under the Scheme. The non-governmental organizations submitting applications under the Scheme are free to select the destinations of the Mainland study tours. The number of projects and participants in these Mainland study tours subsidized under the Scheme vary from year to year, depending on the number, type and required funding of the proposals received from the applicant organizers, as well as their choice of destinations. The number of participants in such tours in 2004-05 was estimated having regard to operational experience and the reduction in the funding allocation for this purpose.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 23 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB030

Question Serial No.

0826

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (4) District and Community Relations

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question : With regard to the regulation of football betting in 2003–04 and 2004-05, please state the expenditures/estimated expenditures for each of the following areas:

- a) regulation of authorized football betting;
- b) provision of relevant public education and publicity;
- c) provision of counselling and treatment services for problem or pathological gamblers; and
- d) research on impact of gambling.

Asked by : Hon. TANG Siu-tong

Reply :

The Home Affairs Bureau is responsible for the formulation of gambling policy, regulation of authorized betting activities, providing research and secretariat support to the Football Betting and Lotteries Commission, managing the Ping Wo Fund and co-ordinating the implementation of measures to address gambling-related problems. The relevant work is being undertaken by a team comprising an Administrative Officer Staff Grade B, an Administrative Officer Staff Grade C and a Senior Administrative Officer in the Bureau, with each of them devoting varying portions of their working hours to such duties.

In 2003, we set up the Ping Wo Fund for the purpose of subsidizing measures to address gambling-related problems. The Hong Kong Jockey Club has made a commitment to contribute \$24 million to the Fund in the first two years and \$12 million to \$15 million in the 3 years thereafter. The Fund also accepts public donations.

In mid to late 2003, we implemented a package of preventive and remedial measures to address gambling-related problems, which were financed by the Ping Wo Fund. The major details are summarized below:

- a) Research on gambling-related issues

We commissioned an overseas expert in counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers to conduct a benchmarking study for introducing similar services in Hong Kong. The expenditure on research in gambling-related issues in 2003–04 was about \$140,000.

b) Public Education programme

We launched a public education programme with the objectives of enhancing public understanding about the nature and risks of gambling activities; increasing awareness of gambling-related problems; and fostering a responsible gambling attitude. The programme included television and radio commercials, TV documentary dramas, as well as posters and banners to warn against excessive gambling.

We have also commissioned the Hong Kong Education City to launch an education programme targetting adolescents. The project, known as “Say No to Gambling” Action, is a two-year programme which seeks to enhance the understanding of adolescents, parents and teachers towards gambling, and to strengthen the ability of adolescents to exercise self-control so as to prevent themselves from becoming addicted to, or developing compulsive or pathological gambling behaviour in any activity, including gambling. The project includes a central website, and the organization of different activities such as workshops, seminars and debating competition.

The expenditure on the above education programme in 2003–04 was about \$2 million.

c) Counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers

We commissioned Caritas and Tung Wah Group of Hospitals to each operate a dedicated counselling and treatment centre for problem and pathological gamblers for three years on a pilot basis. The two centres commenced operation in October 2003. The centres provide professional counselling and treatment for problem and pathological gamblers as well as their significant others. The expenditure on the provision of counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers in 2003 – 04 was about \$3.5 million.

In 2004-05, we will continue to implement measures to address gambling-related problems with the support of the Ping Wo Fund. The major specific measures are as follows:

a) Research and studies

We will commission a local university to conduct an evaluative study on the effectiveness of the services of the two counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers financed by the Ping Wo Fund. We will also commission an independent institute to conduct a study on the Hong Kong people’s participation in gambling activities. The study seeks to assess the impact of gambling participation and keep track of the prevalence of problem and pathological gambling in Hong Kong. The estimated expenditure on such research and studies is around \$1.5 million.

b) Public education programme

We will continue to implement the public education programme. We are planning to produce additional TV and radio commercials on problems associated with excessive gambling and to publicize the gambling counselling hotline operated jointly by the two counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers financed by the Ping Wo Fund. We are also planning to launch a special youth empowerment campaign aimed at engaging young people to drive home amongst their peers clear messages about gambling-related problems. The estimated expenditure on the education programme is around \$3.5 million.

c) Counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers

The two dedicated counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers operated by Caritas and Tung Wah Group of Hospitals respectively commenced operation in October 2003. They would continue to provide professional services to problem and pathological gamblers as well as their significant others. We will shortly commission a university to conduct an evaluative study on the effectiveness of the services provided by the two centres. We will assess whether the resources for the services are adequate in meeting the demand for such services, having regard to the results of the study and operational experience. The funding for each centre is \$3.5 million per annum for three years as from October 2003.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 23.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB031

Question Serial No.

0827

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (8) Subvention: Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, Hong Kong
Arts Development Council, Hong Kong Sports Development Board

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please elaborate the reasons for a 50.7% reduction in the subvention to the Hong Kong Sports Development Board and how the subvention will be allocated in 2004-05.

Asked by : Hon. TANG Siu-tong

Reply :

The reduction in subvention to Hong Kong Sports Development Board (SDB) in 2004-05 is mainly attributable to the disbandment of two non-elite training functions, i.e. allocation of subvention to National Sports Associations and management of Sports House. This restructuring has the support of the SDB Board and will enable it to focus its effort on elite sports training and development. The budget for 2004-05 has been worked out with SDB taking into account the above changes.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____

23.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB032

Question Serial No.

0831

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (4) District and Community Relations

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the opinion surveys conducted,

- (a) please provide details and the breakdown of expenditure involved in respect of the public opinions surveys conducted by the Bureau itself and those conducted by the private sector and collated by the Bureau between 2002 and 2004.
- (b) Is there any plan to review the effectiveness and reliability of the existing mechanism for collecting and gauging public views and sentiments? If so, what are the details?

Asked by : Hon. TANG Siu-tong

Reply :

- (a) The details and expenditure breakdown of the opinion surveys conducted by Home Affairs Bureau, or by independent institutions commissioned by Home Affairs Bureau are as follows:

(1) Financial year 2002-03

Item No.	Survey name	Name of conducting agency	Contents of survey	Expenditure/ consultancy fees
1	Regular Telephone Opinion Survey (5 rounds)	Home Affairs Bureau	To gauge and monitor the general public sentiment regarding issues of major concern in Hong Kong	\$263,168
2	Survey on Accountability System for Principal officers	ACNielsen (China) Ltd.	To gauge public opinions towards the accountability system for principal officials	\$192,000

3	Survey on Civil Service Pay Adjustment	HK Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies, CUHK	To gauge public views towards civil service pay adjustment	\$208,000
4	Survey on Soccer Betting	Marketing Decision Research Technology Ltd.	To assess the extent of public participation in football betting activities, and public views regarding the proposition of providing authorized football betting in Hong Kong.	\$190,000
5	Opinion Survey on Civic Education 2002	ACNielsen (China) Ltd.	To gauge public perception about the degree of civic awareness and responsibility in Hong Kong in various aspects	\$225,000

(2) Financial year 2003-04

Item No.	Survey name	Name of conducting agency	Contents of survey	Expenditure/ consultancy fees
1	Regular Telephone Opinion Survey (2 rounds)	Home Affairs Bureau	To gauge and monitor the general public sentiment regarding issues of major concern in Hong Kong	\$103,782
2	Benchmark Survey Study on Civic Engagement and Social Networks of Youth in Hong Kong	Policy 21 Ltd., The University of Hong Kong	To study youth's civil engagement and social networks	\$505,600
3	Survey of Public Attitudes on Racial Discrimination	Consumer Search	To gauge the public attitude towards racial discrimination and the public opinion on the proposed legislation against racial discrimination	\$120,000
4	Opinion Survey on Discrimination	Hong Kong Policy Research Institute	To gauge public perception of racial discrimination.	\$64,000
5	Opinion Survey on Mega Sports Events	Hong Kong Policy Research Institute	To gauge general public views on mega sports events.	\$48,000

Item No.	Survey name	Name of conducting agency	Contents of survey	Expenditure/ consultancy fees
6	Opinion Survey on Development of West Kowloon Cultural District	Mercadoes Solutions Associates Ltd	To gauge general public views on the development of West Kowloon Cultural District.	\$40,000
7	Opinion Survey on Phase II Measures of Team Clean	Mercadoes Solutions Associates Ltd	To gauge public views on the level of cleanliness in Hong Kong.	\$40,000
8	Opinion Survey on the Visit of the Delegation of China's First Manned Space Mission	Mercadoes Solutions Associates Ltd	To gauge general public feedback on the visit of China's first manned space mission.	\$40,000

(3) Financial year 2004-05* (surveys under active planning only)

Item No.	Survey name	Name of conducting agency	Contents of survey	Expenditure/ consultancy fees
1	Opinion Survey on Civic Education 2004	Tendering in progress	To assess public perception about the degree of civic awareness and responsibility in Hong Kong in various aspects	Not yet available
2	Opinion Survey on Corporate Citizenship	Tendering in progress	To assess public perception and expectations of corporate citizenship in Hong Kong.	Not yet available

* For the purpose of financial planning, a provision of \$1 million is allocated for the surveys to be conducted in 2004-05.

(b) To ensure that the Government could effectively gauge and monitor community views and sentiments in the process of formulating public policies, we have in place a comprehensive series of measures to extensively gauge and collate public opinion from all sectors of the community. They include:

- (1) commissioning independent organizations to conduct surveys to gauge in-depth public views on specific policy issues;
- (2) conducting focus group discussions to tap and understand the diverse range of views on specific policy issues from selected sectors of population;

- (3) meeting the community to hear and understand the concerns of the general public through paying regular visits to the various districts in Hong Kong;
- (4) monitoring and analyzing the opinion polls conducted by other institutes;
and
- (5) launching timely opinion polls on issues of public concern.

We also have a quality control and monitoring system to ensure the surveys conducted by independent organizations commissioned by the Home Affairs Bureau are conducted in accordance with established professional standards required of opinion surveys. These include the following:

- (1) Selection of a representative sample from residential telephone directories/register of living quarters on the basis of an objective random sampling method;
- (2) An effective sample size of at least 1,000 with a precision level of ± 3 percentage points at 95% confidence level;
- (3) Design of a questionnaire to ensure the questions are not leading, the length of the interview is reasonable and adequate questions covering respondents' personal particulars should be included;
- (4) Interviews to be conducted by experienced field workers and suitable briefings to be held to ensure all staff are well-versed with the questions to be asked;
- (5) Clear rules on validity of each interview and response rate;
- (6) Independent checkers to verify the validity of completed questionnaires;
and
- (7) Completed questionnaires to be edited and validated by computer.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date 23.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB033

Question Serial No.

0851

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead : 000 Operational expenses
Bureau

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please provide a breakdown of the provision for entertainment expenses to be incurred by the Secretary for Home Affairs and the Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs, such as hosting and attending receptions, in the revised estimate for 2003-04 and the estimate for 2004-05. Has the Government set an upper limit for such expenses? Are there any objective criteria for approving such expenses?

Asked by : Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply :

In the revised estimate for 2003-04, we have included \$0.74 million to meet expenses arising from entertainment undertaken by the Secretary for Home Affairs, the Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs and other authorized officers for official purposes. There is no itemised breakdown of this estimate. In the estimate for 2004-05, we have included a similar amount of provision for the purpose.

Under the current policy, expenditure on entertainment may be charged to public funds only when it is directly related to the discharge of an officer's duties or is a necessary part of making or maintaining contacts in his official capacity, and is in the public interest. All such expenditure must be approved by the head or deputy head of the bureau or department personally, or by a directorate officer duly authorised by the head of department.

To further enhance the exercise of economy when entertaining guests, the prevailing general guideline issued is that departments should aim to spend not more than \$250 per person for lunch and not more than \$400 per person for dinner, inclusive of tips.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB034

Question Serial No.

0852

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead : 000 Operational expenses
Bureau

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please provide a breakdown of the actual expenditure on entertainment expenses incurred by the Secretary for Home Affairs and the Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs, such as hosting and attending receptions, in 2003-04 and the same to be incurred in 2004-05. Has the Government set an upper limit for such expenses? Are there any objective criteria for approving such expenses?

Asked by : Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply :

Entertainment expenses incurred by the Secretary for Home Affairs (SHA), the Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (PSHA) and other authorized officers for official purposes in 2003-04 are about \$0.74 million. It is difficult to provide an itemized breakdown of the expenses by individual officers since many of the functions were attended by a number of officers including SHA and PSHA. We have included a similar amount of provision in the estimate for 2004-05 for entertainment purpose. There is no itemized breakdown of this estimate.

Under the current policy, expenditure on entertainment may be charged to public funds only when it is directly related to the discharge of an officer's duties or is a necessary part of making or maintaining contacts in his official capacity, and is in the public interest. All such expenditure must be approved by the head or deputy head of the bureau or department personally, or by a directorate officer duly authorised by the head of department.

To further enhance the exercise of economy when entertaining guests, the prevailing general guideline issued is that departments should aim to spend not more than \$250 per person for lunch and not more than \$400 per person for dinner, inclusive of tips.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB035

Question Serial No.

0853

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead : 000 Operational expenses
Bureau

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please list the revised estimate for duty visits outside Hong Kong in 2003-04 for the Secretary for Home Affairs and the Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs, with particulars of : (1) the purposes and details of the visits; (2) the main means of transport and related expenses for the visits; (3) board and lodging expenses for the visits. What is the corresponding estimated expenditure for 2004-05? Has the Administration laid down a ceiling on the amount of allowances that can be granted and a set of criteria for approving such allowances?

Asked by : Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply :

- (a) The revised estimate for duty visits outside Hong Kong in 2003-04 is around \$0.3 million to cover a total of 11 duty visits conducted by the Secretary for Home Affairs and the Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs. The places covered by the visits were Austria, Canada, Italy, Japan, Philippines, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and other cities in the Mainland China. The purposes of the duty visits were to officiate at cultural and sports events, to participate in international conferences and meetings on issues under the purview of the Home Affairs Bureau, and to exchange views with other authorities on home affairs, culture, sports, religion and youth matters. The main mode of transportation was by air. The total transportation and board and lodging expenses incurred were about \$240,000 and \$60,000 respectively.
- (b) There are no across-the-board limits set by the Government on the provision for the purpose of duty visits. For budgeting purpose, a similar amount of provision as that for 2003-04 has been reserved in 2004-05 to meet the possible requirements.
- (c) Under the current policy, an officer who is on duty outside Hong Kong may be granted a subsistence allowance at specified daily rates to cover the cost of the appropriate standard of accommodation and meals, laundry charges, casual entertainment, gratuities, travelling expenses within town and all minor incidental out-of-pocket expenses. The rates of the subsistence allowance differ from country to country to take into account the different costs

in different countries. The amount of allowance paid is abated in case of sponsorship of hotel accommodation or in cash.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 23 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB036

Question Serial No.

0854

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (1) Director of Bureau's Office

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

Regarding the estimated expenditure of Director of Bureau's Office for 2004-05, please provide a detailed breakdown of the expenditure by (1) purposes (including the planning, co-ordination and implementation of all arrangements for the Secretary's public, media and community functions, etc.), and (2) expenditure items (salaries and establishment, allowances, job-related allowances and departmental expenses).

Asked by : Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply :

The estimated expenditure of Office of the Secretary for Home Affairs (SHA) covers the salaries and allowances for SHA and the staff of his Office. Since the official duties of SHA and his staff are wide-ranging, it is difficult to provide an itemised breakdown of their salaries and allowances by the purpose of official duties. A breakdown by the nature of expenses and the staffing establishment is provided below -

The estimated expenditure for 2004-05 covers –

Salaries for SHA	\$3,232,000
Salaries for staff (including Administrative Assistant Personal Assistant Chauffeur Personal Secretary I Assistant Clerical Officer)	\$2,404,000
Allowances for staff	\$175,000

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date 23 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB037

Question Serial No.

1290

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The 2004 Policy Address has mentioned about the need to raise the standard of policy research undertaken by the Government:

“To improve our governance, we must raise the level of sophistication with which both the Government and the community handle policy issues. We need to do more public policy research, particularly from a macro and long-term perspective. Objective and concrete public policy research will help us better realise the objectives of effective governance. It will help us avoid sweeping, politicised and emotional policy debates, thus making it easier for the Government and various sectors of the community to reach a consensus on public issues. This will ensure that our policies are implemented more effectively and better able to serve the long-term development needs of Hong Kong.”

Please advise whether provision has been made or resources deployed in the 2004-05 Estimates to take forward a stated commitment of the Policy Address that public policy matters will be pursued with a higher standard. If yes, please give a detailed account of the projects funded. If not, what are the reasons for that?

Asked by : Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply :

Since the publication of the 2004 Policy Address, the Central Policy Unit (CPU) has been exploring ways to promote research on public policy issues and develop the human resources required. CPU is formulating an agenda for policy research so as to take forward research on priority issues. To meet this objective, CPU will carry out relevant research work using in-house resource as far as possible. It is hard to estimate the full resource implications at this juncture.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB038

Question Serial No.

0903

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding policy research projects and the expenditure involved, please provide detailed information on the policy research projects commenced or being conducted by the Home Affairs Bureau itself or with the funding of the Bureau in 2003-04, including

- 1) project title, objective and subject matter;
- 2) expenses;
- 3) latest progress;
- 4) whether the Administration has followed up on the research results.

Also, is there any provision earmarked for policy research in 2004-05? If yes, what is the amount? What are the objectives and subject matters of the respective projects?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Chu-ming, Martin

Reply :

Our major task is to formulate and co-ordinate policies in respect of the areas of work under our purview. To achieve this we carry out extensive and intensive research into these areas using as far as possible information available and with in-house resources. In view of the wide range and the large amount of such research work it is impossible to list each and every task. If consultants are used, we have prepared a breakdown in response to a separate question on that particular subject (see our Reply Serial No. HAB013). Details of the more important items for our ongoing work and new initiatives are listed in the Policy Agenda accompanying the CE's Policy Address and highlighted in our Controlling Officer's Report. It is impossible to give a breakdown on expenditure for each of these items as we have not conducted detailed costing work for each of them. However, we have provided an indication of the expenditure involved in each of the programmes in our Controlling Officer's Report. If, after research, consultation and deliberation, a new policy should be introduced, we shall consult the Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB039

Question Serial No.

0919

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (4) District and Community Relations

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The Government has indicated in Programme (4) that a series of administrative reforms will be introduced to improve the management and maintenance of Chinese temples and Chinese permanent cemeteries in Hong Kong. What are the details of these reforms? Are there any savings achieved?

Asked by : Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply :

We will continue to implement the remaining recommendations of the ICAC reports in enhancing the transparency and accountability of the Chinese Temples Committee (CTC) and the Board of Management of Chinese Permanent Cemeteries (BMCPC). These include introducing operational manuals on work processes and procedures and setting performance standards, pledges and indicators. A web site of the CTC will be launched and the existing one for the BMCPC will be updated and improved regularly.

As regards the CTC, we will review the tendering system for contracts for the management and operation of temples. We will also improve the supervisory mechanism regarding maintenance projects and temple management.

As regards the BMCPC, we will establish a more customer-oriented and accountable management culture in the secretariat serving the Board of the BMCPC. We will re-prioritise work including items such as the much needed footpath for the Junk Bay Cemetery. The Chinese Permanent Cemeteries Rules will be reviewed to bring them in line with present day requirements and so as to streamline and improve the quality of service and efficiency.

These measures will be carried out by the Trust Funds, Temples and Cemeteries Joint Secretariat and overseen by the Home Affairs Bureau. The Joint Secretariat is outside the Civil Service establishment and is paid by the CTC and BMCPD which are statutory bodies. As for the Home Affairs Bureau, the work will be absorbed within existing resources.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 20.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB040

Question Serial No.

0920

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (7) Culture

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The government said that it will strengthen the efforts in developing a cultural network with the neighbouring cities in the Greater Pearl River Delta. What has been done in the past three years? What is the amount of expenditure incurred each year?

Asked by : Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply :

Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao authorities held the first Pearl River Delta Cultural Summit in November 2002 and signed an agreement on Greater Pearl River Delta Cultural Co-operation in August 2003. It was resolved that each place would take turn to host meetings and working groups as well as to strengthen collaboration and exchange in the following five areas:

- (i) Exchange and training of talents for performing arts and the possibility of co-organising international events;
- (ii) Cultural information interflow and co-operation in the ticketing network;
- (iii) Development of a museum network and the excavation, conservation and promotion of heritage;
- (iv) Inter-library collaboration and exchanges and digital networking; and
- (v) Promotion of Cantonese opera.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) has close contacts and exchanges with the cultural and arts institutions/ units of the Pearl River Delta region. In addition to regular business exchanges, visits and participation in each other's seminars, co-operation and exchanges are focused on the following three areas:

Heritage and Museum

- In collaboration with the archaeology institutes in Guangdong, LCSD has launched the heritage conservation projects, including the rescue excavation in Sha Ha in Sai Kung (2001-03), the restoration of the Leung Ancestral Hall in Yuen Long and the Tin Hau Temple in Lung Yeuk Tau (2002).

- LCSD and the Department of Culture of Guangdong Province have jointly organised the first “Guangdong and Hong Kong Youth Pottery-making Summer Camp 2002: Guangzhou, Hong Kong and Foshan” (July 2002).
- The social sculpture exhibition on “The Private Life of an Old Red Army Officer” was jointly organised by the Hong Kong Museum of Art and the Shenzhen Sculpture Institute (February to May 2003). The exhibition on “Sun Yat-sen and His Family: from Cuiheng to Hong Kong” was co-presented by the Hong Kong Museum of History, the Museum of Dr Sun Yat-sen at Cuiheng and the Sun Yat-sen Education and Charity Foundation (November 2003) and the exhibition on “Fong Yim Fun — The Life and Works of a Cantonese Opera Artiste” was co-organised by the Hong Kong Heritage Museum and the Museum of Macao (July to October 2003).

Performing Arts

- From 2001-02 to 2003-04, a total of 30 performing arts touring programmes were launched around the Pearl River Delta region, taking the benefit of cost-sharing.
- In March 2003, the Hong Kong Film Archive contributed movies to the “Memories of the Past — Film Cycle about Macao” in the 14th Macao Arts Festival.
- In regard to youth music exchange programmes, the Music Office has invited professional musicians from Guangzhou, Zhuhai and Shenzhen to act as guest conductors, soloists and judging panel members. Hong Kong and the Guangzhou Orchestral Association invited Guangzhou school bands to Hong Kong in October 2003 to share their experiences.
- The first Cantonese Opera Day and related activities were launched on 30 November 2003 concurrently in the three places.

Libraries

- A publication exchange programme has been launched by Hong Kong, Guangdong and Macao libraries.
- Historical documents and special collections of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao libraries are digitalized and uploaded to the internet by stages.

The expenditure of the co-operation projects in the past three years are about \$750,000 (2001-02), \$1.2 million (2002-03) and \$1.5 million (2003-04) respectively.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 25.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB041

Question Serial No.

0921

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (8) Subvention: Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, Hong Kong Arts Development Council, Hong Kong Sports Development Board

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the indicator of the devolved grant of the Hong Kong Arts Development Council, the estimated number of audience outreached in 2004-05 is 100 000. It is much higher than the indicator in 2002-03, which is 28 420. What are the reasons? What is the basis of such estimate?

Asked by : Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply :

The Hong Kong Arts Development Council plans to deploy more resources for devolved grants in 2004-05. The number of devolved grant project will increase from two in 2002-03 to six in 2004-05. Projects in 2004-05 will involve promotional activities in schools and performances. Therefore, it is expected that there will be a marked increase in the number of audience outreached. Details are as follows:

2002/03	No. of Audience (Actual)	2004/05	No. of Audience (estimate)
Literature (1 project)	25,000	Literature (3 projects)	86,000
Opera (1 project)	3,420	Opera (1 project)	4,000
		Drama (2 projects)	10,000
Total	28,420	Total	100,000

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date 25.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB042

Question Serial No.

0999

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (7) Culture

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The tasks of this Programme include the development of initiatives and organisation of international and local events to promote creative industries in Hong Kong.

Please provide the contents, the targeted trades and areas, the number of participant individuals and enterprises, the total estimated expenditure and the expected effects of the activities held in 2004-05.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG LAU Yau-fun, Sophie

Reply :

Relevant information are listed in the table below:

<u>Activities</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Targeted Trades and Areas</u>	<u>Number of Participants</u>
1. Youth Creativity Employment Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training for the creative industries • Business start-up counselling and training • Establishing youth self-employment network • Career expo and job interviews 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performing arts • Make-up/image design • Programme production 	Over 1,000
2. Promotional activities for small and medium enterprises of the creative industries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminars/experience sharing sessions • To inform the creative industries sector on public funding and supporting resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All creative industries, such as design, publishing, printing, advertising, etc. 	500
3. Arts and Creativity Festival and other community-level promotional activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To invite international trend-setters to exchange ideas with local creative talents at workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Including film, publishing, and design sectors. 	500

<u>Activities</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Targeted Trades and Areas</u>	<u>Number of Participants</u>
4. Second Asia Cultural Co-operation Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To invite Ministers of Culture of PRC and other Asian countries to a summit meeting and public forums on the topic of cultural industries • Aim to tie in with the National Cultural Industries Expo in Shenzhen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All creative industries 	Over 1,000
5. International symposium and exhibition of “New Trends in Architecture”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An exhibition of the masterpieces of ten renowned architects from Europe and the Asia-Pacific region, and provide a forum for the international architectural sector to exchange ideas with students and the public • To present the outstanding architectural designs of Hong Kong to the international architectural community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Architecture, design, town planning, etc. 	Around 10,000

The total estimated expenditure of the above activities amount to \$5 million in 2004-05.

By organising the above activities, we hope to achieve the following objectives:

- active promotion of the creative industries of Hong Kong to the local and overseas business communities, with a view to stimulating investments.
- enhance connections between the Pearl River Delta, the Asian region and the international community in respect of cultural and creative industries; act as a facilitator and establish a platform for communication.
- nurture creative talents and assist creative youths in employment and starting business.
- better public access to amenities of life, enhance their cognition and acceptance to creative industries, and stimulate public demand on this front.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date 25.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB043

Question Serial No.

1067

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The Government has submitted two reports on the implementation of human rights treaties to the United Nations in 2003 and is now drafting another one report. It is expected that the hearings for these reports will soon be conducted. As such, has the Government any plans to organise promotional activities in the coming year to encourage the public to make known the contents of these reports and stimulate public discussion? If so, what are the details and what is the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Chin-shek

Reply :

The hearings will be held in April/May 2005: exact dates have yet to be advised. In the course of the coming year we will re-launch our API promoting the Convention on the Rights of the Child and a new one promoting the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Additionally, we will be working closely with the leading child-focused NGOs to promote children's rights. Major initiatives in that regard include the second meeting of the Hong Kong Children's Council and a special Forum on Children's Rights, both of which will take place later this year. Other initiatives are at the discussion stage. The reports have been made widely available: hard copies and CD ROM versions are available free of charge on request. It is also available on our website. The expenditure in 2003-04 was \$0.84 million and the estimated expenditure in 2004-05 will be \$0.94 million.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

MS SHELLEY LEE

Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

23 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB044

Question Serial No.

1068

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (2) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

What is the timetable for legislating against racial discrimination?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Chin-shek

Reply :

The drafting instructions for a Race Discrimination Bill have been issued to the Department of Justice and drafting of the Bill has commenced. In parallel, a consultation paper outlining the legislative proposals is being prepared. We hope to issue the consultation paper for public views in the next few months. We plan to introduce the Bill into the Legislative Council in the 2004-05 legislative year.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home
 Affairs

Date 22.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB045

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1069

Programme : (2) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the on-going administrative and educational efforts to promote awareness of racial harmony and equality, please provide information on the specific measures taken by the Government, the expenditure involved and the effectiveness of such measures in 2003-4. Please also give details of the specific measures and expenditure involved in 2004-05.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Chin-shek

Reply :

Work: in 2003-04, we spent \$5.74 million on promotion of awareness of racial harmony and equality. Our Race Relations Unit delivered, inter alia, a Community Organiser Training Programme on a pilot basis. The aim was to equip community organisers from the minorities to take a proactive role in their respective communities and in the wider society of Hong Kong. Also ongoing is the Mobile Information Service (MIS) whose 'Information Ambassadors' provide information and assistance to migrant workers and non-Chinese persons entering for settlement on first arrival at the Airport. Other measures included giving talks to schools, maintaining a hotline for complaints and enquiries, and a mural project.

In 2004-05, we plan to spend \$5.87 million (provisional figure). We shall continue existing long-term initiatives, such as the language classes, the community organiser training programme, the Equal Opportunities Funding Scheme, the Committee on the Promotion of Racial Harmony, the service guidebooks, and public education campaigns (APIs, posters, and so forth). Other initiatives are currently under consideration.

Results: by their nature, the impact of some of these initiatives cannot readily be assessed. But those that can be provide an encouraging picture. For example, with feedback from the minority communities and NGOs, we have expanded and developed the service guidebooks, so that each edition has been more useful than the last. The MIS has proved a valuable service to its target clientele and has been commended by clients, NGOs, and the Consulate Generals of the main 'exporting' countries. The RRU has won the respect of the minority communities, the NGOs, and the schools where RRU staff have delivered talks. And our language classes - developed and delivered by three major NGOs - have received very positive feedback from students. Our approach in all these areas is demand-led: a process of closely monitoring user-response with a

view to consistent adaptation, development, and improvement.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date 23 March 2004

Date 22.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB047

Question Serial No.

1071

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (4) District and Community Relations

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the 9 opinion surveys conducted in 2003 and the 11 opinion surveys planned to be conducted in 2004, what are the amounts of expenditure involved? What are the contents and effectiveness of the opinion surveys conducted in 2003? How does the government assess the usefulness of the findings of these surveys in improving public administration? How does the government evaluate the cost effectiveness of these surveys?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Chin-shek

Reply :

The details and expenditure breakdown of the opinion surveys conducted by Home Affairs Bureau in 2003–04 and 2004–05 are as follows:

(1) Financial year 2003-04

Item No.	Survey name	Name of conducting agency	Contents of survey	Expenditure/ consultancy fees
1	Regular Telephone Opinion Survey (2 rounds)	Home Affairs Bureau	To gauge and monitor the general public sentiment regarding issues of major concern in Hong Kong	\$103,782
2	Benchmark Survey Study on Civic Engagement and Social Networks of Youth in Hong Kong	Policy 21 Ltd., The University of Hong Kong	To study youth's civil engagement and social networks	\$505,600

Item No.	Survey name	Name of conducting agency	Contents of survey	Expenditure/ consultancy fees
3	Survey of Public Attitudes on Racial Discrimination	Consumer Search	To gauge the public attitude towards racial discrimination and the public opinion on the proposed legislation against racial discrimination	\$120,000
4	Opinion Survey on Discrimination	Hong Kong Policy Research Institute	To gauge public perception of racial discrimination.	\$64,000
5	Opinion Survey on Mega Sports Events	Hong Kong Policy Research Institute	To gauge general public views on mega sports events.	\$48,000
6	Opinion Survey on Development of West Kowloon Cultural District	Mercadoes Solutions Associates Ltd	To gauge general public views on the development of West Kowloon Cultural District.	\$40,000
7	Opinion Survey on Phase II Measures of Team Clean	Mercadoes Solutions Associates Ltd	To gauge public views on the level of cleanliness in Hong Kong.	\$40,000
8	Opinion Survey on the Visit of the Delegation of China's First Manned Space Mission	Mercadoes Solutions Associates Ltd	To gauge general public feedback on the visit of China's first manned space mission.	\$40,000

(2) Financial year 2004-05* (surveys under active planning only)

Item No.	Survey name	Name of conducting agency	Contents of survey	Expenditure/ consultancy fees
1	Opinion Survey on Civic Education 2004	Tendering in progress	To assess public perception about the degree of civic awareness and responsibility in Hong Kong in various aspects	Not yet available
2	Opinion Survey on Corporate Citizenship	Tendering in progress	To assess public perception and expectations of corporate citizenship in Hong Kong.	Not yet available

* For the purpose of financial planning, a provision of \$1 million is allocated for the surveys to be conducted in 2004-05.

As a people-based government, it is imperative that we are able to grasp public sentiment promptly and accurately, and to respond effectively. To this end, we are currently implementing a comprehensive series of measures to extensively gauge and collate public opinion from all sectors of the community with an open, liberal and accommodating attitude. Conducting timely opinion surveys on various issues is a major measure for this purpose. All the findings and recommendations of the surveys conducted would be carefully studied and considered in the process of formulating policies and relevant implementation measures.

We also have a quality control and monitoring system to ensure the surveys commissioned to independent organizations are conducted in accordance with established professional standards required of opinion surveys. These include the following:

- (1) Selection of a representative sample from residential telephone directories/register of living quarters on the basis of an objective random sampling method;
- (2) An effective sample size of at least 1,000 with a precision level of ± 3 percentage points at 95% confidence level;
- (3) Design of a questionnaire to ensure the questions are not leading, the length of the interview is reasonable and adequate questions covering respondents' personal particulars should be included;
- (4) Interviews to be conducted by experienced field workers and suitable briefings to be held to ensure all staff are well-versed with the questions to be asked;
- (5) Clear rules on validity of each interview and response rate;
- (6) Independent checkers to verify the validity of completed questionnaires;
and
- (7) Completed questionnaires to be edited and validated by computer.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 23.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB048

Question Serial No.

1072

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : 5305 Youth Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

In 2004-05, the Government will cooperate with the Commission on Youth in conducting the first-ever comprehensive benchmark study on civic engagement of youth in Hong Kong. In this regard, please provide information on the objectives, content, expenditure and work schedule of the study.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Chin-shek

Reply :

The objectives of our first-ever benchmarking survey on “Civic Engagement and Social Networks of Youth in Hong Kong” are as follows:

- 1) To establish a baseline for future study of civic engagement and social networking of youth;
- 2) To understand and identify effect of family relationships and factors in the family settings that affect youth participation in the community;
- 3) To understand and identify the mechanism(s) provided in the community through which social capital are developed and sustained;
- 4) To gauge youth's own perceived expectations and outcome of their participation in civic engagement and social networks;
- 5) To assess the levels and forms of civic engagement and social networks of three target groups of youth — (a) youth engaged in gainful employment; (b) youth engaged in formal education; and (c) youth engaged neither in (a) nor in (b);

- 6) To develop a set of civic engagement and social networking indicators to evaluate youth services in Hong Kong; and
- 7) To provide trend analysis and panel study comparisons for the attainment of the above objectives.

This longitudinal study seeks to establish a baseline for tracking and monitoring the trend of civic engagement and social networking of youth, which is an important element of youth development. This should be conducive to our formulation of long-term strategies and programmes for increasing the social capital of youth, as well as evaluating their effectiveness.

The total amount of consultancy fee for the study is \$0.506 million, which would be payable in two equal instalments in 2003-04 and 2004-05 respectively.

The research team has been conducting focus group studies and drawing up the draft questionnaire for the main survey since January 2004. The pilot test would be completed by the end of April and the main survey would commence in May 2004. The final report is expected to be available by end of 2004.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	<u>Ms SHELLEY LEE</u>
Post Title	<u>Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs</u>
Date	<u>24 March 2004</u>

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB049

Question Serial No.

1732

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs
Bureau

Subhead (No. & title): 700
General Non-Recurrent

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the study and education programme carried out by the Equal Opportunities Commission on implementing equal pay for work of equal value, why is it that no expenditure has been incurred in 2003-04? Does it mean that the study has been suspended last year? What progress and results are expected to be achieved in the coming year?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Chin-shek

Reply :

The funding allocated for Equal Pay for Work of Equal Value (EPEV) covers three phases including expenditure for studying public sector jobs and implementing public education programmes in Phase I. The study of private sector jobs and implementing public education programmes will be covered in phases II and III. A Task Force comprising representatives from the Government, the Hospital Authority, the tertiary institutes and the EOC was formed by the EOC to oversee the study in Phase I by local and overseas consultants. As Phase I study has been completed pending the finalization of the study report and Phase II has not yet commenced, there was therefore no expenditure in 2003-04.

However, work has not stopped in 2003-04. EOC Members have been considering the Phase I draft report and are of the view that as the concept of EPEV is very complex, more work should be done in understanding overseas practices and in identifying the issues in implementing EPEV and in mapping out a strategy for Hong Kong. Members of the Task Force also provided comments concerning the draft report at various points of the study. EOC is now working with the consultants to finalize the report.

It is the intention of the EOC to seek Members' views and finalize the draft report within the next few months. At that time, it is expected that there will be recommendations concerning the findings in Phase I and how to take the subject forward to Phase II. The EOC will also report the progress to the Legislative Council at that time.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____

23.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB050

Question Serial No.

1093

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (2) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

What is the timetable for the consultation on legislative proposals for the law against racial discrimination and the estimated resources involved in 2004-05? When will the bill be introduced into the Legislative Council?

Asked by : Hon. HO Chun-yan, Albert

Reply :

We are preparing a consultation paper on the proposed legislation against racial discrimination. We hope to issue the consultation paper for public views in the next few months. There will be a three-month consultation period. A provision of \$280,000 has been reserved for the public consultation exercise. The drafting instructions for a Race Discrimination Bill have been issued to the Department of Justice and drafting of the Bill has commenced. We plan to introduce the Bill into the Legislative Council in the 2004-05 legislative year.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____

22.03.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB051

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1094

Programme : (2) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

Please list the projects sponsored under the Equal Opportunities Funding Scheme in 2003 and the expenditure involved. Please also list the projects that were not approved under the Scheme and the amount of sponsorship applied for.

Asked by : Hon. HO Chun-yan, Albert

Reply :

In 2003-04, we approved a total of 58 projects at a total expenditure of \$1.68 million. Of these, 47 projects (total expenditure: \$1.16 million) related to race and 11 projects (total expenditure: \$0.52 million) related to sexual orientation. Details are at Annex A and on the website of the Home Affairs Bureau.

In 2003-04, we rejected a total of 45 bids (for a total of \$2.7 million). Of these, 35 related to race (\$2.13 million) and 10 related to sexual orientation (\$0.57 million). Details are at Annex B.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ MS SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 23 March.2004

Equal Opportunities Funding Scheme

Projects approved in 2003-04

Projects related to race

No.	Project	Expenditure (\$)
1.	無國界的童心	45,000.00
2.	朋友無疆界嘉年華會 2003	41,639.90
3.	續 Fun 色彩朋友網絡計劃	50,000.00
4.	「無國界同盟」種族共融計劃	19,000.00
5.	銅鑼灣健康活力嘉年華 2004 – 民族共融賀元宵	50,000.00
6.	活在同一天空下	3,393.20
7.	Educating and Improve Social Gathering among Sri Lankan Migrant Workers in Hong Kong	10,000.00
8.	伴你同行共展才能	25,000.00
9.	「職業在線！」－就業支援計劃	65,000.00
10.	陽光計劃	5,255.70
11.	繫出彩虹	26,547.20
12.	"Friends Around The World" Programme	5,428.60
13.	Bridging the Gap: Wear the Pin and Promote Racial Harmony	26,776.50
14.	「全接觸、無界限」多元文化社區融合活動系列	39,920.00

* This organisation withdrew after receiving our approval and thus no expenditure was involved.

** Estimate only. The reimbursement has not been completed due to incomplete information submitted by this organisation.

15.	無界道－種族融和大行動	39,851.00
16.	闔家樂備融	7,946.90
17.	「共享彩虹」－種族融和社區教育計劃	28,110.09
18.	「共建關懷社區」社區教育運動	21,948.10
19.	Opposing Myths, Establishing Facts: A Thai Community Response for Equal Opportunities in Hong Kong	14,358.20
20.	Out of the Wishing Well: Youth Response to Confronting and Combating Racism and Discrimination	30,000.00
21.	「種族全面睇」	22,100.42
22.	「紅三國與藍菱國 2003」	36,000.00
23.	反歧視種子隊	34,971.30
24.	Singing with LOVE Towards Equality-Working Towards a Better Tomorrow	15,157.50
25.	「四海一家親」跨科組德育輔導活動	13,548.30
26.	文化交匯互相融	0.00*
27.	「同一天空下」種族和諧推廣計劃	45,000.00
28.	We are the same	29,803.40
29.	彩虹計劃	12,757.00
30.	四海一家—領袖訓練營 2003	0.00*
31.	「社區大同」共融計劃	24,758.80

* This organisation withdrew after receiving our approval and thus no expenditure was involved.

** Estimate only. The reimbursement has not been completed due to incomplete information submitted by this organisation.

32.	Equal Opportunities for Ethnic Minorities - Enquiry Service and Community Forum	21,487.10
33.	A study of the living conditions of the Nepalese community	32,840.70
34.	Educating and Cultural Promote	9,688.50
35.	我有種、你有種—劇場及裝置藝術巡迴演出	74,000.00**
36.	少數族裔南丫放異彩	25,600.00
37.	「Teen 空之城 - 共建平等計劃」	22,700.00
38.	"歧" "古" 相當	45,000.00
39.	<星仔的好朋友>	45,000.00**
40.	Racial Harmony in Arts	15,055.50
41.	BB 無「界」道計劃	0.00*
42.	跨種族文化共同體	0.00*
43.	新一代國際學校	29,748.60
44.	Migrants Project-Crisis and Training Centre for Female Indonesian Domestic Workers in Hong Kong	15,000.00
45.	Harmony in Cultures	20,585.60
46.	Minorities' Awareness for Integrated Living in HK	17,790.50
47.	V 動作--南亞裔兒童服務	0.00*
	Sub-total(\$1.16 million)	1,163,768.61

* This organisation withdrew after receiving our approval and thus no expenditure was involved.

** Estimate only. The reimbursement has not been completed due to incomplete information submitted by this organisation.

Projects related to sexual orientation

1.	Gay Awareness Programme	22,000.00
2.	Youth Action - 「平等性傾向宣傳大使」	29,375.50
3.	跳出框框新世代	38,218.00
4.	「性向無限」先導計劃	40,000.00
5.	『夜傾情』同志朋輩互助熱線服務推廣及義工培訓	47,480.70
6.	Equal Opportunities (Sexual Orientation) Teaching Kit	47,968.50
7.	QS 03-04	48,871.40
8.	「傳情投入平等心」社區教育計劃	48,744.00
9.	DV POWER—拍出平等「性」故事計劃	60,000.00
10.	「第三屆同志議題報道獎」(不包括頒獎典禮) Third Media Awards on Tongzhi Coverage (EXCLUDING the Award Ceremony)	63,575.00
11.	我有我取向—全港全方位巡迴演出	75,000.00**
	Sub-total(\$0.52 million)	521,233.10
	Grand total (\$1.68 million)	1,685,001.71

* This organisation withdrew after receiving our approval and thus no expenditure was involved.

** Estimate only. The reimbursement has not been completed due to incomplete information submitted by this organisation.

Equal Opportunities Funding Scheme
Projects declined funding in 2003-04

Projects related to Race

No	Rejected Project	Amount Applied For (\$)
1.	「天虹」關社計劃- 社區共融, 你我樂見	17,100
2.	非常平等任務	18,500
3.	長幼共融互關懷, 畫出健康新姿采	3,000
4.	「反歧視見尊重」新來港人士共融計劃	57,400
5.	種族共融計劃	79,030
6.	不分種族, 共建平等	11,080
7.	Cross-ethnic Marriages and the Eurasian Community in Hong Kong: Negotiating Between Two Cultural and Political Identities	100,000
8.	「無歧道」共融計劃	30,450
9.	放眼世界 接納關懷	14,100
10.	Documentary Film for Foreign Domestic Helpers	100,000
11.	Muslim Women's Shelter	130,000
12.	街坊小子木偶劇場	97,000
13.	「天空這麼大」種族平等計劃	30,370
14.	「無疆界——共融之都」	64,740

15.	Chinese language scholarship for ethnic minority children in Hong Kong	100,000
16.	區校同心育社區之「和諧樂韻揚民族平等」	96,025
17.	同一天空下	50,000
18.	無分你我舞蹈交流會	94,685
19.	宣揚「種族平等」小學巡迴表演(第二期)	42,650
20.	勇闖社區顯關懷—共融活動系列	4,648
21.	認知香港網上瀏覽—親子電腦培訓課程	99,800
22.	"Women Circles, weaving stories"	22,600
23.	種族融和	60,000
24.	「平起平助」種族平等宣傳計劃	39,110
25.	「人間有情」凝聚婦女新動力計劃	50,000
26.	「獅子山下、萬族同心」學校巡迴論壇劇場計劃	70,000
27.	「傷健平等樂融融」	15,100
28.	House For Racial Harmony	37,500
29.	童心同力創未來	100,000
30.	「社區共融」培訓計劃	60,000
31.	「自主創出路」- 新來港人士平等機會和社區支援計劃	92,300
32.	四海一心香港情	99,250

33.	種族關係問題研究比賽	49,100
34.	Media Literacy: Tackling Racial Discrimination	132,450
35.	Fun Fare of ethnic minorities of Hong Kong	60,000
	Sub-total (\$2.13 million)	2,127,988

Projects related to sexual orientation

1.	男女平等在香港徵文比賽	19,300
2.	<一個天空下>	58,190
3.	「認識性傾向」初中生教材套	90,000
4.	父母混合體，子女有版「睇」	56,000
5.	<EO2 新人類>	84,820
6.	飛躍足球教練計劃	43,760
7.	Be Tender, Be Tough	16,710
8.	Migration and a threat to HIV/AIDS: What do the Indonesian Migrant Workers know and realize about a threat to AIDS in their lives?	77,980
9.	『髮』出愛心 平等接觸	20,740
10.	Media Literacy : Tackling Sexual Orientation Discrimination	100,000
	Sub-total (\$0.57 million)	567,500
	Grand total (\$2.70 million)	2,695,488

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

HAB052

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1095

Programme : (2) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

How many cases of enquiries and complaints were handled by the Committee on the Promotion of Racial Harmony in 2003-2004? Please list the cases by the nature of their problems. What will be the estimated manpower and financial resources for handling enquiries and complaints in the coming year?

Asked by : Hon. HO Chun-yan, Albert

Reply :

The Race Relations Unit handled a total of 47 complaints and 147 enquiries between 1 April 2003 and 29 February 2004. Of the 147 enquiries, 111 were general requests for information. The nature of the remaining 36 – which were specific enquiries – and that of the complaints that the Unit handled was as shown below -

Nature	Enquiries	Complaints
Government department/public bodies	4	14
Goods and services	2	12
Recruitment/employment	20	8
Education/Training	1	4
Immigration/Visa	--	1
	1	4
Legislation/ General issues	4	--
Media	0	4
Verbal assault	4	--
Total	36	47

The Unit has five full-time staff and two part-time staff in 2004-05, with total expenditure estimated at \$1.7 million. It provides secretariat support to the Committee on the Promotion of Racial Harmony and implements several programmes to promote racial harmony of which the

handling of complaints and enquiries is just one. The different areas of the Unit's work are not budgeted for separately and there is therefore no cost breakdown as between the handling of complaints and enquiries and the other programmes.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 23 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB053

Question Serial No.

1141

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : 5302 Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

With regard to enhancing the work on promotion of civic education outside schools in conjunction with the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education, particularly in areas targeting young adults and the working population, would the Administration please inform this Committee of:

- (a) the specific work plans;
- (b) the financial provision and the breakdown of the expenditure involved in 2004-05; and
- (c) the results to be achieved?

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

In 2004-05, we plan to focus the promotional efforts of civic education outside schools on young adults and the working population. Specifically, we are working on the following two major initiatives:

- (1) Promoting corporate citizenship:

We plan to start promoting the concept of “corporate citizenship” this year as a means of fostering good and responsible citizenship in the community. We aim at encouraging the senior management of all business enterprises to jointly pursue with their employees structured measures to fulfill their civic responsibility while making business such as enhancing environmental conservation, providing accountable goods and service, and providing community services.

- (2) Community Participation Scheme:

We have designated “Social Participation and Commitment” as the central theme under the Community Participation Scheme--a funding application scheme for non-governmental organizations to seek funds for promoting civic participation. We aim at encouraging public involvement in community building, so as to foster the sense of mutual trust and mutual aid amongst citizens, thereby enhancing social cohesion and networks in the community.

The ultimate objective of the above initiatives is to promote the sense of civic responsibility and commitment towards the common good, as the core values of a civil society in Hong Kong.

The estimated expenditure on promotion of civic education outside schools is \$10.2 million in 2004-05. As we have decided to focus our promotional efforts on young adults and the working population in 2004-05, this estimated total expenditure would predominantly be spent on initiatives targetting these groups. The preliminary breakdown is as follows:

Programmes	Estimated Expenditure \$
Community Participation Scheme	4.5 million
Publicity and promotion on corporate citizenship, the Basic Law and other projects	5.7 million
Total	10.2 million

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB054

Question Serial No.

1142

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : 5305 Youth Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding co-operation with the Commission on Youth in conducting the first-ever comprehensive benchmark study on civic engagement and social networks of youth in Hong Kong, would the Government please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) the detailed arrangements concerned;
- (b) the amount of provision in 2004-05 and the breakdown by specific usage;
- (c) in what way can the findings of the study help the Administration formulate plans on youth development?

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

The primary objectives of our first-ever benchmarking survey on “Civic Engagement and Social Networks of Youth in Hong Kong” are as follows:

- 1) To establish a baseline for future study of civic engagement and social networking of youth;
- 2) To understand and identify effect of family relationships and factors in the family settings that affect youth participation in the community;
- 3) To understand and identify the mechanism(s) provided in the community through which social capital are developed and sustained;
- 4) To gauge youth's own perceived expectations and outcome of their participation in civic engagement and social networks;
- 5) To assess the levels and forms of civic engagement and social networks of three target groups of youth — (a) youth engaged in gainful employment; (b) youth engaged in formal education; and (c) youth engaged neither in (a) nor in (b);

- 6) To develop a set of civic engagement and social networking indicators to evaluate youth services in Hong Kong; and
- 7) To provide trend analysis and panel study comparisons for the attainment of the above objectives.

This longitudinal study seeks to establish a baseline for tracking and monitoring the trend of civic engagement and social networking of youth, which is an important element of youth development. This should be conducive to our formulation of long-term strategies and programmes for increasing the social capital of youth, as well as evaluating their effectiveness.

The total amount of consultancy fee for the study is \$0.506 million, which would be payable in two equal instalments in 2003-04 and 2004-05 respectively.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB055

Question Serial No.

1143

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (9) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission, Office of the Privacy
Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the Equal Opportunities Commission, would the Administration please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) What are the specific arrangements for examining the feasibility of establishing an Equal Opportunities Tribunal?
- (b) What is the amount of provision involved in such work in 2004-05? Please give a breakdown of the expenditure. What are the arrangements in respect of human resources?
- (c) How many cases are expected to be handled by the Tribunal after its establishment?
- (d) What are the specific arrangements for incorporating equal opportunities concepts in schools curriculum?
- (e) What is the amount of provision involved in such work in 2004-05? Please give a breakdown of the expenditure.

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

(a) The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) is examining the feasibility of setting up an Equal Opportunities Tribunal (EO Tribunal) to adjudicate disputes. Some initial studies have been done on the functions of overseas models and local tribunals. There will be further discussions within the EOC and work will be carried out to identify a model that suits the situation of Hong Kong before a proposal could be formulated.

When there is a concrete proposal, it will be provided to the Administration for consideration, including whether there is a need for legislation.

(b) As stated in (a) above, the EOC is still at its preliminary stage of examining the feasibility of setting up a tribunal, it is now too early to consider funding and staffing requirements.

(c) As stated in (a) above, it is currently too early to provide an estimate at this stage.

(d) The project “Integrating Equal Opportunity Principles into the School Curriculum” will be conducted and an advisory body, including a representative from the Curriculum Development Institute, for the project has been set up.

The project will consist of the following two stages -

Stage one - The EOC is in the process of engaging an external consultant who will identify the level of equal opportunity related curriculum support materials and resources which currently exist in Hong Kong. They will also investigate what is available overseas. The consultant will be expected to make recommendations based on their findings as to the best way of incorporating equal opportunity principles into the Hong Kong school curriculum.

Stage two – The EOC will focus on the implementation of the recommendations of stage one which may include the development of curriculum support materials, their production, promotion and distribution within the education sector.

(e) The Government subvention allocated for the project at (d) above is \$750,000 and is expected to be spent in 2004-05. It is estimated that the consultancy fees for stage one will be below \$500,000 and the development, production, promotion and distribution costs of the curriculum materials will take up the remainder of the funds.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 23.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB056

Question Serial No.

1144

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (7) Culture

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the efforts in developing a cultural network with our neighbouring cities in the Greater Pearl River Delta:

- (a) What is the specific plan?
- (b) What is the estimated expenditure in developing the cultural network in 2004-05? What are the expenditure components?
- (c) How to assess the effectiveness of the plan in promoting cultural exchange between the two places?
- (d) Is there any plans to develop cultural network with places in the Mainland other than our neighbouring cities in the Greater Pearl River Delta? If the answer is positive, what are the details? If the answer is negative, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

- (a) Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau authorities held the first Pearl River Delta Cultural Summit in November 2002 and signed an agreement on Greater Pearl River Delta Cultural Co-operation in August 2003. It was resolved that each place would take turn to host meetings and working groups as well as to strengthen collaboration and exchange in the following five areas:
 - (i) Exchange and training of talents for performing arts and the possibility of co-organising international events;
 - (ii) Cultural information interflow and co-operation in the ticketing network;
 - (iii) Development of a museum network and the excavation, conservation and promotion of heritage;
 - (iv) Inter-library collaboration and exchanges and digital networking; and
 - (v) Promotion of Cantonese opera.

(b) In 2004-05, details of Pearl River Delta Co-operation projects are as follows:

- “Pearl River Delta cultural information network” will be completed in April.
- Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau’s online library enquiry systems will be interconnected to serve all readers of the three places in April.
- Promotional activities of the “International Museum Day” will be organised in the three places in May. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) has invited Guangdong and Macau museums to participate in the “2004 Hong Kong International Museum Day Expo” on 15-16 May 2004.
- Young musicians from Guangdong and Macau will be invited to participate in the “2004 Hong Kong Youth Music Camp” in July.
- The three places agree to launch concurrently the “Cantonese Opera Day” or related promotional activities in the last week of every November. The event falls on 28 November this year. The preliminary plan of LCSD is to launch activities in various local civic centres and a series of programmes between November and December in line with “The 4th Guangzhou International Cantonese Opera Festival”.

Funding of co-operation projects will be shared by the three places. The expenditure of Hong Kong will be about \$4 million. The Home Affairs Bureau and LCSD will deploy internal resources to meet the need.

(c) A number of cooperation projects for cultural exchanges have been launched between the three places since the Pearl River Delta Cultural Summit in November 2002. For details please refer to (b). Projects conducted in 2003-04 are as follows:

- The third and forth cultural cooperation meetings were held in Guangzhou and Hong Kong in August 2003 and February 2004 respectively.
- The LCSD regularly shares information on visiting performers and performance groups to the Cultural Department of Guangdong province, Xinghai Concert Hall, Shenzhen Grand Theatre and the Macau Culture Centre so as to facilitate such performances in the Pearl River Delta region.
- The culture information network among the three places was completed in December 2003.
- A strategic planning group was formed to prepare for an exhibition on the Pearl River Delta Antiquities, which will be launched in late 2005 in the three places in turns.
- Historical documents and special collections kept by the libraries of the three places were digitalised and uploaded to the internet gradually.
- Newsletters and publications were exchanged; exhibitions, seminars and library staff exchange programmes were jointly organised.
- The three places joined hands to bid for the declaration of Cantonese Opera as the Masterpiece of Oral and Intangible Heritage of Human by the United Nations.
- The Cantonese Opera Day and related activities were launched in the three places around 30 November 2003.

- The Home Affairs Bureau sponsored the Business of Performing Arts Conference held from 1 to 3 March 2004, jointly by the Hong Kong Arts Festival, Hong Kong Arts Administrators' Association Limited and Hong Kong Fringe Club. Some 100 arts administrators from the Mainland China, Hong Kong, Macau and other Chinese-speaking regions attended the conference.

These activities have enhanced the cultural exchange network and increased exchanges and cooperation between the public and cultural sectors of the three places, desirable achieving good results.

(d) Apart from developing a cultural network in the Greater Pearl River Delta, we also have close contacts and exchanges with the cultural and arts organizations in other places in the Mainland. The major activities are as follows:

- Hong Kong and our performing arts counterparts in Beijing and Shanghai (including the Beijing Music Festival, the Shanghai International Arts Festival and the Shanghai Grand Theatre) have regularly exchanged information and explored the possibility of cooperation. Last October, the LCSD took part in the Confederation of Asian Pacific Festival in Shanghai to exchange ideas with representatives from cities like Beijing and Shanghai.
- Regarding heritage and museums, the Antiquities and Monuments Office works closely with the archaeological institutes of various Mainland cities and provinces to conduct excavations and studies in Hong Kong. LCSD museums and their Chinese counterparts (including the National Museum of China, the National Museum of Chinese History, the Antiquities Exchange Centre of China and departments of antiquities) have jointly organised exhibitions in Hong Kong on antiquities and arts. Recent exhibitions included "War and Peace – Treasures of the Qin and Han Dynasties" and "Treasures of Summer Palace". In addition, the Hong Kong Museum of History is planning an exhibition of "Hundred-Year History of Hong Kong" with the National Museum of China. The exhibition will be launched in Beijing between late April and July this year.
- Hong Kong public libraries and the National Library of China, the Capital Library and the Shanghai Library have conducted publications and staff exchange programmes. The National Library of China also assists Hong Kong public libraries to procure publications of the Chinese government. In addition, Hong Kong public libraries join hands with their Chinese counterparts in organizing exhibitions in Hong Kong from time to time, including the exhibitions on "Special Collections of Documents of Modern China" organised with the Shanghai Library and "The Literary Bond of Mainland China and Hong Kong" with the National Museum of Modern Chinese Literature.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ MS SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 25.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

HAB057

Question Serial No.

1514

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (2) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the issue of a consultation paper on the legislative proposals for the law against racial discrimination, please give details of the following:

- (a) the arrangements involved;
- (b) the amount of provision for such purposes in 2004-05 and the breakdown of expenditure.

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

- (a) The drafting instructions for a Race Discrimination Bill have been issued to the Department of Justice and drafting of the Bill has commenced. In parallel, a consultation paper outlining the legislative proposals is being prepared. We hope to issue the consultation paper for public views in the next few months. We plan to introduce the Bill into the Legislative Council in the 2004-05 legislative year.
- (b) A provision of \$280,000 has been reserved for the public consultation exercise. The provision covers the printing of consultation paper and relevant materials (\$150,000), the production and broadcasting of an Announcement in the Public Interest (API) in different media channels (\$70,000) and the production of promotional materials and miscellaneous expenses (\$60,000).

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE _____

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs _____

Date 22.03.2004 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB058

Question Serial No.

1243

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title): -
Bureau

Programme : (2) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please give details of the work and the manpower and expenditure involved in improving the legislative and administrative measures that affect those who live on alimony?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The Administration has accepted the recommendations of the Inter-departmental Working Group on Review of law and administrative measures affecting divorcees and children who are eligible for alimony in May 2000. Within the Administration, Home Affairs Bureau has the policy responsibility for maintenance payments, with the implementation of the various measures vested in different parties. Most of the recommendations have been implemented or are on-going; others are in progress.

Specifically, in 2003-04, the Bureau continued to work with the Bills Committee on the Interest on Arrears of Maintenance Bill 2001. This resulted in the enactment of the Interest and Surcharge on Arrears of Maintenance Ordinance 2003 in May 2003. Among other things, the ordinance provides for two new measures, interest on arrears of maintenance to compensate the payee for the monetary loss due to the default payment(s) and surcharge on arrears of maintenance to deter payers from defaulting repeatedly without reasonable excuse.

Following the enactment of the Ordinance, we proceeded to develop a computer programme to support the calculations involved in the new legislation for reference by potential users. Representatives from Legal Aid Department, Social Welfare Department and the Family Court Registry were invited to help steer the project undertaken by a contractor. The computer programme is now in its final stage of development. In the meanwhile, briefing sessions on the programme have been arranged for social workers affiliated to Social Welfare Department and non-governmental organizations providing services to single parent families and representatives of the two legal professional bodies to obtain feedback from the users' point of view. We have also presented the programme to the Panel on Home Affairs at its meeting on 22 March.

With the assistance of Information Services Department, we produced a new announcement of public interest ("API"). The API aims to encourage maintenance payers to be caring parents and to heighten awareness of the responsibility to pay maintenance. We expect to broadcast the API on television and radio by end March.

We have also been in discussions with colleagues in the Department of Justice, Legal Aid Department, and the Judiciary Administrator on further legislative amendments to measures related to enforcement of maintenance orders. These included proposed amendments to relax the personal service requirement in respect of the summons for the adjourned hearing in the judgement summons proceedings; to empower the court to make arrest order and prohibition order in certain circumstances; and to order payment of arrears up to the date of hearing.

We have also commissioned the Census and Statistics Department for a follow up survey on enforcement of maintenance orders in its Thematic Household Survey for the third quarter of 2003.

In 2004-05, the Bureau will develop publicity materials, including introduction leaflets and booklets, on the Interest and Surcharge on Arrears of Maintenance Ordinance 2003 in preparation for its commencement. Further briefing sessions will be provided for interested parties. We will continue to work on the proposed amendments in relation to the judgment summons proceedings for enforcement of maintenance orders. We will continue to promote the message that a person is responsible for the maintenance of his/her ex-spouse and children even after divorce. We will also continue to monitor the latest development and introduce further measures as necessary and appropriate.

Within the Bureau, the relevant work is being undertaken by a team consisting of an Administrative Officer Staff Grade C and an Administrative Officer, with each of them devoting varying portions of their working hours to such duties.

In 2003-04, \$514,000 were spent on / have been committed for related expenses, including development of the computer programme and publicity materials, the commissioning of the follow up survey in C&SD's Thematic Household Survey, etc.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 23 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB059

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1244

Programme : (2) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

- (a) Please give details of the work, manpower and expenditure involved in promoting racial equality in 2003-04 and the estimate for the same in 2004-05?
- (b) The Administration has intended to legislate against racial discrimination in 2004-05. As such, what is the timetable for the exercise, starting from the issue of the consultation paper to the enactment of the legislation? What is the estimated expenditure?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

(a) In 2003-04, we spent \$5.74 million on the promotion of awareness of racial harmony and equality. Our Race Relations Unit delivered, inter alia, a Community Organiser Training Programme on a pilot basis. The aim was to equip community organisers from the minorities to take a proactive role in their respective communities and in the wider society of Hong Kong. Also ongoing is the Mobile Information Service (MIS) whose 'Information Ambassadors' provide information and assistance to migrant workers and non-Chinese persons entering for settlement on first arrival at the Airport. Other measures included giving talks to schools, maintaining a hotline for complaints and enquiries, and a mural project.

In 2004-05, we plan to spend \$5.87 million (provisional figure). We shall continue existing long-term initiatives, such as the language classes, the community organiser training programme, the Equal Opportunities Funding Scheme, the Committee on the Promotion of Racial Harmony, the service guidebooks, and public education campaigns (APIs, posters, and so forth). Other initiatives are currently under consideration.

(b) We are preparing a consultation paper on the proposed legislation against racial discrimination. We hope to issue the consultation paper for public views in the next few months. There will be a three-month consultation period. A provision of \$280,000 has been reserved for the public consultation exercise. The drafting instructions for a Race Discrimination Bill have been issued to the Department of Justice and drafting of the Bill has commenced. We plan to introduce the Bill into the Legislative Council in the 2004-05 legislative year.

Signature

Name in block letters

Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date

23 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB060

Question Serial No.

1245

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (4) District and Community Relations

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

- (a) Please give details of the work on further reviewing the role and functions of advisory and statutory bodies in 2003-04 and the manpower and expenditure involved.
- (b) Please give details of the work on gambling matters in 2003-04 and the manpower and expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

- (a) In 2003 the Home Affairs Bureau published a consultation paper and conducted the first round of the public consultation exercise on the review of advisory and statutory bodies. A progress report and four interim reports were discussed at a meeting of the Panel on Home Affairs on 13 February 2004. The Bureau will continue to report to the Panel by way of a series of interim reports. It is expected that the second round of public consultation would be conducted in early 2005. After the consultation, a final report will be submitted to the Panel. The review is part of the duties and responsibilities of the Special Duties Team which consists of a Principal Assistant Secretary (Administrative Officer Staff Grade C) and an Assistant Secretary (Administrative Officer). No separate breakdown of the manpower and expenditure for this area of work is available.
- (b) In 2003, we set up the Ping Wo Fund for the purpose of subsidizing measures to address gambling-related problems. The Hong Kong Jockey Club has made a commitment to contribute \$ 24 million to the Fund in the first two years and \$12 million to \$15 million in the 3 years thereafter. The Fund also accepts public donations.

In mid to late 2003, we implemented a series of preventive and remedial measures to address gambling-related problems, which were financed by the Ping Wo Fund. The major details are summarized below:

i) Research on gambling-related issues

We commissioned an overseas expert in counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers to conduct a benchmarking study for introducing similar services in Hong Kong. The expenditure on research in gambling-related issues in 2003–04 was about \$140,000.

ii) Public education programme

We launched a public education programme with the objectives of enhancing public understanding about the nature and risks of gambling activities; increasing awareness of gambling-related problems; and fostering a responsible gambling attitude. The programme included television and radio commercials, TV documentary dramas, as well as posters and banners to warn against excessive gambling.

We have also commissioned the Hong Kong Education City to launch an education programme targeting adolescents. The project, known as “Say No to Gambling” Action, is a two-year programme which seeks to enhance the understanding of adolescents, parents and teachers towards gambling, and to strengthen the ability of adolescents to exercise self-control so as to prevent themselves from becoming addicted to, or developing compulsive or pathological gambling behaviour in any activity, including gambling. The project includes a central website, and the organization of different activities such as workshops, seminars and debating competition.

The expenditure on the above education programme in 2003–04 was about \$2 million.

iii) Counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers

We commissioned Caritas and Tung Wah Group of Hospitals to each operate a dedicated counselling and treatment centre for problem and pathological gamblers for three years on a pilot basis. The two centres commenced operation in October 2003. The centres provide professional counselling and treatment for problem and pathological gamblers as well as their significant others. The expenditure on the provision of counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers in 2003 – 04 was about \$3.5 million.

In 2004-05, we will continue to implement measures to address gambling-related problems with the support of the Ping Wo Fund. The major specific measures are as follows:

i) Research and studies

We will commission a local university to conduct an evaluative study on the effectiveness of the services of the two counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers financed by the Ping Wo Fund. We will also commission an independent institute to conduct a study on the Hong Kong people’s participation in gambling activities. The study seeks to assess the impact of gambling participation and keep track of the prevalence of problem and pathological gambling in Hong Kong. The estimated budget on such research and studies is around \$1.5 million.

ii) Public education programme

We will continue to implement the public education programme. We are planning to produce additional TV and radio commercials on problems associated with excessive gambling and to publicize the gambling counselling hotline operated jointly by the two counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers financed by the Ping Wo Fund. We are also planning to launch a special youth empowerment campaign aimed at engaging young people to drive home amongst their peers clear messages about gambling-related problems. The estimated budget on the education programme is around \$3.5 million.

iii) Counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers

The two dedicated counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers operated by Caritas and Tung Wah Group of Hospitals respectively commenced operation in October 2003. They would continue to provide professional services to problem and pathological gamblers as well as their significant others. We will shortly commission a university to conduct an evaluative study on the effectiveness of the services provided by the two centres. We will assess whether the resources for the services are adequate in meeting the demand for such services, having regard to the results of the study and operational experience. The funding for each centre is \$3.5 million per annum for three years as from October 2003.

The Home Affairs Bureau is responsible for managing the Ping Wo Fund and co-ordinating the implementation of the various measures financed by the Fund. The relevant work is being undertaken by a team comprising an Administrative Officer Staff Grade C and a Senior Administrative Officer in the Bureau, with each of them devoting varying portions of their working hours to such duties.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ MS SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

HAB061

Question Serial No.

1246

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : 5305 Youth Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please provide details of the work, manpower and expenditure involved in promoting social participation of youth in 2003-04 and 2004-05.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

Promoting social participation of young people has long been an important objective of our youth development programmes.

In 2003-04, we administered the Youth Community Service Scheme under the Commission on Youth whereby non-governmental organizations were invited to submit proposals for funding subsidy for activities to involve young people in voluntary community services. A total subsidy amount of \$6.36 million had been granted to the successful applicant organizations under the Scheme. We also organized, in conjunction with the Commission on Youth, a Youth Summit with the participation of around 600 young people to exchange views with all relevant Government Bureaux and Departments as well as other concerned parties on the theme of social participation of youth. The Summit was preceded by 12 district youth forums organized by non-Governmental organizations to discuss in detail youth participation in seven specific areas---family, schools, community, economy, political systems, environmental conservation, and culture.

Separately, we provided a total of \$42 million by way of recurrent subventions to ten uniformed youth groups for the purpose of organizing a diverse range of training and development programmes for young people aged 8 to 25, including programmes aimed at enhancing their civic and social participation.

In 2004-05, we plan to place a greater emphasis on social participation of youth in the youth development programmes. To this end, we are working on a number of new initiatives.

We have, in collaboration with the Commission on Youth, commissioned a local university to conduct a first-ever benchmarking study on “Civic Engagement and Social Networks of Youth in Hong Kong”, which aims at assessing the levels and forms of civic engagement and social networks amongst different target youth groups, identifying young people’s expectations and outcome of social participation, and how various factors would affect youth participation in the community.

We are exploring, in conjunction with the Commission on Youth and concerned youth organizations, how best to re-establish youth councils in Hong Kong. The objective is to involve young people in the discussions of public affairs so as to enhance their civic awareness and social participation.

We would continue to provide recurrent subventions at an estimated amount of \$41 million to ten uniformed youth groups in 2004-05 for the purpose of providing structured and progressive training and development programmes, including programmes aimed at facilitating civic and social participation of young people.

Deducting the allocation earmarked for financing international youth exchange programmes and subsidy for Mainland study tours organized by non-governmental organizations, the estimated total expenditure on the remaining areas of youth development in 2004-05 is \$10 million. As we have decided to focus our promotional efforts on social participation of youth in 2004-05, a majority of this estimated expenditure would be spent on measures and programmes for this purpose.

The duties relating to promoting social participation of youth is undertaken by one Administrative Officer Staff Grade C, one Administrative Officer, one Chief Executive Officer, one Senior Executive Officer and two Executive Officers of the Bureau, with each of them devoting varying portions of their working hours to such duties.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB062

Question Serial No.

1247

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (7) Culture

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please explain the strengthened efforts and detailed expenditure in developing a cultural network with the neighbouring cities in the Greater Pearl River Delta in 2004-05.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau authorities held the first Pearl River Delta Cultural Summit in November 2002 and signed an agreement on Greater Pearl River Delta Cultural Co-operation in August 2003. It was resolved that each place would take turn to host meetings and working groups as well as to strengthen collaboration and exchange in the following five areas:

- (i) Exchange and training of talents for performing arts and the possibility of co-organising international events;
- (ii) Cultural information interflow and co-operation in the ticketing network;
- (iii) Development of a museum network and the excavation, conservation and promotion of heritage;
- (iv) Inter-library collaboration and exchanges and digital networking; and
- (v) Promotion of Cantonese opera.

In 2004-05, details of Pearl River Delta Co-operation projects are as follows:

- “Pearl River Delta cultural information network” will be launched in April 2004.
- Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macau’s online library enquiry systems will be interconnected to serve all readers of the three places in April 2004.
- Promotional activities of the “International Museum Day” will be organised in the three places in May. Guangdong and Macau museums have been invited to participate in the “2004 Hong Kong International Museum Day Expo” on 15-16 May 2004.

- Young musicians from Guangdong and Macau will be invited to participate in the “2004 Hong Kong Youth Music Camp” in July.
- The three places agree to launch concurrently the “Cantonese Opera Day” or related promotional activities in the last week of every November. Our preliminary plan is to launch activities in various local civic centres and a series of programmes in line with “The 4th Guangzhou International Cantonese Opera Festival”.

Funding of co-operation projects will be shared by the parties concerned. The expenditure of Hong Kong will be about \$4 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 25.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

HAB063

Question Serial No.

1248

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (9) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission, Office of the Privacy
Commissioner for Personal Data

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

In 2004-05, the Home Affairs Bureau will examine the proposal to establish an Equal Opportunities Tribunal. Please state whether the Home Affairs Bureau or the Equal Opportunities Commission will be responsible for conducting the study. When will the study be completed? What is the number of staff involved and what is the amount of expenditure?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

Currently, the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) is examining the feasibility of setting up an Equal Opportunities tribunal. When the EOC proposal is ready, it would be submitted to the Administration for consideration. As the exercise is still at its preliminary stage, it is now too early to consider funding and staffing requirements.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date 23.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB064

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1249

Programme : (2) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

In respect of activities for promoting equal opportunities, please give details of the expenditure in 2003-04 and the provision for 2004-05 respectively. Why is the provision for 2004-05 less than last year's revised estimates? Please give details.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

2003-04

We spent \$5.74 million on promotion of awareness of racial harmony and equality. Our Race Relations Unit delivered, inter alia, a Community Organiser Training Programme on a pilot basis. The aim was to equip community organisers from the minorities to take a proactive role in their respective communities and in the wider society of Hong Kong. Also ongoing is the Mobile Information Service (MIS) whose 'Information Ambassadors' provide information and assistance to migrant workers and non-Chinese persons entering for settlement on first arrival at the Airport. Other measures included giving talks to schools, maintaining a hotline for complaints and enquiries, and a mural project.

We spent \$665,418.10 on promoting equal opportunities on the ground of sexual orientation. We have continued to launch a funding scheme to promote equal opportunities. A total of 11 projects proposed by community organizations have been approved. We have also produced stationery and comic books and have distributed them through NGOs and schools.

2004-05

We plan to spend \$5.87 million (provisional figure) on promotion of awareness of racial harmony and equality. We shall continue existing long-term initiatives, such as the language classes, the community organiser training programme, the Equal Opportunities Funding Scheme, the Committee on the Promotion of Racial Harmony, the service guidebooks, and public education campaigns (APIs, posters, and so forth). Other initiatives are currently under consideration.

We plan to spend \$666,700 (provisional figure) on promoting equal opportunities on the ground of sexual orientation. We will continue to carry out the funding scheme and produce promotional items for distribution to the public.

The provision for 2004-05 is less than the revised budget for 2003-04. By increasing efficiency, services provided will not be affected.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 23 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB065

Question Serial No.

1761

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (7) Culture

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

In respect of the built heritage conservation policy:

- (a) How will the government conduct the public consultation exercise? Will it organise any public consultation meetings? Will it draw up a timetable for the amendment of ordinances? If yes, what are the estimates and details of expenditure in conducting the above exercise?
- (b) Please specify respectively the heritage conservation work and expenditure in 2003-04 and the estimates of 2004-05.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

- (a) The Home Affairs Bureau has launched a public consultation exercise on review of built heritage conservation policy with the release of a consultation document on 18 February 2004. Copies of the consultation document are distributed through District Offices and LCSD cultural venues. It can also be downloaded from the HAB website. During the 3-month consultation period, we will collect the views of the public through various channels. Besides consulting the LegCo Home Affairs Panel and the 18 District Councils, we will also canvass the views of relevant statutory boards and advisory bodies, professional organizations, the academic sector, conservation groups and other related organizations. In addition, we will conduct two public forums to collect the views of the public. Members of the public may also send their views to us by mail, or through email or fax.

We will carry out our public consultation work in two stages. In the present stage, we are consulting the public on broad policy issues. After assessing the public's views, we will formulate implementation proposals and consult the public as the second stage of the consultation exercise. Depending on the findings of the public consultation and the decision on the improvement proposals to be implemented, we will then decide what ordinance(s) should be amended to give effect to the new measures. The question of formulating a time-table for legislative amendment will be considered at that stage. In any case, we hope to launch the second stage of public consultation early next year.

The expenditure for the first stage of public consultation is about \$723,000. The items of expenditure include printing of consultation documents, pamphlets, publicity posters and postcards (for sending views to HAB), production of TV and Radio APIs and expenses on other publicity items. If the second stage of public consultation is carried out in 2004-05, it is likely that the estimated expenditure and related items will be similar to those incurred in the first stage of public consultation.

(b) The Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO) of Leisure and Cultural Services Department is the executive arm of HAB in carrying out heritage preservation work which cover the following main areas:

- identifying, recording and researching on buildings and items of historical interest;
- organizing the protection, restoration and maintenance of monuments;
- assessing the impact of development projects on heritage sites, as well as to organize appropriate mitigation measures; and
- fostering public awareness of Hong Kong's heritage through education and publicity programmes such as exhibitions, lectures, tours, workshops and setting up of heritage trails, etc.

The AMO spent a total of \$62.15 million in maintaining the operation of the office and carrying out the above works in 2003-04 under Head 95. The estimate for 2004-05 is \$75.69 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 25.3.2004

Date 24.3.2004

Date 24.3.2004

- (a) The Home Affairs Department (HAD) conducted extensive public consultations from May to July 2003 to seek the views of the public on the proposed amendments to the Building Management Ordinance (BMO) (Cap.344). The proposals are aimed at assisting owners' corporations in the performance of their duties, rationalising the appointment procedures of a management committee and offering better protection for property owners. The proposed amendments also seek to give effect to the various proposals generally agreed at the Subcommittee on Review of the BMO (Subcommittee) formed under the Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs. At the present stage, the Department is working closely with the Subcommittee, Department of Justice and other relevant government departments to consider the comments received and additional amendment proposals to facilitate the drafting of an amendment bill. We aim at introducing the amendment bill into the Legislative Council in the 2004-05 legislative session.

(b) The Building Management (Amendment) Ordinance 2000 introduced a new section in the BMO to compulsorily require that an owners' corporation shall procure and keep in force in relation to the building a third-party risk insurance policy. In the event of contravention, every member of the management committee shall be guilty of an offence, which on conviction carries a fine at Level 5 (maximum \$50,000), unless he proves that the defence provisions in the Ordinance apply to him/her. To implement this requirement, the Chief Executive in Council has to make the relevant Regulation to set out the scope of coverage of the policy, the minimum level of indemnity, qualifications of insurers, etc. Since the enactment of the Amendment Ordinance, the Administration has been examining how to give effect to the relevant provision in consultation with the industry. HAD has been actively discussing with the Hong Kong Federation of Insurers the implementation details and a set of the draft Regulations, incorporating the Federation's comments, has been passed to the Federation in August 2003. Meanwhile, HAD has written to all owners' corporations, owners' committees and residents' associations to remind them of the importance of procuring third-party risk insurance. In the context of the review of the BMO, HAD also notes that amendments will need to be introduced to the provision on mandatory third-party risk insurance in the main legislation. We will include these amendments in the composite bill referred to in (a) above.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms Shelley LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB069

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

1621

Programme : (2) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

1. Does the Administration currently offer any special assistance to the newly arrived ethnic minorities? If so, what are the details?
2. In 2004-05, what is the amount of expenditure on services to the ethnic minorities in Hong Kong?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

1. With our sponsorship, the International Social Service (Hong Kong Branch) – (ISS) – operates a team of information ambassadors, known as the Mobile Information Service, at the Airport. The team is based airside and greets new arrivals as they disembark. Each new arrival identified as such receives an information kit, comprising the Home Affairs Bureau's Service Guidebook and information about key matters such as health and welfare services, accommodation, schooling, employment, and organisations that can provide guidance and other assistance. The ambassadors are multi-lingual and – in addition to providing information – help new arrivals with translation/interpretation difficulties (completing forms such as arrival cards and health declarations, helping them to communicate with immigration and Customs staff, and so forth). The ISS provides emergency/hotline assistance for those who find themselves in difficulty on arrival. We spent \$1.0 million on the service in 2003-04 and plan to spend \$1 million in 2004-05.
3. In 2004-05, we plan to spend \$5.87 million (provisional figure). We shall continue existing long-term initiatives, such as the language classes, the community organiser training programme, the Equal Opportunities Funding Scheme, the Committee on the Promotion of Racial Harmony, the service guidebooks, and public education campaigns (APIs, posters, and so forth). Other initiatives are currently under consideration.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____

23 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB070

Question Serial No.

1640

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (8) Subvention: Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, Hong Kong
Arts Development Council, Hong Kong Sports Development Board

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The 2004-05 provision for the Hong Kong Sports Development Board is 50.9% lower than the 2003-04 estimate.

- What are the reasons?
- Has the government assessed the impact of a slash in provision on the development of recreation and sports in Hong Kong?

Asked by : Hon. MAK Kwok-fung, Michael

Reply :

The reduction in subvention for 2004-05 is mainly attributable to the disbandment of two non-elite training functions of the Sports Development Board (SDB), i.e. allocation of subvention to National Sports Associations (NSAs) and management of Sports House. Funding for elite training programmes will remain unchanged at current level without deduction. The restructuring exercise will enable the SDB to better focus its resources and efforts on the training and development of elite sports in Hong Kong. In addition, any savings generated from the restructuring of the sport administrative structure will be channeled back to the sport community for its future development.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB071

Question Serial No.

1641

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme :5305 Youth Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The number of participants under the Community Participation Scheme for Organizing Study Tours to the Mainland has increased from 4 532 in 2002-03 to 7 732 in 2003-04. In this regard,

- What is the reason for the increase?
- What are the resources involved?
- Has the effectiveness of the scheme been assessed?
- What is the expected position in 2004-05?

Asked by : Hon. MAK Kwok-fung, Michael

Reply :

- (a) The Community Participation Scheme for Organizing Study Tours to the Mainland is a funding application scheme under the Commission on Youth whereby non-Governmental organizations can submit proposals to seek financial subsidy for the organization of Mainland study tours for young people. In 2003-04, we allocated a total of \$8,500,000 for the organization of 127 Mainland study tours. This represents a 21.43% increase in the amount of subsidy, and 61.42% increase in the number of study tours, when compared with the figures in 2002-03.

We have in place a mechanism whereby all successful applicant organizers under the Scheme are required, upon completion of the relevant study tours, to submit a self-evaluation report containing views and feedback of the youth participants. We would tighten the control and monitoring system in 2004-05, by requesting the youth participants of selected subsidized study tours to make a presentation on the impact of the relevant study tours on their understanding of, and attitude towards Mainland China.

We regularly review the operation of the Scheme, so as to ensure its effectiveness in achieving the objective of enhancing understanding and respect of Chinese culture and heritage among young people. Since 2003-04, we have been according higher priority to proposals seeking subsidy for youth exchange programmes between Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta, with a view to fostering a closer connection and integration amongst young people in these two places. We particularly encourage two-way exchange tours in order to facilitate in-depth exchanges and the development of enduring friendships.

- (b) The estimated amount of subsidy to be allocated for the Scheme in 2004-05 is \$8,097,100, representing a 4.74% drop from the amount allocated under the Scheme in 2003-04. The number of projects and participants in these Mainland study tours subsidized under the Scheme vary from year to year, depending on the number, type and required funding of the proposals received from the applicant organizers, as well as their choice of destinations. The number of participants in such tours in 2004-05 was estimated having regard to operational experience and the reduction in the funding allocation for this purpose.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____ 23 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB072

Question Serial No.

1642

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Bureau

Programme : (8) Subvention: Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, Hong Kong Arts Development Council, Hong Kong Sports Development Board

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The actual number of participants in sports programmes soared from 4 485 in 2002-03 to 12743 in 2003-04.

- ☛ What are the reasons?
- ☛ What are the breakdowns of participants by programmes?
- ☛ What are the forecasts about 2004-05?

Asked by : Hon. MAK Kwok-fung, Michael

Reply :

The marked increase in the number of participants in sports programmes from 4 485 in 2002-03 to 12743 in 2003-04 was mainly due to the change in the format of one major sports programme organized by the Sports Development Board (SDB) in 2003.

In 2002 and the past few years, SDB has been organizing a Talent Identification Programme (TID) in the form of a one day general fitness test held at the Sports Institute for about 3500 participants. Affected by SARS in 2003, the TID was cancelled and replaced in the latter part of the year by an “Out-reaching Programme” which involved 10 primary and secondary schools in the Tai Po district with 11000 participating students. This explains for the significant increase in the number of participants in 2003.

A breakdown of the 12743 participants by programmes are as follows:

Talent Identification	:	11 251
Volunteer Support	:	112
Coach Education Programme	:	1 380

For 2004-05, it is expected that the out-reaching programme will continue, and the number of participants is expected to be in the region of 12 000.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Ms SHELLEY LEE

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Date _____

25.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB073

Question Serial No.

0023

Head : 63 – Home Affairs
Department

Subhead (No. & title): 000 Operational
Expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

There is a reduction in the estimated expenditure for environmental improvement and community involvement projects under this subhead in 2004-05. Would the Administration inform this Committee of the reasons for anticipating such a reduction?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

To address the problem of budget deficits, Government is committed to controlling public expenditure strictly and reducing its operating expenditure to \$200 billion and restoring fiscal balance by 2008-09. To achieve this, all bureaux and departments, including the Home Affairs Department, are required to deliver savings over the next few years. Accordingly, cuts have to be made in allocations on all fronts, including the allocation to District Councils for the implementation of environmental improvement and community involvement projects.

Like the rest of the community, District Council members will no doubt appreciate the need for stringent financial control and help contribute towards Government's efforts to restore fiscal balance by 2008-09. Despite the decreased allocation, with careful financial planning and control, District Councils should be able to carry out worthwhile environmental improvement and community involvement projects with the resources available to improve the well-being of the people in their districts.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title _____ Director of Home Affairs

Date _____ 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB074

Question Serial No.

0052

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6303 Local Environmental Improvements

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The Home Affairs Department will allocate \$141 million for implementing 180 projects under the Rural Public Works Programme in the coming year. Please give a list of such projects and state how many of them can be completed within one year.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply :

A list of the 180 projects to be/being implemented in 2004 under the Rural Public Works Programme is attached. Among the 180 projects, about 120 projects can be completed within one year.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Rural Public Works Projects to be/being implemented in 2004

Improvement to Chi Ma Wan Road, Lantau Island
Construction of access road at Shui Hau Village, South Lantau
Construction of country trail near Pak Kok Tsui to Tung Wan Tsai, Cheung Chau
Improvement to footpath at Shap Long Chung Hau Village, South Lantau
Improvement to footpath and drains at Yung Shue Wan Main Street, North Lamma
Improvement to footpath at Tai Wan San Tsuen, North Lamma
Improvement to footpath at Wang Long, North Lamma
Improvement to footpaths at Wing Hing Street and Yuen Ling Tsai, Peng Chau
Improvement to footpath near House No.23 at Hung Shing Ye, North Lamma
Improvement to footpath near House No.6 Ko Long Village, North Lamma
Improvement to footpath near No.1 Pak Kok San Tsuen, North Lamma
Installation of benches in Cheung Chau
Improvement to drains near House No.17 to No.46, Tai Wan San Tsuen, North Lamma
Improvement to stream embankment and footpath from Tai Tei Tong to Lung Mei Tsuen, Mui Wo
Improvement to the stream embankment at Wo Tin, Mui Wo
Construction of rainshelter at San Shek Wan Village, South Lantau
Improvement to jetty at Sha Lo Wan, Tai O
Installation of directional signs to show the way to Pak Tiu Ting, Cheung Chau
Provision of notice boards for Lantau Island
Construction of temporary helipad at Yung Shue Wan, North Lamma
Beautification works in Kwai Tsing District (2003-04)
Improvement works at Tsing Yi Nature Trails (2003-04)
Construction of rainshelters in Kwai Tsing District (2003-04)
Improvement to sitting-out area at Tak Tai Path, Tai Wo Hau
Improvement to sitting-out area at Lai King Hill Road North
Improvement to sitting-out area at Ping Lai Path, Kwai Chung
Anti-mosquito and Dengue Fever prevention works in Kwai Tsing District
Beautification works in Kwai Tsing District (2004-05)
Improvement to three sitting-out areas at Tai Wo Hau
Improvement to sitting-out area at Ping Fu Path, Kwai Chung
Improvement to sitting-out area at Yiu Wing Street, Kwai Chung
Improvement to paving in Yim Tin Kok Village, Tsing Yi
Improvement works along footpath at Tai Pak Tin Street, Kwai Chung
Improvement works to vacant government land at Tsing Yi Fishermen's Village
Environmental improvement works to vacant government land near Kau Wah Keng San Tsuen
Widening of village access to Cheung Lek, Sheung Shui
Improvement to van track at Fanling Wai, Fanling
Improvement to access road at Wong Kong Shan, Fanling
Improvement to paving and drainage channel at Ha Shan Kai Wat Village, Ta Kwu Ling
Construction of pavilion at Tai Long, Sha Tau Kok
Construction of paving and van track at Tak Yuet Lau, Ta Kwu Ling
Improvement to van track at Shung Him Tong, Fanling
Improvement to access road at Kwan Tei North, Fanling
Improvement to van track at Chuk Yuen Tsuen, Sha Ling, Ta Kwu Ling
Construction of concrete paving at Fu Tei Pai Village, Fanling
Improvement to van track, paving and footpath at Loi Tung, Sha Tau Kok
Improvement to footpath leading to intake dam at Ha Tam Shui Hang, Sha Tau Kok
Construction of rainshelter at Wah Shan Tsuen, Sheung Shui
Construction of rainshelter at Ho Sheung Heung Pai Fung Road, Sheung Shui
Construction of pavilion at Lo Uk, Nam Chung, Sha Tau Kok
Construction of pavilion near Ko Pang Teng, Kat O, Sha Tau Kok
Construction of rainshelters and improvement to country trails between Ying Pun and Kei Lak Tsai, Sheung Shui

Construction of children playground at Wang Shan Keuk San Tsuen, Sha Tau Kok
Improvement works at Tsoi Yuen Kok amenity area, Sha Tau Kok
Construction of footpath and provision of safety fence along the pond at Kam Tsin, Sheung Shui
Improvement to footpath and rainshelter at Chow Tin Village, Ta Kwu Ling
Provision of notice boards in Sai Kung Area
Provision of notice boards in Hang Hau Area
Construction of paving and benches at Pak Kong, Sai Kung
Construction of storm water channel at Ma Yau Tong, Hang Hau
Extension of access road at Sha Kok Mei, Sai Kung
Construction of stream embankment at Tai Wan Tau, Hang Hau
Improvement to access road at Wong Keng Tei, Sai Kung
Construction of pavilion at Sha Kiu, Sai Kung
Construction of stairs and pavilion along morning trail at Yau Yue Wan, Hang Hau
Construction of village square at Ho Chung Village, Sai Kung
Reconstruction of village notice boards in Hang Hau Area (2003-04)
Reconstruction of van track at Ha Wai, Tai Mong Tsai, Sai Kung
Improvement to Hawaii trail from Tseng Lan Shue to Tseung Kwan O Village, Hang Hau
Construction of access road and car parks at Sha Kok Mei Village, Sai Kung
Restoration of existing footpath towards carving at Tung Lung Island, Hang Hau
Improvement to drainage channel at north of Sha Kok Mei Village, Sai Kung
Construction of pavilion at Mau Wu Tsai, Hang Hau
Reconstruction of footpath from Pak A to Tai She Wan, Sai Kung
Improvement to country trails in Sha Tin (2003-04)
Construction of storm water channel at Tin Liu, Pai Tau, Sha Tin
Improvement to drainage channel and access road at Ngau Pei Sha New Village, Sha Tin
Improvement to footpath and access road at Kak Tin Village, Sha Tin
Improvement to van track at Mui Tze Lam, Sha Tin
Improvement to footpath at Cheung Lek Mei Village, Sha Tin
Improvement to footpath from Fa Sam Hang Village to Mui Tsz Lam Village, Sha Tin
Improvement to footpath at Mau Tso Ngam Village, Sha Tin
Improvement to open space at Ha Keng Hau Village, Sha Tin
Improvement works to the Shatin Country Trail leading from Wong Chuk Yeung Village, Sha Tin
Reconstruction of footbridge at Pai Tau Village, Sha Tin
Construction of sitting-out area at San Hing Tsuen, Tuen Mun
Improvement to So Kwun Wat Road, Tuen Mun
Construction of box-culvert at Chan Uk Tsuen, So Kwun Wat
Improvement to Tong Hang Road, Siu Hang Tsuen, Tuen Mun
Improvement to footpath and drainage at Tai Lam Chung Village, Tuen Mun
Improvement to van track at Kei Lun Wai, Tuen Mun
Reconstruction of concrete paving and access road at Tin Fu Tsai, Tuen Mun
Improvement to Ka Yee Road, Tuen Tsz Wai
Improvement to footpath and drainage system at Tseng Tau Chung Tsuen, Tuen Mun
Reconstruction of footpath and drainage at Tuen Tsz Wai
Improvement to environmental hygiene at Tuen Mun District (2003-04)
Improvement to footpath at Yeung Siu Hang, Tuen Mun
Improvement to access road at Wong Uk Tsuen, Tai Lam Chung
Improvement to van track and footpath at Lung Kwu Tan
Improvement to stream course at Leung Tin Tsuen, Tuen Mun
Improvement to drainage system at San Hing Tsuen, Tuen Mun
Improvement to van track and footpath near DD378 at Siu Lam
Improvement to environmental hygiene at Tuen Mun District (2004-05)
Construction of van track and turning place at Yuen Tun Ha, Tai Po
Improvement to footpath and stream embankment at Shek Kwu Lung, Tai Po

Reconstruction of rainshelter at Tong Min Tsuen, Tai Po
Improvement to drainage system at Nam Wah Po, Tai Po
Construction of paving at Lam Tsuen San Tsuen, Tai Po
Construction of concrete paving at Tai Wo, Tai Po
Improvement to footbridge and footpath at Sha Po Tsai at Wun Yiu, Tai Po
Improvement to water supply system at Ta Tit Yan, Tai Po
Construction of a covered walkway between Tai Po Market KCR Station and Tai Po Market, Tai Po
Construction of rainshelter at Po Sam Pai, Tai Po
Improvement to footpath at Tai Po Kau near Tsung Yuen, Tai Po
Tree planting at Chui Lok Street, Tai Po Kau Hui
Improvement to footpath at Wai Tau Tsuen, Tai Po
Improvement to footbridge and footpath at She Shan, Lam Tsuen, Tai Po
Improvement to footpath at Kau Lung Hang, Tai Po
Improvement to footpath and drainage channel at Tai Po Tau, Tai Po
Improvement to playground at Nam Hang, Tai Po
Improvement to paving, steps, footpath, drainage channel and railing at Kam Shan, Tai Po
Improvement to paving, footpath, footbridge and railing at Ma Wo, Tai Po
Construction of rainshelter in front of Shuen Wan Village Office, Tai Po
Improvement to footpath near entrance of Ting Kok Village, Tai Po
Construction of footbridge at Shan Liu near Lot 685, Ting Kok, Tai Po
Construction of pavilion at Sai O, Sai Kung North, Tai Po
Reconstruction of rainshelter at Nai Chung, Sai Kung North, Tai Po
Reconstruction of basketball court at Sam Tung Uk, Tsuen Wan
Construction of drainage channel alongside footpath at Ha Fa Shan, Tsuen Wan
Reconstruction of footpath from Sham Tseng to Tsing Fai Tong Old Village (Tai Lam Country Park)
Reconstruction of basketball court at Lo Wai, Tsuen Wan
Construction of access road from Shek Pui Lung to Ma Tong, Chuen Lung, Tsuen Wan
Reconstruction of drainage channel at Lo Wai, Tsuen Wan
Construction of pavilion near Tai Pai Tsui Pier, Ma Wan
Construction of walkway and rainshelter between Lido Garden and Ma Wan Pier
Construction of lay-by at Chuen Lung, Tsuen Wan
Construction of 'Pai Lau' at Hoi Pa Village (Northeast Terrace), Tsuen Wan
Construction of paving at Chiu Tam Path, Tsuen Wan
Construction of footbridge at Chiu Tam Path, Tsuen Wan
Construction of a cross-road drain near lamp post VC0252 at Lung Yue Road, Tsing Lung Tau, Tsuen Wan
Reconstruction of access at Heung Shek, Chuen Lung, Tsuen Wan
Construction of drainage channel near Tuen Mun Road at Sham Tseng East Village, Tsuen Wan
Construction of "Pai Lau" at San Tsuen Village Expansion Area, Tsuen Wan
Installation of pipeline at Tso Wan, Tai Chuen and Yi Chuen, Tsuen Wan
Construction of rainshelter at Kwok Shui Road, Tsuen Wan
Construction of open channel and box culvert near public lavatory at Tsing Fai Tong New Village, Tsuen Wan
Construction of access road at Choi Yuen Tsuen (Upper Village), Tsing Lung Tau, Tsuen Wan
Reconstruction of footpath and drainage channel at Fu Yung Shan, Tsuen Wan
Construction of drainage channel near House No. 53 and 62 at Sheung Kwai Chung Village, Tsuen Wan
Construction of footpath and pavilion at Tsing Fai Tong New Village, Tsuen Wan
Improvement to footpath near burial ground at Tai Pai Tsui, Ma Wan
Improvement to footpath at Shui Tau Tsuen, Kam Tin
Improvement to footpath and drainage channel at Shui Pin Tsuen, Ping Shan
Improvement to paving at Wing Ning Tsuen, Ping Shan
Improvement to paving at Fung Chi Tsuen, Ping Shan
Construction of drainage channel at Tai Tseng, Ng Uk Tsuen, Ping Shan
Reconstruction of playground at Ha Wan, San Tin
Construction of rainshelter near Mai Po San Tsuen, San Tin

Construction of stream embankment and footbridge at Wong Nai Tun Tsuen, Shap Pat Heung
Improvement to stream courses and channels in San Tin Area (2003-04)
Improvement to stream courses and channels in Pat Heung Area (2003-04)
Improvement to stream courses and channels in Ping Shan Area (2003-04)
Reconstruction of van track at Shui Lau Tin Tsuen, Pat Heung
Improvement to drainage channel and footpath at Kam Tin San Tsuen, Kam Tin Area
Reconstruction of covered channel and footpath at Shan Ha Tsuen, Ping Shan
Construction of village compound at Fung Chi Tsuen, Ping Shan
Construction of footpath and drainage channel at Lau Fau Shan, Ha Tsuen
Construction of concrete paving and channels at Sha Chau Lai (near Home for the Aged), Ha Tsuen
Improvement to village lane and drainage channel at Shui Chiu San Tsuen, Shap Pat Heung
General village improvement at Lok Ma Chau Tsuen, San Tin
Grass-cutting and drainage improvement works at Ping Shan Area (2003-04)
Grass-cutting and drainage improvement works at Ha Tsuen Area (2003-04)
Grass cutting and drainage improvement works at Kam Tin Area (2003-04)
Grass-cutting and drainage improvement works at San Tin Area (2003-04)
Grass-cutting and drainage improvement works at Pat Heung Area (2003-04)
Reconstruction of drainage system and footpath at Sai Bin Wai, Shap Pat Heung
Improvement to stream courses and channels in Kam Tin Area (2004-05)
Improvement to stream courses and channels in Ha Tsuen Area (2004-05)
Improvement to stream courses and channels in Pat Heung Area (2004-05)
Improvement to drainage channel, footpath and paving at San Sang Tsuen, Ha Tsuen

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB075

Question Serial No.

0053

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6305 Territory Planning and Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The Home Affairs Department (HAD) will gauge the political and public relations implications of major infrastructure projects and development proposals on the community in the coming year. Will the HAD set up a task force to deal with the work? If so, what will be the number of staff involved and what is the total expenditure?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply :

It has all along been the responsibility of HAD to assess the effects that major infrastructure projects and development proposals may have on the community. Staff of HAD Headquarters and District Offices are involved as part of their normal duties. There is no need for a dedicated 'task force' to handle the work.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB076

Question Serial No.

0715

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Under Programme (2), it is stated that one of the targets is to receive a telephone enquiry made at the Central Telephone Enquiry Centre (CTEC) of the Home Affairs Department within 1 minute, discounting typhoon periods. What measures would the Administration take in 2004–05 to enhance the service by covering the typhoon periods so as to meet the practical need of the public ? What are the resources involved ?

Asked by : Hon. WU King-cheong, Henry

Reply :

During typhoon periods, the Department will increase the number of staff in CTEC from seven to ten aiming at maintaining our performance pledge to receive a telephone enquiry within one minute.

As the service is only required when situation warrants, the Department will meet the staffing requirement through internal re-deployment. No additional resources are required.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB077

Question Serial No.

0716

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

According to the performance indicators of Programme (2), there is a decrease in the estimated number of activities at district level held by District Fight Crime Committees over the actual figures in 2002 and 2003. What is the estimated amount of savings on resources owing to the decrease in fight crime activities? With less resources, how does the Government ensure that fight crime activities at district level can continue to effectively strengthen public education on fight crime message in the community?

Asked by : Hon.WU King-cheong, Henry

Reply :

- (a) The number of activities at district level held by District Fight Crime Committees in 2002 and 2003 were 352 and 355 respectively. The estimated number of activities for 2004 is 350, which is more or less the same as previous years. We do not anticipate savings in this area of work.
- (b) The 18 District Fight Crime Committees will continue to endeavor their efforts in promoting the fight against crime and in encouraging public participation at district level.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB078

Question Serial No.

0717

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

In promoting the development of local community economy, the Home Affairs Department plays the role of coordinator and solicits suggestions from the public. In the past year, how many suggestions did the Administration receive from the public? Which of the suggestions are regarded as feasible after assessment by the Administration? Will the Administration consider putting in resources to implement these suggestions? If so, what are the resources required?

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

In the context of Local Community Economy (LCE), the Home Affairs Department (HAD), amongst others, gathers ideas and suggestions from the community, District Councils (DCs) and the commercial sector, and assist them in implementing worthwhile LCE initiatives. In 2003, a total of about 30 LCE projects were implemented. Some examples of successful LCE projects include **Hong Kong Computer Festivals 2002 & 2003** (generating a total of about \$400 million sales volume), **Tsuen Wan Jewellery and Goldsmith Square** (sales volume has increased by 30%), **Food Street in Yuen Long** (resulting in a 5% to 30% increase in eateries business volume), **Dragon Bazaar** (with daily average pedestrian flow of 30 000 – 40 000), **Farm – Youth Culture & Entrepreneurship Corner Phase I** (net daily profit ranged from \$500 to \$1,000 per stall), etc.

The key objectives for promoting the development of local community economy (LCE) are to stimulate domestic consumption and promote district characteristics. In the context of LCE promotion, Government plays the role of a facilitator and provides facilitation measures such as suitably relaxing Government rules and regulations, enhancing co-ordination among departments, reasonably modifying land uses or allowing pilot projects on a temporary basis, providing infrastructural facilities and lending promotional and publicity support.

In the implementation of LCE projects, we look to the private sector to meet most of the investment. However, to enhance publicity, we have been promoting LCE with different media platforms and providing local residents and tourists with information on interesting places to go. In this regard, a total of \$4 million straddling the 2003-04 and 2004-05 financial years has been set aside. We hope that through the publicity programmes, not only local people but also Mainland tourists will be attracted to our LCE spots.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB079

Question Serial No.

0719

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6301 District Administration

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

1. One of the objectives of District Administration is to involve the public in the work of area committees, mutual aid committees and owners' corporations. Would the Administration please state the performance indicators for this area of work?
2. How many owners' corporations are expected to be set up with the assistance of the Administration in 2004-05 and what is the amount of expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

1. Our work in promoting public participation in area committees, mutual aid committees and owners' corporations in 2003 is as follows :

Area Committees

- The 73 area committees in the 18 districts held about 370 meetings and organised over 230 events (including festive activities, variety shows and outings) to promote a community spirit among local residents and organisations.

Mutual Aid Committees (MACs)

- Our staff paid a total of 16 725 visits to MACs to provide advice; to promote neighbourliness and mutual trust among the residents; and to improve their living environment.
- We provided a total of \$3.4 million to finance the operation of MACs.

Owners' Corporations (OCs)

- Our staff paid a total of 29 557 visits to OCs to brief them on best practices of building management and provide advice on their operation.
- We organised a total of 495 educational and publicity activities on building management (including workshops, training courses and seminars).

To further improve our services on building management, we also conducted regular questionnaire surveys to obtain the feedback of OCs on our services.

2. The management responsibility of private building rests squarely with their owners. Our policy is to encourage and assist owners to form OCs to facilitate effective management of their buildings.

As at the end of 2003, over 14 000 buildings in Hong Kong have established OCs. In addition, about 17 000 buildings have formed various residents' organisations or have engaged management companies to manage their buildings.

The number of newly-formed OCs in 2003 is 294. In 2004-05, we will continue to encourage and assist property owners of buildings that lack proper management to form OCs. Although there are difficulties in the formation of OCs for these buildings, our Building Management Liaison Teams in the 18 districts will try their best to offer assistance and support.

In 2004-05, the estimated provision for organising educational and publicity activities to promote good building management and encourage owners to form OCs is about \$1 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title _____ Director of Home Affairs

Date _____ 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB080

Question Serial No.

0720

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6301 District Administration

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Compared with the revised Estimates for 2003-04, there is a decrease of \$19.3 million provision under this programme in the draft Estimates for 2004-05. One of the major reasons is the deletion of 18 posts. Will the deletion of these posts affect support services for District Councils?

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

We intend to delete 18 posts in the District Administration programme area in 2004-05. All the 18 posts will be deleted under the Second Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

While these 18 posts are grouped under the District Administration programme area, they are clerical and secretarial grades staff providing support in a wide range of programme areas within Home Affairs Department. None of the Executive Officer grade posts in the District Council Secretariats will be affected. The deletion of the 18 posts is therefore not expected to affect support services for the District Councils in any significant way.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB081

Question Serial No.

1131

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6304 Licensing

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

- (a) How many hostel places are provided under the Singleton Hostel Programme? How many people aged under 60 were admitted to these hostels in 2003?
- (b) In the past, part of the day-to-day operating expenses of these hostels were met by rental incomes from lodgers and the allocated subsidies from the General Chinese Charities Fund. In this connection, how much in general did a lodger pay for the rent? What was the amount of subsidies allocated from the General Chinese Charities Fund? How much did the Government pay actually?

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

- (a) There are now a total of 28 singleton hostels under Singleton Hostel Programme, of which 26 are small/medium-size hostels converted from private tenements in the urban areas managed by the Agency for Volunteer Service (AVS) and two are large-size purpose-built hostels managed by the Salvation Army (SA) and the Neighbourhood Advice-Action Council (NAAC) respectively. At present, the hostels have a maximum intake capacity of 878 places. In 2003, 1 291 persons aged under 60 were admitted to these hostels throughout the year.
- (b) The day-to-day operating expenses of these hostels are financed through rental income from lodgers, supplemented where necessary with subsidies from the General Chinese Charities Fund. For the small/medium size hostels managed by AVS, the monthly rental is \$430 per person. For the hostel run by SA, the monthly rental ranges from \$900 to \$1,260 per person. As regards the hostel managed by NAAC, the monthly rental is between \$700 and \$1,100 per person. The Chinese Temples Committee approved an allocation of \$2.6 million to subsidize the operational expenditure of the hostels run by these three NGOs in 2003-04. The Government has not provided any funding for the management of these singleton hostels in 2003-04.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB082

Question Serial No.

1132

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6304 Licensing

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

In 2003, 7 484 inspections were made on hotels, guesthouses, clubs, etc. Please give a breakdown of the figures on inspections on hotels and guesthouses, clubs, bedspace apartments and karaoke establishments by licence or certificate categories. What is the estimated number of inspections in 2004-05?

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

A breakdown of the number of inspections in 2003 is as follows:

Hotel and guesthouse licence : 4 451

Club certificate of compliance : 2 507

Bedspace apartment licence : 459

Karaoke establishment permit/licence : 67

The number of inspections in 2004-05 is estimated to be around 8 200. The anticipated increase in the number of inspections is mainly due to the need to issue licences to existing karaoke establishments under the Karaoke Establishments Ordinance (Cap. 573). The Ordinance was enacted on 8.1.2003 with a 12-month grace period allowing existing karaoke establishments to continue operation without a licence.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB083

Question Serial No.

1134

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

How does the Administration monitor and assess the services provided for new arrivals from the Mainland? What is the manpower (including the number of staff and their ranks) involved? Based on the assessment and monitoring work, what improvements have been made to these services to meet the needs of new arrivals? Has any review been conducted to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of existing services? What are the new initiatives for the coming year?

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

There is an established set-up for co-ordinating and monitoring services for new arrivals both centrally and in the 18 districts –

- (a) At the central level, the Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (PSHA) chairs a Steering Committee on New Arrival Services (Steering Committee), comprising representatives of relevant Government bureaux and departments (including Social Welfare Department, Labour Department and Education and Manpower Bureau), to enhance liaison and co-ordination among Government departments and to oversee the delivery of services provided by these departments;
- (b) PSHA also chairs a quarterly Round-table Meeting with 30 major non-governmental organisations (NGOs) involved in the provision of services for new arrivals to review the effectiveness of these services and discuss issues concerning new arrivals; and
- (c) at the district level, District Officers chair District Co-ordinating Committees on New Arrival Services, comprising representatives of departments concerned and NGOs, to perform at the district level the same functions as those of the Steering Committee and Round-table Meeting mentioned above.

At Home Affairs Department headquarters, four staff are designated to co-ordinate and monitor services for new arrivals. They include an Assistant Director, an Administrative Officer, an Administrative Executive and a Statistical Officer II. The Administrative Executive and the Statistical Officer work full-time on the subject whereas the Assistant Director and the Administrative Officer dedicate respectively about 15% and 75% of their time towards the subject. All District Officers are personally involved in co-ordinating and monitoring services at district level, but there is no standard manning scale in the establishment at lower levels as the situation of Mainland new arrivals varies from district to district. .

A thematic household survey was conducted from late 2002 to mid-2003 to assess the needs of new arrivals from the Mainland during their first three years of stay in Hong Kong. The survey has helped to establish the demographic and socio-economic profile and specific needs of these new arrivals. The various bureaux and departments responsible for the planning and provision of various services will take into account these findings in planning and improving services and facilities in their respective areas. Home Affairs Department will continue to closely monitor various services to ensure that the needs of new arrivals from the Mainland are met.

In 2003-04, both the Administration and NGOs have adopted a customer-oriented approach by publishing information in simplified Chinese characters and broadcasting radio APIs in Putonghua as far as possible for the benefit of new arrivals. Home Affairs Department is considering carrying out the above-mentioned survey on a regular basis for the purpose of improving the provision of services to new arrivals.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title _____ Director of Home Affairs

Date _____ 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB084

Question Serial No.

1135

Head : 63 – Home Affairs
Department

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

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding this Subhead, please provide :

- (a) the titles and objectives of the research projects being conducted under Item 016 “Project on conducting research for policy formulation”.
- (b) the objectives and expected number of participants for the projects under Item 020 “Community Building Project and Positive Life Project”.

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

- (a) The expenditure involved in Item 016 “Project on conducting research for policy formulation” is to provide for employing contract staff for the Research Team responsible for planning, coordination and conduct of researches on a wide range of policy areas under the portfolio of Home Affairs Bureau, including arts, culture, sports, recreation, youth development and other subjects of public interest.

The Research Team, headed by a Research Director and two research personnel, is to conduct literature research and analysis on international experience regarding policies and practices. It also provides technical advice and support to the Opinion Survey Unit of Home Affairs Bureau.

- (b) To relieve the impact of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) on unemployment, a number of measures, including the Community Building Project and Positive Life Project, have been introduced in 2003-04.

The purpose of the Community Building Project is to organise community building activities aimed at increasing the public's knowledge of their community; enhancing their sense of belonging; and fostering the spirit of neighbourliness. The project commenced in August 2003 with 500 job openings. Provision in 2004-05 is required to pay the salary of some 150 staff whose contracts straddle 2004-05 financial year.

The Positive Life Project is to promote a positive outlook on life and call on the public to unite and work together for the betterment of the community. The project has been completed in 2003-04 providing 1 000 job openings.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title _____ Director of Home Affairs

Date _____ 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB085

Question Serial No.

1136

Head : 63 – Home Affairs
Department

Subhead (No. & title): 661 Minor plant,
vehicles and equipment (block vote)

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The increased estimate of \$3,040,000 under this subhead is mainly due to the increase in costs for installing closed circuit televisions at selected hygiene blackspots in districts. Please list the locations of such hygiene blackspots. How will the Government make the best use of these closed circuit televisions?

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

The Team Clean Report recommended the installation of closed circuit televisions (CCTV) at blackspots to tackle persistent and recurring environmental problems which cannot be resolved despite regular intensive clean-up efforts by the Government. The CCTV could serve both monitoring and deterrent purposes. The District Councils (DCs) and relevant district committees will select the sites. On a pilot basis, five projects were launched in Yuen Long, Yau Tsim Mong, Sham Shui Po, Kowloon City and Eastern in the latter half of 2003-04. DCs have been fully consulted beforehand.

The increased estimate of \$3,040,000 under this subhead is mainly due to the increase in provision for installing closed circuit televisions at selected hygiene blackspots in districts. We are currently conducting a review of the pilot schemes to assess the overall effectiveness of the scheme and suggest improvement measures where appropriate. Subject to the outcome of the review, we will work out the way forward. Should additional CCTVs be recommended to be installed, the views of DCs will be consulted.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title _____ Director of Home Affairs

Date _____ 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB086

Question Serial No.

1137

Head : 63 – Home Affairs
Department

Subhead (No. & title):
000 Operational Expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

In the 2004-05 draft Estimates, the provision for subvention to district sports and arts associations is \$3,515,000. This is \$119,000 less than the revised estimates for 2003-04.

1. Please explain the decrease.
2. How many district sports and arts organisations receive the subsidy? What is the average amount of subsidy received?
3. Briefly explain the eligibility criteria and application procedures for the subsidy.

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

1. To address the problem of budget deficits, Government is committed to controlling public expenditure strictly and reducing its operating expenditure to \$200 billion and restoring fiscal balance by 2008-09. To achieve this, all bureaux and departments, including the Home Affairs Department, are required to deliver savings over the next few years. Accordingly, cuts have to be made in allocations on all fronts, including the subsidy to district sports and arts associations.
2. In 2003-04, a total of 39 district arts and sports organisations received the subsidy under the Community Sports Subvention and the Community Arts Subvention Schemes. The two schemes are aimed at giving support to leading district arts and sports associations in each district to enhance their ability to promote sports and arts activities. On average, each organisation received about \$93,000.

3. The general guiding principle is that the leading district sports association (DSA) and district arts association (DAA) in each district are eligible for funding under the Community Sports Subvention Scheme and the Community Arts Subvention Scheme respectively. These DSAs and DAAs may make an application for subvention before the start of each financial year to the relevant District Office, setting out the estimated expenditure items and the amount of subvention required.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB087

Question Serial No.

1138

Head : 63 – Home Affairs
Department

Subhead (No. & title):
000 Operational Expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The provision for the honorarium for committee members is \$215 million in the 2004-05 draft Estimates. Please provide the names of the committees whose members are eligible for the honorarium, and the level of honorarium for eligible committee members (to be broken down by committees).

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

The provision of \$215 million in the 2004-05 draft Estimates for committee members caters entirely for the honorarium and Operating Expenses Allowance (OEA) for the 529 members of the 18 District Councils. The level of honorarium for District Council members is set out below –

(a) <u>Single membership</u> ^{Note 1}		<u>Monthly honorarium rate</u>
		(\$)
(i)	DC Chairman	33,380
(ii)	DC Vice Chairman	25,040
(iii)	DC member	16,690
(b) <u>Multiple membership</u> ^{Note 2}		
(i)	DC Chairman	27,820
(ii)	DC Vice Chairman	19,480
(iii)	DC member	11,130

Note

- (1) Single membership refers to those members who are holding office as a DC Chairman, Vice Chairman or member only.
- (2) Multiple membership refers to those DC Chairmen, Vice Chairmen or members who are holding office in the Executive Council and/or Legislative Council as well.

A DC member is also eligible to claim an OEA of up to \$192,120 a year on an accountable and reimbursement basis.

DC members who are also members of the Executive Council or Legislative Council will be eligible to claim up to the full amount of OEA if they employ more than one assistant or operate a separate ward office in the district solely for DC duties. If they employ an assistant or operate one office in the district for duties relating to their multiple membership, they will only be eligible for up to two-thirds of the full amount of OEA (i.e. \$128,080 per year), provided that the expenses claimed have not already been met from allowances claimed in their other capacities.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB088

Question Serial No.

1139

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6305 Territory Planning and Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The Home Affairs Department will gauge the political and public relations implications of major infrastructure projects and development proposals on the community during 2004-05. What are the methods of assessment? What is the amount of expenditure involved? Please also give a brief account of the assessments made in the past year and the results obtained.

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

It has all along been the responsibility of the Home Affairs Department (HAD) to assess the effects that major infrastructure projects and development proposals may have on the community. Staff of HAD Headquarters and District Offices (DOs) are involved as part of their normal duties. Based on DOs' knowledge of the district and comments collected from the locals, they assess the effects major infrastructure projects and development projects may have on the community. The views and assessments are then co-ordinated at HAD Headquarters and conveyed to the relevant bureaux and departments for consideration. HAD also participates in a wide range of boards and committees overseeing the planning and development of proposals to ensure that local views and sentiments are taken into account.

In 2003, HAD examined over 1 400 projects/proposals. The total estimated expenditure on this programme of work for 2004-05 is \$18.4 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB089

Question Serial No.

0774

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6301 District Administration

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please provide details of the provision for District Councils in the 2004-05 Estimates. How much has the amount increased compared with the 2003-04 revised Estimates?

Asked by : Hon. LI Ka-cheung, Eric

Reply :

The overall provision for District Councils in the 2004-05 Estimates is \$404.2 million, as compared with \$421.4 million in the revised Estimates for 2003-04. This represents a decrease of 4.1%. A detailed breakdown is as follows -

	2003-04 Revised Estimates	2004-05 Draft Estimates
Honorarium, Operating Expenses Allowance and Information Technology and Other Support Grant for DC members	\$216.8 million	\$216.2 million
Community Involvement and Minor Environmental Improvement projects	\$204.6 million	\$188 million
Total	\$421.4 million	\$404.2 million

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB090

Question Serial No.

0828

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6303 Local Environmental Improvements

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

While the estimated expenditure for Rural Public Works (RPW) projects is \$141 million, the estimated expenditure in 2004-05 for the RPW programme under subhead 7014CX of the Fund Accounts is only \$130 million. What is the actual estimate for the RPW programme in the coming year?

Asked by : Hon. TANG Siu-tong

Reply :

The two quoted figures cover two different time frames in accordance with the established practice. The figure of \$141 million which appears under GRA Head 63 represents the estimated expenditure for the **calendar year** 2004 (in line with other GRA Heads of Expenditure); whereas \$130 million which appears under CWRP Head 707 is for the **financial year** 2004-05 (in line with other CWRP Heads of Expenditure).

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB091

Question Serial No.

0829

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

What was the processing time for rates exemption applications in 2002 and 2003?

Asked by : Hon. TANG Siu-tong

Reply :

In 2002 and 2003, the average time taken for processing a rates exemption application is around 9 months including the time needed for additional information from applicants whose applications were incomplete. The whole process involved the District Offices of Home Affairs Department (HAD) to authenticate the identity of the Village Representative who had to certify the status of the applicants, the Rating and Valuation Department (RVD) to check whether the concerned village house met the prescribed building specifications, the HAD headquarters to vet the applications, to seek supplementary information and evidence from the applicants and concerned government departments in order to ascertain the applicant's eligibility for rates exemption and, where necessary, the District Lands Offices (DLOs) of the Lands Department to check irregularities that might be detected by RVD.

For houses with irregularities, such as unauthorized building works and development/redevelopment without approval, HAD would advise the applicants to rectify the irregularities so as to be eligible for rates exemption. DLOs had to conduct site inspections again and it is only when the irregularities had been rectified to their satisfaction that approval could be granted. The processing time for these problematic cases could take up to 2 years.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB092

Question Serial No.

0830

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please list the ten community centres/community halls whose multi-purpose halls have the lowest usage rates in 2002 and 2003 and state their actual usage rates in those years. How does the Home Affairs Department boost the usage rates of multi-purpose halls in order to fully utilize community resources?

Asked by : Hon. TANG Siu-tong

Reply :

At present Home Affairs Department (HAD) manages a total of 76 community halls. Lists of the ten community halls with the lowest usage rates in 2002 and 2003 are attached.

Whilst the overall usage rate of the 76 community halls in 2003 is 70%, we will continue to promote and encourage the use of community hall facilities through district organizations. Additionally, to increase public awareness, we have posted digital location maps of individual community halls on HAD Main Website since November 2003.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

List of Community Centres/Community Halls with Lowest Usage Rates in 2002

	Name of Community Centre (CC)/Community Hall (CH)	District	Usage Rate in 2002
1.	Sha Tau Kok CH	North	25.9%
2.	Ta Kwu Ling CH	North	32.4%
3.	Western District CC	Central & Western	38.3%
4.	South Horizons Neighbourhood CC	Southern	43.7%
5.	Leighton Hill CH	Wan Chai	43.7%
6.	Sai Ying Pun CH	Central & Western	44.2%
7.	Lei Tung CH	Southern	46.7%
8.	Kwun Tong CC	Kwun Tong	52.2%
9.	Wah Kwai CC	Southern	52.8%
10.	Sau Mau Ping (Central) Estate CC	Kwun Tong	55.3%

List of Community Centres/Community Halls with Lowest Usage Rates in 2003

	Name of Community Centre (CC)/Community Hall (CH)	District	Usage Rate in 2003
1.	Sha Tau Kok CH	North	22.8%
2.	Ta Kwu Ling CH	North	25.0%
3.	Western District CC	Central & Western	34.2%
4.	Luen Wo Hui CH	North	43.7%
5.	Sai Ying Pun CH	Central & Western	47.1%
6.	Leighton Hill CH	Wan Chai	50.0%
7.	Lei Tung CH	Southern	52.9%
8.	South Horizons Neighbourhood CC	Southern	53.1%
9.	Ap Lei Chau CH	Southern	53.4%
10.	Lei Muk Shue CH	Tsuen Wan	56.4%

Note : The usage rate of individual community halls was affected by the cancellation of activities during the SARS period (April and May 2003).

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB093

Question Serial No.

0922

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

What are the main reasons for the decrease in the provision for community building by 14.8% in 2004-05 as compared with last year?

Asked by : Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply :

Compared to 2003-04, there is a reduction of 14.8% in 2004-05 allocation for community building mainly because of the completion of the following projects -

- (a) Community Building Project and Positive Life Project;
- (b) Initiatives for Wider Economic Participation Programme; and
- (c) 2003 Village Representative Elections.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB094

Question Serial No.

0923

Head : 63 – Home Affairs
Department

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

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding Subhead 700, would the Government please inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) Why is there a substantial difference of over \$50 million between the revised estimate and approved estimate for General non-recurrent expenditure in 2003-04?
- (b) Why is there a significant decrease in the estimate for General non-recurrent expenditure in 2004-05 when compared to those in 2003-04 and 2002-03?

Asked by : Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply :

- (a) Approved estimates reflect the cashflow requirements of projects approved before the cut-off date, i.e. 13 December 2002, in the estimates year. For new projects approved during the year, the additional cashflow requirements will be captured and reflected in the revised estimates. There was an increase of about \$53 million in allocation of General non-recurrent expenditure under Subhead 700 in the revised estimates 2003-04 over the approved estimates of the same year because of the need to spend a total of \$43.5 million for the Community Building Project and Positive Life Project and \$9.8 million for the 2003 Village Representative Election, which were not included in the approved estimates of 2003-04.
- (b) There is a reduction in General non-recurrent expenditure under Subhead 700 in the 2004-05 estimates as compared to its actual expenditure of 2002-03 and 2003-04 by about \$19 million and \$54 million respectively mainly because of the completion of the following projects –

In 2002-03	Million
● Delineation of Village Boundaries for Elections	\$9.4
● District celebration activities for the 5 th anniversary of the HKSAR establishment	\$9.6

In 2003-04	
● Community Building and Positive Life Projects	\$43.5
● Village Representative Elections	\$9.8

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB095

Question Serial No.

1237

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6301 District Administration

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please provide details on the work of reflecting public opinion and related expenditure in 2003-04 and 2004-05.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

Under the District Administration Scheme, Home Affairs Department has established a territory-wide community liaison network through the 18 District Offices involving different sectors of the community. This network comprises a large number of district-based committees (such as area committees, district fight crime committees and district fire safety committees), residents' associations (such as mutual aid committees and owners' corporations) and local organisations as well as individuals from a wide spectrum of the community.

We consult these organisations and individuals on the work of Government at district level and also solicit their views on new Government policies and projects. We will reflect promptly any views collected to relevant bureaux and departments for follow-up action and future reference.

In the new financial year, we will further strengthen the monitoring of public opinion through focus group discussions to canvass considered views on proposed policies and initiatives and get a better grasp of public aspirations on specific issues. District Offices will also further enhance their existing formal and informal channels of communication with the community and expand the existing district-based network to reach out to more people from different backgrounds to get a better understanding of their views and aspirations.

Collecting and reflecting public opinion is an integral part of Home Affairs Department's work. It will not be possible to isolate and work out the expenditure on this aspect of our work.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB096

Question Serial No.

1238

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please give details of the work of the Home Affairs Department on promoting the development of local community economy in 2003-04 and 2004-05, and the expenditures involved.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The key objectives for promoting the development of local community economy (LCE) are to stimulate domestic consumption and promote district characteristics. In the context of LCE promotion, Government plays the role of a facilitator and provides facilitation measures such as suitably relaxing Government rules and regulations, enhancing co-ordination among departments, reasonably modifying land uses, providing infrastructural facilities, lending promotional and publicity support, and allowing pilot projects on a temporary basis.

In the implementation of LCE Projects, we look to the private sector to meet most of the investment. However, to enhance publicity, we have been promoting LCE with different media platforms and providing local residents and tourists with information on interesting places to go. In this regard, a total of \$ 4 million straddling the 2003-04 and 2004-05 financial years has been set aside. We hope that through the publicity programmes, not only local people but also Mainland tourists will be attracted to our LCE spots.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB097

Question Serial No.

1239

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please provide details of the services provided to new arrivals and the work done to evaluate the effectiveness of these services, as well as the estimates of related expenditure in the 2003-04 and 2004-05 Estimates.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

Services for new arrivals are primarily provided by non-governmental organisations and a number of key Government departments, including Social Welfare Department, Labour Department and Education and Manpower Bureau. The principal role of Home Affairs Department is to co-ordinate and monitor these services and to help promote the integration of new arrivals into the community.

Major services provided to new arrivals by non-governmental organisations and departments concerned include –

- (a) welfare services, including counseling, child care, tangible assistance, referral and various support services such as orientation, parent education, employment guidance, language classes and job-related training courses;
- (b) employment services, including two Employment and Guidance Centres set up by the Labour Department specially for new arrivals; and
- (c) special education programmes, including a 60-hour induction programme to help newly arrived children from the Mainland to adapt to the local environment and education system and a full-time six month initiation programme for newly arrived children to help enhance their language skills and foster their personal and social development before they join the mainstream schools.

To enhance our efforts in evaluating the effectiveness of these services, the Home Affairs Department conducted a thematic household survey from late 2002 to mid-2003 to assess the needs of new arrivals from the Mainland during their first three years of stay in Hong Kong. The survey has helped to establish the demographic and socio-economic profile and specific needs of these new arrivals. The various bureaux and departments responsible for the planning and provision of various services will take into account these findings in planning and improving services and facilities in their respective areas. Home Affairs Department will continue to closely monitor the services to ensure that the needs of new arrivals from the Mainland are met.

To help promote the integration of new arrivals into the community, Home Affairs Department has been organising an annual community education programme since 2001. The Department has also published an annual handbook since 1996 to provide the latest information on Hong Kong and services provided for new arrivals. The estimates of expenditure on the community education programme and the service handbook in 2003-04 and 2004-05 are as follows –

	<u>Estimates for 2003-04</u>	<u>Estimates for 2004-05</u>
Community Education Programme on New Arrivals	\$270,000	\$270,000
Service Handbook for New Arrivals	\$610,000	\$630,000
Total	\$880,000	\$900,000

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB098

Question Serial No.

1240

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please set out the community involvement projects funded by District Councils and the related expenditure in 2003-04.

Asked by : Hon. Chan Yuen-han

Reply :

Details of the community involvement projects funded by the 18 District Councils and the total expenditure on the projects in 2003- 04 are set out as follows -

Category		Total Expenditure (million)
1.	Promotion of community health and environmental hygiene	\$13.9
2.	Promotion of district-based arts, cultural, sports and recreational activities	\$32.4
3.	Community involvement activities organized by Mutual Aid Committees, Owners' Committees and Kaifong Welfare Associations, etc.	\$26.5
4.	Community involvement activities organized by District committees such as District Fight Crime Committees, District Fire Safety Committees and District Civic Education Committees	\$10.3

5.	Celebration and festive events such as District Festivals, National Day Celebrations and Lunar New Year Celebrations	\$30.7
6.	Other community involvement activities such as promotional activities on Tourism, Local Community Economy, New Arrivals, Family Education, Road Safety and the Work of District Councils	\$39.5
		\$153.3

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB099

Question Serial No.

1241

Head : 63 – Home Affairs
Department

Subhead (No. & title):
000 Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The Home Affairs Department will delete 54 non-directorate posts in 2004-05. Please give details of the duties and salaries of the posts deleted. How much savings can be achieved?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

During 2004-05, the Home Affairs Department will delete a total of 56 non-directorate posts and create two posts arising from the transfer of staff from the Information Technology Services Department, resulting in a net reduction of 54 posts. Amongst these 56 posts, 52 posts are to be deleted under the Second Voluntary Retirement scheme. The 56 posts come from various divisions of the Department, including clerical, secretarial, Housing Officer, Inspector of Works and Liaison Officer grades. Most of them are responsible for matters relating to district administration, community building and local environmental improvements.

In terms of salaries, three posts are in the upper band with a monthly salary between \$46,690 and \$85,765; 50 posts are in the middle band with a monthly salary between \$14,800 and \$45,375 and the remaining three posts are in the lower band with a monthly salary between \$7,900 and \$13,908.

The deletion of posts will be effected at different times within 2004-05. The annual savings for the subsequent years amount to \$14 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title _____ Director of Home Affairs

Date _____ 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB100

Question Serial No.

1242

Head : 63 – Home Affairs
Department

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

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding Item 016 “Project on conducting research for policy formulation”, please give a detailed breakdown of the expenditure involved in 2003-04 and the estimated expenditure for 2004-05. What are the respective areas of study?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The expenditure involved in Item 016 “Project on conducting research for policy formulation” is to provide for employing contract staff for the Research Team responsible for planning, coordination and conduct of researches on a wide range of policy areas under the portfolio of Home Affairs Bureau, including arts, culture, sports, recreation, youth development and other subjects of public interest.

The Research Team, headed by a Research Director and two research personnel, is to conduct literature research and analysis on international experience regarding policies and practices. It also provides technical advice and support to the Opinion Survey Unit of Home Affairs Bureau. The total staff cost incurred in 2003-04 is \$1.8 million and the estimated expenditure for 2004-05 is \$2.2 million, which includes salaries and gratuity for the contract employments.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title _____ Director of Home Affairs

Date _____ 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB101

Question Serial No.

1361

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6305 Territory Planning and Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The Administration has indicated that it will gauge the political and public relations implications of major infrastructure projects and development proposals on the community and ensure that the planning of major infrastructure projects takes account of local views and sentiments. How will the above target be achieved? What is the expenditure involved? What methods will be employed to gauge public views and sentiments?

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

It has all along been the responsibility of the Home Affairs Department (HAD) to assess the effects that major infrastructure projects and development proposals may have on the community. Staff of HAD Headquarters and District Offices (DOs) are involved as part of their normal duties. Based on DOs' knowledge of the district and comments collected from the locals, they assess the effects major infrastructure projects and development projects may have on the community. The views and assessments are then co-ordinated at HAD Headquarters and conveyed to the relevant bureaux and departments for consideration. HAD also participates in a wide range of boards and committees overseeing the planning and development of proposals to ensure that local views and sentiments are taken into account.

The total estimated expenditure on this programme of work for 2004-05 is \$18.4 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB102

Question Serial No.

1362

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

What measures will be taken by the Administration to promote the development of local community economy (LCE) in 2004-05? Please list the LCE projects to be implemented in 2004-05. Please also give details of the projects and state the amounts of expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. EU Yuet-mee, Audrey

Reply :

The key objectives for promoting the development of local community economy (LCE) are to stimulate domestic consumption and promote district characteristics. In the context of LCE promotion, Government plays the role of a facilitator and provides facilitation measures such as suitably relaxing Government rules and regulations, enhancing co-ordination among departments, reasonably modifying land uses or allowing pilot projects on a temporary basis, providing infrastructural facilities and lending promotional and publicity support.

In the coming year, we will continue our efforts to promote the development of LCE and to assume the role of a facilitator. A variety of new LCE initiatives are in the pipeline or under planning. Examples include Aberdeen Dining on Sampan, Fun and Leisure in Sai Kung, Hong Kong Computer and Communication Festival 2004, Beautification of Sheung Wan and Eating in Yuen Long etc. There are also others still under discussion by various District Councils.

In the implementation of LCE projects, we look to the private sector to meet most of the investment. However, to enhance publicity, we have been promoting LCE with different media platforms and providing local residents and tourists with information on interesting places to go. In this regard, a total of \$4 million straddling the 2003-04 and 2004-05 financial years has been set aside. We hope that through the publicity programmes, not only local people but also Mainland tourists will be attracted to our LCE spots.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB103

Question Serial No.

1554

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

“Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2004-05” under this programme of the work of the Home Affairs Department include promotion of “effective building management”. Please state:

- (a) whether the Consultation Paper on Proposed Amendments to the Building Management Ordinance published in the middle of last year is the work under the above programme. If not, which part of the estimates has reflected and referred to such work? What follow-up actions will be taken in 2004-05?
- (b) Section 28 of the Building Management Ordinance (Chapter 344) as amended by the Building Management (Amendment) Ordinance 2000 requires the owners' corporation of a building to take out third party insurance for the building, otherwise it shall be liable on conviction to a fine at level 5. As the legislation has not come into effect since its enactment four years ago, will there be any follow-up actions in 2004-05 under the above programme? If so, which part of the estimates has reflected and referred to such actions?

Asked by : Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply :

- (a) The Home Affairs Department (HAD) conducted extensive public consultations from May to July 2003 to seek the views of the public on the proposed amendments to the Building Management Ordinance (Cap. 344). The proposals are aimed at assisting owners' corporations in the performance of their duties, rationalising the appointment procedures of a management committee and offering better protection for property owners. The proposed amendments also seek to give effect to the various proposals generally agreed at the Subcommittee on Review of the BMO (Subcommittee) formed under the Legislative Council Panel on Home Affairs. At the present stage, we are working closely with the Subcommittee, Department of Justice and other relevant government departments to consider the comments received and additional amendment proposals to facilitate the drafting of an amendment bill. We aim at introducing the amendment bill into the Legislative Council in the 2004-05 legislative session.

- (b) The Building Management (Amendment) Ordinance 2000 introduced a new section in the BMO to compulsorily require that an owners' corporation of a building shall procure and keep in force in relation to the building a third-party risk insurance policy. In the event of contravention, every member of the management committee shall be guilty of an offence, which on conviction carries a fine at Level 5 (maximum \$50,000), unless he proves that the defence provisions in the Ordinance apply to him/her. To implement this requirement, the Chief Executive in Council has to make the relevant Regulation to set out the scope of coverage of the policy, the minimum level of indemnity, qualifications of insurers, etc.

Since the enactment of the Amendment Ordinance, the Administration has been examining how to give effect to the relevant provision in consultation with the industry. We have been actively discussing with the Hong Kong Federation of Insurers the implementation details. A draft Regulation, incorporating the Federation's comments, was passed to the Federation in August 2003. In the context of the review of the BMO, we also note that amendments will need to be made to the provision on mandatory third-party risk insurance in the principal legislation. We propose to include these amendments in the composite bill referred to in (a) above. Meanwhile, we have written to all owners' corporations, owners' committees and residents' associations to remind them of the importance of procuring third-party risk insurance.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title _____ Director of Home Affairs

Date _____ 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB104

Question Serial No.

1682

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Despite the Ombudsman's comment at the end of last year that the Home Affairs Department should not reduce its manpower support for building management and owners' corporations, the Department still plans to delete 24 posts and reduce the expenditure by 14.8% in 2004-05. Please give the reasons and rationale for the reduction in manpower and provision. How will this affect the work under Programme (2), in particular the support for building management and owners' corporations?

Asked by : Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply :

In view of the budget deficits, Home Affairs Department, like other government bureaux and departments, would have to implement measures to re-engineer, re-prioritize and re-organize, and to make the best use of resources available to maintain the quality of service.

In 2004-05, there will be a reduction in financial provision of 14.8% and a deletion of 24 posts under the Community Building Programme. Such reduction will be shared among the various sub-programmes under Community Building and is not confined to building management. Moreover, there will be a redistribution of duties amongst existing staff to meet operational requirements. All Liaison Officers (including new contract staff) have to undergo the basic, advanced and on-the-job training on building management to ensure that they are qualified to provide the service to the public. We will ensure that our service on building management is not affected.

Furthermore, we will solicit more support from professional organizations to provide advice and assistance to property owners and owners' corporations. Apart from arranging appointments with the professionals at our Building Management Resource Centres, we have recently started a scheme whereby the professionals will attend the owners' meetings to provide professional advice. We will work towards identifying and inviting more suitable professionals to join the scheme.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title _____ Director of Home Affairs

Date _____ 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

HAB105

Question Serial No.

1619

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Subhead (No. & title):
 Department

Programme : 6305 Territory Planning and Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

1. Since the interpretation of Articles 22(4) and 24(2)(3) of the Basic Law by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress in 1999, what is the number of one-way permit holders from the Mainland? Please provide a breakdown of the statistics by age, sex and marital status from 1 July 1999 to 31 December 2003.
2. How does the Administration plan for the provision of education, housing, welfare and medical services for these one-way permit holders from the Mainland settling in Hong Kong?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

1. A breakdown of the statistics on one-way permit holders from the Mainland who have settled in Hong Kong from 1 July 1999 to 31 December 2003 is as follows –

(a) by age and sex

		1999 (Jul – Dec)		2000		2001		2002		2003	
Number of One-way Permit Holders		54 625		57 530		53 655		45 234		53 507	
Age	Sex	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0–4	Male	1 373	4.8	3 699	6.4	4 859	9.1	3 994	8.8	3 437	6.4
	Female	1 459	5.1	3 352	5.8	4 276	8.0	3 829	8.5	3 273	6.1
5–14	Male	3 231	11.3	6 224	10.8	4 196	7.8	3 258	7.2	4 096	7.7
	Female	3 471	12.1	6 349	11.0	4 245	7.9	3 208	7.1	4 061	7.6
15–24	Male	1 186	4.1	1 698	3.0	1 191	2.2	1 472	3.3	1 551	2.9
	Female	1 248	4.4	1 799	3.1	1 233	2.3	1 824	4.0	1 728	3.2
25–34	Male	1 516	5.3	3 000	5.2	3 946	7.4	1 906	4.2	1 600	3.0
	Female	7 348	25.7	14 169	24.6	15 449	28.8	14 141	31.3	19 237	36.0
35–44	Male	864	3.0	1 501	2.6	3 219	6.0	1 764	3.9	1 682	3.1
	Female	4 790	16.7	7 527	13.1	7 030	13.1	6 000	13.3	8 425	15.7

45-54	Male	263	0.9	623	1.1	511	1.0	462	1.0	604	1.1
	Female	941	3.3	2 436	4.2	1 202	2.2	1 323	2.9	1 780	3.3
55-64	Male	68	0.2	330	0.6	346	0.6	271	0.6	253	0.5
	Female	351	1.2	2 326	4.0	924	1.7	705	1.6	743	1.4
65+	Male	122	0.4	348	0.6	244	0.5	236	0.5	190	0.4
	Female	399	1.4	2 149	3.7	784	1.5	841	1.9	847	1.6
Total	Male	8 623	30.1	17 423	30.3	18 512	34.5	13 363	29.5	13 413	25.1
	Female	20 007	69.9	40 107	69.7	35 143	65.5	31 871	70.5	40 094	74.9

(b) by marital status of those aged 15 and over

	1999 (Jul – Dec)		2000		2001		2002		2003	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Never married	3 442	36.0	5 646	14.9	4 551	12.6	4 047	13.1	3 753	9.7
Ever married	6 120	64.0	32 260	85.1	31 528	87.4	26 898	86.9	34 887	90.3

2. A mechanism has been set up by the Immigration Department to collect data on the demographic and social characteristics of one-way permit holders when they first enter Hong Kong via the Lo Wu control point. The various bureaux and departments responsible for the planning and provision of education, housing, social welfare and medical services will take into account the demographic and socio-economic profile and specific needs of these new arrivals in planning facilities and services in their respective areas. Home Affairs Department will continue to assist in monitoring and reviewing the planning and provision of facilities and services for new arrivals from the Mainland.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB106

Question Serial No.

0763

Head : 74 – Information Services Subhead (No. & title):
Department

Programme : (1) Public Relations Outside Hong Kong

Controlling Officer : Director of Information Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question : The Information Services Department indicated under "Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2004-05" that it "will continue to promote Hong Kong as a strategic partner for business undertakings and to take advantage of the unique position Hong Kong holds in harnessing the vast business opportunities rendered under the CEPA". With respect to this, please provide details of the plan to promote Hong Kong as a strategic partner for business undertakings wishing to enter the Mainland market, Pearl River Delta in particular, and to take advantage of the unique position Hong Kong holds in harnessing the vast business opportunities. What is the estimated total expenditure to be incurred?

Asked by : Hon. LI Ka-cheung, Eric

Reply : As part of Government's overall efforts to promote the vast business opportunities rendered under the CEPA and Hong Kong's unique role therein, the Information Services Department will continue to (a) help organise major publicity events including exhibitions and roadshows, (b) prepare promotional materials to spread the messages for the publicity events in (a) as well as the visits of Principal Officials and senior government officials to the Mainland and overseas, and (c) assist in identifying speakers, conferences and seminars to help publicise the messages to the foreign and Mainland business community. Details of the promotional activities are to be worked out in conjunction with various parties including the subject bureaux and departments, the Beijing Office, the concerned Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices, Invest Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Trade Development Council and the Hong Kong Tourism Board. Planned activities will include a Hong Kong Week in Chongqing in May and promotions in other selected Mainland cities, North America and Europe in the coming months. Expenditure for these activities for 2004-05 is estimated to be around \$25.8 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Miss Yvonne CHOI

Post Title Director of Information Services

Date 23.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB107

Question Serial No.

0024

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Heritage and Museums

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Under this programme, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department will commence the preservation project for Fireboat Alexander Grantham in the year 2004-05. In this regard, will the Administration inform this Committee:

- (1) of the details of such work; and
- (2) of the number of staff on the establishment and the relevant expenditure involved in such work?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

- (1) The preservation project to be conducted for the Fireboat Alexander Grantham in 2004-05 will include hull repair and corrosion treatment, application of durable protective coatings onto the metal structures, re-installation of electricity and lighting systems to comply with safety requirements, and modification of access and stairways to facilitate public visits in future.
- (2) The estimated cost of the preservation project is \$2.7 million. Monitoring of the preservation work for the Fireboat and conducting of conservation treatment for its relics will be undertaken by existing staff of the Conservation Section within the Department. The Section, which provides a full range of conservation service for 12 museums, the Film Archive, the Antiquities and Monuments Office and the Art Promotion Office, has 27 curatorial staff on its establishment.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB108

Question Serial No.

0285

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (4) Performing Arts

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Under this Programme, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department will present a large-scale arts festival “New Vision Arts Festival” in the year 2004-05. In this regard, will the Administration inform this Committee :

- (1) of the details of such work ; and
- (2) of the number of staff on the establishment and the relevant expenditure involved in such work ?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

- (1) The New Vision Arts Festival 2004 is the second festival organized after its successful debut in 2002. It aims to encourage Hong Kong people to enhance their international perspective in arts and culture and highlight Hong Kong's position as Asia's world city. The festival will feature innovative and high quality cross-cultural performances with a focus on Asian arts expressed in a contemporary style. About 20 artist groups in some 70 performances/ events will be presented in the festival.
- (2) The Festivals Office of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department has 14 permanent staff. Besides the New Vision Arts Festival , this office also organizes the International Arts Carnival in the summer. Temporary staff will be engaged to cope with the seasonal workload during the festival period. The estimated budget for the New Vision Arts Festival 2004 is \$13.15M which includes performance fees, production, extension activities and publicity costs.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG
Director of Leisure and

Post Title Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB109

Question Serial No.

0286

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Under this Programme, it is estimated that there will be an addition of 3 tennis courts in 2004-05 as compared to last year, but at the same time the usage rates of tennis courts are always much lower than those of other recreation and sports facilities. In this regard, will the Government inform this Committee:

- (1) of the reasons and justifications for providing more tennis courts in 2004-05 despite their persistent under-utilisation; and
- (2) of the expenditures involved in the provision of these 3 additional tennis courts.

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

- (1) The three additional tennis courts will be provided in two new projects to be completed in 2004-05. One of them is an indoor tennis court in Ma On Shan Sports Centre. It is not a free standing tennis court and is superimposed as one of the facilities in the main arena of the sports centre which can be used for multi-purposes (tennis is just one of the sports activities which can be carried out in the main arena). The other two outdoor tennis courts will be provided in Ma On Shan Recreation Ground to cater for the public demand in Ma On Shan area where there is no provision of public tennis courts. The two projects have the support of the Sha Tin District Council.
- (2) As the three tennis courts are part and parcel of the two new projects, we are not able to work out the specific cost for the provision of tennis courts only. The Architectural Services Department has advised that the average construction cost of one outdoor tennis court with floodlight is about \$0.7 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB110

Question Serial No.

0408

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

- (a) Under this Programme, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department will promote utilization of sports facilities during non-peak period in the year 2004-05. In this regard, will the Administration inform this committee:
- (1) of the details of such work; and
 - (2) of the number of staff on the establishment and the relevant expenditure involved in such work?
- (b) Under this Programme, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department will convert under-utilized sports facilities to other uses in the year 2004-05. In this regard, will the Administration inform this committee:
- (1) of the details of such work; and
 - (2) of the number of staff on the establishment and the relevant expenditure involved in such work?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

- (a)(1) To promote the utilization of sports facilities during non-peak period, the Department will continue to allow schools, subvented non-government organizations (NGOs), national sports associations and district sports associations to use selected sports facilities with low utilization free of charge during non-peak hours. We will liaise with these organizations, in particular schools and NGOs for elderly services, to maximize the use of these sports facilities as well as to promote sports among students and elderly people. We will also continue to implement the Healthy Elderly Scheme, under which programmes will be organized for elderly people during non-peak hours. Venue managers will also keep up their efforts to promote the use of facilities and organize activities with local schools and organizations to enhance the utilization rate of their venues.
- (2) The promotion of utilization of sports facilities is an on-going task and forms an integral part of venue managers' day-to-day responsibilities. No additional staff or expenditure will be involved.

- (b)(1) We have plans to convert 19 least popular squash courts (with usage rates ranging from 6.0% to 29.7%) for other uses such as basketball court, table tennis, American Pool, golf driving range and multi-purpose uses like judo and yoga activities to meet the need of local people in 2004-05. These squash courts are located in Victoria Park Squash Courts, Tuen Mun Swimming Pool Squash Courts, Yuen Long Jockey Club Squash Courts, Tai Kiu Market Squash Courts, Sir Denys Roberts Squash Courts, Sha Tin Jockey Club Squash Courts, Siu Lek Yuen Road Playground Squash Courts and Tai Po Sports Ground Squash Courts respectively. Details of the proposed conversion work are at Annex.
- (b)(2) The conversion work for Victoria Park Squash Courts into an outdoor basketball court will be carried out by contractors of the Architectural Services Department at an estimated cost of \$1.5M. There will be an estimated saving of \$0.15M in annual recurrent cost after the conversion. The facilities will continue to be managed by existing staff at Victoria Park. Converting the squash courts for other uses does not require structural work. The additional cost involved will be for the purchase of the equipment, which is minimal. Upon conversion, the facilities concerned will continue to be managed by existing staff.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG
Director of Leisure and

Post Title Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Annex

Plans to Convert Under-utilised Squash Courts into Other Uses

<u>District</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>No. of squash courts</u>	<u>Average usage rate in 2002-03</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Eastern	Victoria Park Squash Courts	4	12.3%	To demolish the building and convert the site into an outdoor basketball court. Estimated cost for conversion is about \$1.5M and the estimated saving in annual recurrent cost is \$0.15M.
Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Swimming Pool Squash Courts	4	6.0%	To convert 2 courts for table tennis activities and 2 courts for multi-purpose uses such as judo and yoga activities. No structural conversion is required.
Yuen Long	Yuen Long Jockey Club Squash Courts	4	17.6%	To convert 1 court for table tennis activities. No structural conversion is required.
	Tai Kiu Market Squash Courts	2	13.8%	To convert all courts for multi-purpose uses such as judo and yoga activities. No structural conversion is required.
	Sir Denys Roberts Squash Courts	4	16.5%	To convert 2 courts for American Pool activities. No structural conversion is required.
Shatin	Sha Tin Jockey Club Public Squash Courts	6	20.3%	To convert 2 courts for American Pool activities. No structural conversion is required.
	Siu Lek Yuen Road Playground (Squash Courts)	4	29.7%	To convert 2 courts for table tennis activities. No structural conversion is required.
Tai Po	Tai Po Sports Ground (Squash Courts)	6	12.9%	To convert 1 court into an indoor golf driving range and 1 court for multi-purpose uses such as judo and yoga activities. No structural conversion is required.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB111

Question Serial No.

1219

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Under this Programme, it is estimated that the total attendance at golf driving ranges will drop in 2004-05. In this regard, will the Government inform this Committee of the reasons for the estimated drop in the total attendance?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

In 2003, Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) managed five golf driving facilities, with three outdoor ranges at Tuen Mun, Kwai Tsing and Tai Po respectively, and two indoors ones within sports centres in Kwun Tong and Eastern respectively.

The golf driving range at Tai Po sits on a landfill. There is plan to develop it into a 9-hole golf course. For better planning and co-ordination with the landfill restoration works, its management was handed over to the Environmental Protection Department on 1 October 2003, which continues to lease the facility to a private operator. The attendance of this facility thereafter has not been counted in LCSD's statistics. The 2004 estimate reflects the projected usage of the remaining four golf driving facilities managed by LCSD.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB112

Question Serial No.

1220

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Horticulture and Amenities

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Home Affairs

Under this Programme, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department will establish a variety of conservation corners and theme gardens during 2004-05. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee:

- (1) of the details of such work; and
- (2) of the number of staff on the establishment and the related expenditure involved in such work?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

In 2004–05, the Leisure & Cultural Services Department will establish two conservation corners at North District Park and Hong Kong Zoological & Botanical Gardens. These corners will help to conserve butterflies and birds in the city environment. Eight theme gardens will also be established at Hong Kong Park, Sassoon Road Rest Garden, Cornwall Street Park, Kowloon Walled City Park, Tai Po Old Market Playground, Tin Shui Wai Park, Yeung Siu Hang Garden and Tsing Yi Park. A collection of scented flowers will be planted within these theme gardens to enhance the amenity of these parks. The additional manpower involved will be absorbed by existing staff. The expenditure for purchase of plants is estimated at about \$40,000 for the two conservation corners and \$160,000 for the eight theme gardens.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB113

Question Serial No.

1221

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Horticulture and Amenities

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Under this Programme, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department will roll out a community garden programme during 2004-05. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee:

- (1) of the details of such work; and
- (2) of the number of staff on the establishment and the related expenditure involved in such work?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

- (1) The community garden programme is an educational programme which aims to promote public participation in greening activities in their neighbourhood. The programme will be organized in the form of gardening courses for about 50 participants in each course. Each participant will be allotted a 1.5 metres x 1.5 metres plot to practise gardening under the guidance of part-time horticultural instructors. The duration of each course is four months and the course fee is \$400. Each participant may bring along four persons free of charge to help planting in their own plot and take home the harvest. The programme will be organized in five districts in 2004-05 as a start, and will be extended to all 18 districts in future.
- (2) No additional staff will be required. The estimated expenditure for each course is \$50,000. This will be mainly used to employ part-time horticultural instructors and organizers as well as to provide teaching materials.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB114

Question Serial No.

1222

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead ():

Programme : (5) Public Libraries

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Under this Programme, it is stated that the Leisure and Cultural Services Department will set up an additional mobile library in 2004-05. In this connection, will the Government inform this Committee :

(a) of the details of such work and the expected timing for commissioning; and

(b) of the number of staff on the establishment and the related expenditure involved in such work ?

Asked by : Hon FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

(a) Procurement of the new mobile library van is being arranged by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department through normal tendering procedures. It is expected that the new mobile library will commence its service by the end of 2004.

(b) In 2004-2005, the set up cost and annual recurrent cost of the new mobile library are \$1.6M and \$0.50M respectively. The library will have a total of 4 staff including the driver.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB115

Question Serial No.

0112

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (5) Public Libraries

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

During 2004-05, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department will

- (1) set up a Basic Law Library at the City Hall Public Library; and
- (2) set up computer and information centres in the district libraries by phases.

With regard to the above two projects,

- (1) what are the respective estimated provisions?
- (2) what kinds of facilities will be provided at the Basic Law Library and computer information centres respectively?

Asked by : Hon. HO Chung-tai, Raymond

Reply :

- (1) The Basic Law Library in the City Hall Public Library is a collaboration project between the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and the Basic Law Institute. For 2004-05, the estimated set up cost and annual recurrent cost for the Basic Law Library are \$367,000 and \$260,000 respectively. The Basic Law Institute will donate over 4 500 books, the other reference materials will be provided by the Department.

The Basic Law Library will be a reference library providing books, periodicals, multi-media materials, on-line databases and newspaper clippings relating to the subject.

- (2) In 2004-05, two new Computer and Information Centres will be provided with an estimated total set up cost and annual recurrent cost of \$1.4M and \$494,000 respectively.

Each Computer and Information Centre provides some 20 personal computers with Internet search and printing facilities for public use. The computers are installed with commonly used office automation, design, publishing and database software.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB116

Question Serial No.

0316

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The estimate of total attendance at golf driving ranges for 2004 will be 124,789 (37%) lower than the estimate for 2003. Please account for the reduction in estimated attendance.

Asked by : Hon. YOUNG Howard

Reply :

In 2003, Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) managed five golf driving facilities, with three outdoor ranges at Tuen Mun, Kwai Tsing and Tai Po respectively, and two indoors ones within sports centres in Kwun Tong and Eastern respectively.

The golf driving range at Tai Po sits on a landfill. There is plan to develop it into a 9-hole golf course. For better planning and co-ordination with the landfill restoration works, its management was handed over to the Environmental Protection Department on 1 October 2003 which leased the facility to a private operator. The 2004 estimate reflects the projected usage of the remaining four golf driving facilities managed by LCSD.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB117

Question Serial No.

0317

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2004-05, it is stated that some under-utilized sports facilities will be converted to other uses. What are the details? How much expenditure and manpower will be involved?

Asked by : Hon. YOUNG Howard

Reply :

We have plans to convert 19 least popular squash courts (with usage rates ranging from 6.0% to 29.7%) for other uses such as basketball court, table tennis, American Pool, golf driving range and multi-purpose uses like judo and yoga activities to meet the need of local people in 2004-05. These squash courts are located in Victoria Park Squash Courts, Tuen Mun Swimming Pool Squash Courts, Yuen Long Jockey Club Squash Courts, Tai Kiu Market Squash Courts, Sir Denys Roberts Squash Courts, Sha Tin Jockey Club Squash Courts, Siu Lek Yuen Road Playground Squash Courts and Tai Po Sports Ground Squash Courts respectively. Details of the proposed conversion work are at Annex.

The conversion work for Victoria Park Squash Courts into an outdoor basketball court will be carried out by contractors of the Architectural Services Department at an estimated cost of \$1.5M. There will be an estimated saving of \$0.15M in annual recurrent cost after the conversion. The facilities will continue to be managed by existing staff at Victoria Park.

Converting the squash courts for other uses does not require structural work. The additional cost involved will be for the purchase of the equipment, which is minimal. Upon conversion, the facilities concerned will continue to be managed by existing staff.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Post Title

Date 24 March 2004

Annex**Plans to Convert Under-utilised Squash Courts into Other Uses**

<u>District</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>No. of Squash Courts</u>	<u>Average usage rate in 2002-03</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Eastern	Victoria Park Squash Courts	4	12.3%	To demolish the building and convert the site into an outdoor basketball court. Estimated cost for conversion is about \$1.5M and the estimated saving in annual recurrent cost is \$0.15M.
Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Swimming Pool Squash Courts	4	6.0%	To convert 2 courts for table tennis activities and 2 courts for multi-purpose uses such as judo and yoga activities. No structural conversion is required.
Yuen Long	Yuen Long Jockey Club Squash Courts	4	17.6%	To convert 1 court for table tennis activities. No structural conversion is required.
	Tai Kiu Market Squash Courts	2	13.8%	To convert all courts for multi-purpose uses such as judo and yoga activities. No structural conversion is required.
	Sir Denys Roberts Squash Courts	4	16.5%	To convert 2 courts for American Pool activities. No structural conversion is required.
Shatin	Sha Tin Jockey Club Public Squash Courts	6	20.3%	To convert 2 courts for American Pool activities. No structural conversion is required.
	Siu Lek Yuen Road Playground (Squash Courts)	4	29.7%	To convert 2 courts for table tennis activities. No structural conversion is required.
Tai Po	Tai Po Sports Ground (Squash Courts)	6	12.9%	To convert 1 court into an indoor golf driving range and 1 court for multi-purpose uses such as judo and yoga activities. No structural conversion is required.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB118

Question Serial No.

0318

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Horticulture and Amenities

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question: Under “Matter Requiring Special Attention in 2004-05”, it is stated that a variety of conservation corners and theme gardens will be established to enhance the amenity value of parks. What are the details and how much resource will be allocated to this project?

Asked by : Hon. Howard Young

Reply :

In 2004–05, the Leisure & Cultural Services Department will establish two conservation corners at North District Park and Hong Kong Zoological & Botanical Gardens. These corners will help to conserve butterflies and birds in the city environment. Eight theme gardens will also be established at Hong Kong Park, Sassoon Road Rest Garden, Cornwall Street Park, Kowloon Walled City Park, Tai Po Old Market Playground, Tin Shui Wai Park, Yeung Siu Hang Garden and Tsing Yi Park. A collection of scented flowers will be planted within these theme gardens to enhance the amenity value of these parks. The additional manpower involved will be absorbed by existing staff. The expenditure for purchase of plants is estimated at about \$40,000 for the two conservation corners and \$160,000 for the eight theme gardens.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB119

Question Serial No.

0395

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Para. 8 states that “During 2004-05, the Department will convert under-utilized sports facilities to other uses.” Please elaborate how many sports facilities are considered being under-utilized; what are they and where are they located? What will these facilities be converted to?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Bernard

Reply :

We have plans to convert 19 least popular squash courts (with usage rates ranging from 6.0% to 29.7%) for other uses such as basketball court, table tennis, American Pool, golf driving range and multi-purpose uses like judo and yoga activities to meet the need of local people in 2004-05. These squash courts are located in Victoria Park Squash Courts, Tuen Mun Swimming Pool Squash Courts, Yuen Long Jockey Club Squash Courts, Tai Kiu Market Squash Courts, Sir Denys Roberts Squash Courts, Sha Tin Jockey Club Squash Courts, Siu Lek Yuen Road Playground Squash Courts and Tai Po Sports Ground Squash Courts respectively. Details of the proposed conversion work are at Annex.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Annex**Plans to Convert Under-utilised Squash Courts into Other Uses**

<u>District</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>No. of Squash Courts</u>	<u>Average usage rate in 2002-03</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Eastern	Victoria Park Squash Courts	4	12.3%	To demolish the building and convert the site into an outdoor basketball court.
Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Swimming Pool Squash Courts	4	6.0%	To convert 2 courts for table tennis activities and 2 courts for multi-purpose uses such as judo and yoga activities.
Yuen Long	Yuen Long Jockey Club Squash Courts	4	17.6%	To convert 1 court for table tennis activities.
	Tai Kiu Market Squash Courts	2	13.8%	To convert all courts for multi-purpose uses such as judo and yoga activities.
	Sir Denys Roberts Squash Courts	4	16.5%	To convert 2 courts for American Pool activities.
Shatin	Sha Tin Jockey Club Public Squash Courts	6	20.3%	To convert 2 courts for American Pool activities.
	Siu Lek Yuen Road Playground (Squash Courts)	4	29.7%	To convert 2 courts for table tennis activities.
Tai Po	Tai Po Sports Ground (Squash Courts)	6	12.9%	To convert 1 court into an indoor golf driving range and 1 court for multi-purpose uses such as judo and yoga activities.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB120

Question Serial No.

0396

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (5) Public Libraries

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

In Programme (5), para. 28 states that “during 2004-05, the department will set up a Basic Law Library at the City Hall Public Library”. How many books and materials would be stored in that library? When will it be open to the public? How much resource would be allocated for setting up the library? What is the annual running cost for the library? What is the estimated number of visitors for the library?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Bernard

Reply :

The Basic Law Library in the City Hall Public Library will be a collaboration project between the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and the Basic Law Institute. The Library is scheduled for opening in October 2004 and will have an initial stock of 8 000 items of library materials, of which over 4 500 items will be donated by the Basic Law Institute and the other 3 500 items will be from the collection of the Department. We will continue to build up a collection on the subject. For 2004-05, the estimated set up cost and annual recurrent cost for the Basic Law Library are \$367,000 and \$260,000 respectively. A wide range of extension activities including exhibitions, talks, book displays and school visits will be arranged to promote the use of the Library. When the Basic Law Library is opened, we estimate there will be 25 000 visitors per year.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB121

Question Serial No.

0472

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please provide details of the 172 posts to be deleted under this Programme, including the ranks of these posts, the timetable for their deletion, the savings to be achieved and the work arrangements.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Fu-wah

Reply :

Of the 172 posts to be deleted, 165 are in the ranks of Senior Amenities Assistant, Amenities Assistant I, Senior Artisan, Artisan, Workman I, Workman II and Clerical Assistant. The remaining 7 are in the ranks of Treasury Accountant, Information Officer, Senior Computer Operator, Supplies Supervisor I, Supplies Assistant, Personal Secretary I and Senior Typist.

The majority of these vacancies arises from the retirement of officers under the 2nd Voluntary Retirement Scheme in 2004. Others are existing vacancies. We shall be able to delete all these vacancies by January 2005 after all the VR takers have left the service upon exhaustion of their terminal leave. The work of the deleted posts will either be outsourced or absorbed within the department through business re-engineering, streamlining of procedures and better deployment of resources. By these measures, we shall be able to maintain the quality of our services to the public at the current high level.

The gross savings in full year salary cost resulting from the deletion of the 172 posts will amount to about \$27.3M per annum. After deducting the cost required for outsourcing of the services in question, the net savings will be about \$12.2M per annum.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB122

Question Serial No.

0473

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department will take over from the Hong Kong Sports Development Board (HKSDB) the administration of subvention to local sports bodies. What is the amount of provision reserved in view of such a change? How does such provision compare to the subvention originally received by the HKSDB?

Asked by : Hon.LEUNG Fu-wah

Reply :

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) will take over the sport funding responsibility from the Hong Kong Sports Development Board (HKSDB) with effect from 1.4.2004. A sum of \$75.39M was administered by the HKSDB in 2003-04 for providing subvention to local sports bodies for organizing sports development programmes and meeting operating expenses on staff costs and office administration. The same amount will be transferred to LCSD and will be fully used for subvention to local sports in 2004-05.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB123

Question Serial No.

0502

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Heritage and Museums

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

- (a) What is the respective number of users per month for each of the museums under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department in 2003-04? Have statistics been compiled on the number of foreign visitors among such users? If yes, what are the figures?
- (b) What is the total estimated expenditure on publicity for the exhibitions of various museums and archive for 2004-05? What publicity efforts will be targeted at foreign visitors and what is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

- (a) The 12 museums and the Film Archive under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department received 3.9 million visitors in 2003-04. Attendance figures for each of the museums is attached. In addition, 400 000 visitors attended exhibitions and activities organized by the Film Archive and Visual Arts Centre but outside the museum. Statistics on the number of foreign visitors among such users are not compiled.
- (b) The total estimated advertising budget on publicity for the exhibitions of various museums and the Film Archive for 2004-05 is \$7.6 million. The Department collaborates closely with the Hong Kong Tourism Board in promoting our museums to foreign visitors. We provide information about our museums in the Tourism Board's special publication on "Museums and Heritage". Promotional materials for tourists are distributed through hotel associations, inbound tour operators and coordinators as well as the Travel Industry Council of Hong Kong.

We also disseminate facility and programme details through the respective websites of the Tourism Board and the Department. Following the introduction of the Individual Travel Policy in the Mainland, the Department has strengthened advertising efforts to attract Mainland visitors by broadening advertising channels. As regards the estimated expenditure for publicity efforts targeted at foreign visitors, this will be absorbed in the total provision of \$7.6 million, since a great variety of advertising media to be used will appeal to local inhabitants as well as tourists.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Museum Attendances from April 2003 – March 2004

Museum/Archive	Monthly Average	Yearly Total
Hong Kong Museum of Art	18 190	218 277
Flagstaff House Museum of Teaware	15 616	187 397
Hong Kong Museum of History	69 533	834 400
Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence	16 344	196 122
Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum	3 019	36 228
Law Uk Folk Museum	2 769	33 226
Hong Kong Heritage Museum	39 172	470 068
Sam Tung Uk Museum	12 775	153 295
Sheung Yiu Folk Museum	4 027	48 327
Hong Kong Railway Museum	17 886	214 627
Hong Kong Science Museum	61 357	736 288
Hong Kong Space Museum	48 488	581 854
Hong Kong Film Archive	16 072	192 868
Total:	325 248	3 902 977

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB124

Question Serial No.

0504

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (5) Public Libraries

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

- (a) In 2003-04, what was the respective monthly attendance for each public library and mobile library under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department?
- (b) What are the reasons for setting up an additional mobile library in 2004-05? What are the areas to be served? What will be the expenditure involved? Will the Department consider rationalising the areas served by existing mobile libraries so as to reduce the relevant expenditure? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

- (a) The average monthly attendance of the 62 public libraries and 8 mobile libraries for 2003 is given in the Appendix.
- (b) The Leisure and Cultural Services Department reviews its mobile library services on a regular basis. The last review was conducted in 2003 with subsequent rescheduling and relocation of some mobile library stops to maximize effectiveness in the deployment of resources. The existing eight mobile libraries already have a full schedule serving 74 locations at a frequency ranging from twice a week to once every two weeks. In view of the full commitment of the existing mobile libraries, a new mobile library is planned to meet the increasing demands from the public. The new mobile library will provide services at densely populated points without static libraries in Lam Tin, Sau Mau Ping, Tai Hang Tung, Hung Hom and Heng Fa Chuen. In 2004-05, the set up cost and annual recurrent cost of the new mobile library are \$1.6M and \$0.50M respectively.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

**HONG KONG PUBLIC LIBRARIES AVERAGE MONTHLY
ATTENDANCE IN 2003-04**

香港公共圖書館 2003-2004 年度每月平均使用人次

Library 圖書館	Average Monthly Attendance 每月平均使用人次
Aberdeen 香港仔	66,579
Ap Lei Chau 鴨 洲	23,743
Butterfly Estate 蝴蝶邨	16,469
Chai Wan 柴灣	98,004
Cheung Chau 長洲	11,191
City Hall 大會堂	99,735
Electric Road 電氣道	31,829
Fa Yuen Street 花園街	76,210
Fanling 粉嶺	81,515
Fu Shan 富山	26,840
Hong Kong Central Library 香港中央	410,953
Hung Hom 紅磡	43,150
Kowloon 九龍	60,912
Kowloon City 九龍城	12,991
Lai Chi Kok 荔枝角	56,607
Lam Tin 藍田	22,040
Lei Yue Mun 鯉魚門	17,522
Lek Yuen 瀝源	19,722
Lockhart Road 駱克道	69,040
Lok Fu 樂富	30,545
Lung Hing 龍興	22,859
Mui Wo 梅窩	5,241
Ngau Chi Wan 牛池灣	51,726
Ngau Tau Kok 牛頭角	45,279
North Kwai Chung 北葵涌	53,866
North Lamma 南丫島北段	970
North Point 北角	33,645
Pak Tin 白田	13,606
Peng Chau 坪洲	9,022
Po On Road 保安道	91,234
Pok Fu Lam 薄扶林	22,309
Quarry Bay 鰂魚涌	58,887
Sai Kung 西貢	27,907
San Po Kong 新蒲崗	77,520

Sau Mau Ping 秀茂坪	18,121
Sha Tau Kok 沙頭角	4,814
Sha Tin 沙田	157,846
Shek Tong Tsui 石塘咀	65,465
Shek Wai Kok 石圍角	18,110
Sheung Shui 上水	72,344
Shui Wo Street 瑞和街	75,756
Shun Lee Estate 順利邨	22,773
Smithfield 士美非路	29,056
South Kwai Chung 南葵涌	63,451
South Lamma 南丫島南段	350
Tai Hing 大興	39,661
Tai Kok Tsui 大角咀	15,337
Tai O 大澳	2,908
Tai Po 大埔	88,076
Tin Shui Wai 天水圍	110,694
To Kwa Wan 土瓜灣	65,432
Tseung Kwan O 將軍澳	101,028
Tsim Sha Tsui 尖沙咀	21,932
Tsing Yi 青衣	83,355
Tsuen Wan 荃灣	133,808
Tsz Wan Shan 慈雲山	52,862
Tuen Mun 屯門	129,025
Un Chau Street 元州街	43,600
Wong Nai Chung 黃泥涌	20,515
Yau Ma Tei 油蔴地	68,048
Yiu Tung 耀東	36,229
Yuen Long 元朗	76,512
Mobile 1 流動一	5,165
Mobile 2 流動二	5,455
Mobile 3 流動三	7,123
Mobile 4 流動四	4,481
Mobile 5 流動五	5,261
Mobile 6 流動六	7,504
Mobile 7 流動七	8,332
Mobile 8 流動八	11,190

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB125

Question Serial No.

1749

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department
Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

- (a) The Administration plans to convert under-utilized sports facilities to other uses in 2004-05; what are the details?
- (b) As regard the promotion of the utilization of sports facilities during non-peak hours, what are the details of the plan?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

- (a) We have plans to convert 19 least popular squash courts (with usage rates ranging from 6.0% to 29.7%) for other uses such as basketball court, table tennis, American Pool, golf driving range and multi-purpose uses like judo and yoga activities to meet the need of local people in 2004-05. These squash courts are located in Victoria Park Squash Courts, Tuen Mun Swimming Pool Squash Courts, Yuen Long Jockey Club Squash Courts, Tai Kiu Market Squash Courts, Sir Denys Roberts Squash Courts, Sha Tin Jockey Club Squash Courts, Siu Lek Yuen Road Playground Squash Courts and Tai Po Sports Ground Squash Courts respectively. Details of the proposed conversion work are at Annex.
- (b) To promote the utilization of sports facilities during non-peak period, the Department will continue to allow schools, subvented non-government organizations (NGOs), national sports associations and district sports associations to use selected sports facilities with low utilization free of charge during non-peak hours. We will liaise with these organizations, in particular schools and NGOs for elderly services, to maximize the use of these sports facilities as well as to promote sports among students and elderly people. We will also continue to implement the Healthy Elderly Scheme, under which programmes will be organized for elderly people during non-peak hours. Venue managers will also keep up their efforts to promote the use of facilities and organize activities with local schools and organizations to enhance the utilization rate of their venues.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG
Director of Leisure and

Post Title Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Annex**Plans to Convert Under-utilised Squash Courts into Other Uses**

<u>District</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>No. of Squash Courts</u>	<u>Average usage rate in 2002-03</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Eastern	Victoria Park Squash Courts	4	12.3%	To demolish the building and convert the site into an outdoor basketball court. Estimated cost for conversion is about \$1.5M and the estimated saving in annual recurrent cost is \$0.15M.
Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Swimming Pool Squash Courts	4	6.0%	To convert 2 courts for table tennis activities and 2 courts for multi-purpose uses such as judo and yoga activities. No structural conversion is required.
Yuen Long	Yuen Long Jockey Club Squash Courts	4	17.6%	To convert 1 court for table tennis activities. No structural conversion is required.
	Tai Kiu Market Squash Courts	2	13.8%	To convert all courts for multi-purpose uses such as judo and yoga activities. No structural conversion is required.
	Sir Denys Roberts Squash Courts	4	16.5%	To convert 2 courts for American Pool activities. No structural conversion is required.
Shatin	Sha Tin Jockey Club Public Squash Courts	6	20.3%	To convert 2 courts for American Pool activities. No structural conversion is required.
	Siu Lek Yuen Road Playground (Squash Courts)	4	29.7%	To convert 2 courts for table tennis activities. No structural conversion is required.
Tai Po	Tai Po Sports Ground (Squash Courts)	6	12.9%	To convert 1 court into an indoor golf driving range and 1 court for multi-purpose uses such as judo and yoga activities. No structural conversion is required.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB126

Question Serial No.

1750

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

In 2002 and 2003, the usage rates of tennis courts managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department were 42% and 44% respectively. Meanwhile, the number of tennis courts is expected to increase from 268 to 271 in 2004. What are the reasons for this? What will be the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

Three additional tennis courts will be provided in two new projects to be completed in 2004-05. One of them is an indoor tennis court in Ma On Shan Sports Centre. It is not a free standing tennis court but is superimposed as one of the facilities in the main arena of the sports centre which can be used for multi-purposes (tennis is just one of the sports activities which can be carried out in the main arena). The other two outdoor tennis courts will be provided in Ma On Shan Recreation Ground to cater for the public demand in the area where there is no provision of public tennis courts. Both projects have the support of the Sha Tin District Council.

As the three tennis courts are part and parcel of the two new projects, it is difficult to work out the specific cost for the provision of tennis courts only. The Architectural Services Department has advised that the average construction cost of one outdoor tennis court with floodlight is about \$0.7 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB127

Question Serial No.

0563

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (4) Performing Arts

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The Administration will conduct a major renovation project at the Sheung Wan Civic Centre to improve and upgrade its facilities. When will the project commence? How long is it expected to take before completion? What is the estimated expenditure required?

Asked by : Hon. FOK Tsun-ting, Timothy

Reply :

The renovation of the Sheung Wan Civic Centre will commence in April 2004 and is expected to be completed by January 2005. The estimated project cost is \$14.5 million. Renovation work will cover the foyer as well as the performing and exhibition halls of the Sheung Wan Civic Centre, including reprovisioning of the seating system, as well as improvement of the audio-visual, lighting, staging and air-conditioning systems. The renovation will also include upgrading and refurbishment of all backstage facilities and fire and security systems.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG
Director of Leisure and
Post Title Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB128

Question Serial No.

0924

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Under “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2004-05” in Programme (1), the Government stated that under-utilised sports facilities would be converted to other uses. What kinds of facilities are included in this group of under-utilised facilities? Moreover, below which percentage of usage rate will these facilities be defined as “under-utilised”? Please explain the reason for the continual drop in total attendance at golf driving ranges in the past 3 years.

Asked by : Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply :

- (a) Generally speaking, under-utilized sports facilities refer to those with average utilization rates below 50%. Tennis courts and squash courts, with the average utilization rates at about 44% and 30% respectively, are classified as under-utilized facilities.
- (b) The drop in the attendance at golf driving facilities managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) was recorded in the range at Tai Po. The site is situated in a remote location and sits on a landfill. There are keen competitions from private driving ranges nearby. For better planning and co-ordination with the landfill restoration works, its management was handed over to the Environmental Protection Department on 1 October 2003. Its attendance thereafter has not been counted in LCSD's statistics. All these contribute to the drop in attendance at golf driving ranges managed by LCSD in the past few years.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB129

Question Serial No.

0925

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (5) Public Libraries

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

With regard to Programme (5), it is stated that an “Artwork on loan” pilot scheme was launched during the year. What requirements do members of the public have to meet in order to obtain a loan under the scheme? How many loan applications have been received and how many of them have been approved since the launching of the scheme?

Asked by : Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply :

The “Artwork on Loan” Project in the Arts Resource Centre of the Hong Kong Central Library is a one-year pilot scheme jointly organized by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and the Hong Kong Arts Development Council. Individual library card holders of Hong Kong Public Libraries are eligible to borrow up to two pieces of artworks while holders of group cards can borrow a maximum of five pieces of artworks for a period of 30 days. Over 100 pieces of works such as digital art, photography, Chinese and Western paintings are on the lending list and their reproduction pieces are made for loan under the scheme. Since the scheme’s implementation from 31 August 2003, 1 141 applications have been received and approved.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB130

Question Serial No.

0926

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

With regard to the staff establishment under Programme (1), a net deletion of 172 posts will be made in 2004-2005. Please list the number of posts to be deleted in each grade.

Asked by : Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply :

The distribution of the 172 posts to be deleted by grade is as follows:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>No. of posts</u>
Amenities Assistant	16
Artisan	68
Workman	60
Treasury Accountant	1
Information Officer	1
Computer Operator	1
Supplies Supervisor	1
Supplies Assistant	1
Personal Secretary	1
Clerical Assistant	21
Typist	1

The majority of these vacancies arises from the retirement of officers under the 2nd Voluntary Retirement Scheme in 2004. Others are existing vacancies.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG
Director of Leisure and

Post Title Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB131

Question Serial No.

0968

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : All programmes

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

With regard to the contracting out of various leisure and cultural services,

1. what are the respective names of the existing contractors, the services provided, the number of staff employed, the length of the contracts and the value of individual contracts awarded to them categorised under these different Programmes; and
2. what are the staff establishment and the expenditures involved for the monitoring of the performance of the contractors?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply :

A list of contractors currently engaged in the five major types of services (cleansing services, information technology project and supporting services, security guard services, horticultural maintenance services and sports centre management services) is at **Annex A**. The list is subject to change upon expiry and/ or renewal of contracts.

The Department does not normally specify the number of staff to be employed in the contracts. From the latest available returns provided by the contractors, a total of about 5 380 workers are employed under these contracts. The normal contract period varies from two to three years and the total contract value as at 29.2.2004 amounts to \$1,729 million. Details of the contracts are at **Annex B**.

While staff in the Supplies Section are responsible for drawing up standards and guidelines on contract documents and tendering arrangements, the Department deploys a team of 23 staff on contract management, alignment and standardization of contract terms and conditions, review systems for contract management and overall supervision of contractors. The total annual expenditure on salary amounts to \$7.1 million. In addition, our venue/ district staff are responsible for supervision and monitoring of contractors' daily performance.

The Department closely monitors the operational performance of contractors according to the terms and conditions of contract. The Department would issue advisory letters, default notices and/ or warnings to any contractor with unsatisfactory performance and would interview them and demand for improvement. Our venue/ district staff would monitor contractors' performance and hold regular meetings with them to review their performance. Venue/ district staff will prepare performance appraisal reports on each contractor and contractors are advised that their performance records will affect their future standing as the Department's contractors.

We request contractors to provide employment information of their staff, including wage level and working hours to ensure that their employment terms and wages offered are commensurate with the employment conditions stipulated in the contracts. We also carry out regular and random checks on workers' employment conditions and wages offered.

Contractors are encouraged to nominate their staff to attend seminars on Employment Ordinance organized by the Labour Department so as to familiarize themselves with the provisions under the Ordinance.

The Department may terminate a contract if the contractor does not pay the level of wage or comply with the employment conditions as stipulated in the contract. Moreover, the Department will refer suspected cases of contractors' non-compliance of Employment Ordinance to the Labour Department for investigation and follow-up actions.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

List of contractors for major services

Cleansing Services

Baguio Cleaning Services Co. Ltd.
Centuryan Services Ltd.
Champion Cleaning Transport Co. Ltd.
ISS Hong Kong Services Ltd.
Johnson Cleaning Services Co. Ltd.
King's Cleaning Co. Ltd.
Law's Cleaning Services Ltd.
Man Shing Cleaning Services Co. Ltd.
Mental Health Association of Hong Kong
New Life Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association
New Method Cleaning Services Ltd.
P. Dussmann Hong Kong Ltd.
Po Leung Kuk
Pollution & Protection Services Ltd.
Polyking Services Ltd.
Rentokil Initial Hong Kong Ltd.
Richmond Fellowship of Hong Kong
S & S Cleaning Co. Ltd.
Sodexo (Hong Kong) Ltd.
Strong Base Environmental Services & Eng. Ltd.
Sun Fook Kong Housing Services Ltd.
Sunbase International Properties Management Ltd.
Tsang Lik Services Ltd.
Wai Hong Cleaning & Pest Control Co. Ltd.
Wai Tat Cleaning Service Co.
Waylung Waste Services Ltd.
World Environmental Services Ltd.
Yu's Tin Sing Enterprises Co. Ltd.

Security Guard Services

City Security Co. Ltd.
CNT Security Co. Ltd.
Hong Nin Security Co. Ltd.
Kuo Chiau Security Co. Ltd.
Megastrength Security Services Co. Ltd.
Onward Security Co. Ltd.
Polic Secuforce Ltd.
Professional Security Services Ltd.
Securicor Guarding Services (HK) Ltd.
Security Cares Consultancy Ltd.
Security Centre Ltd.
Sunbase International Properties Management Ltd.
Yeomen Guards Co. Ltd.

Horticultural Maintenance Services

Artistic Landscape Management Co. Ltd.
Cheong Fung Horticultural Co. Ltd.
City Landscaping Co. Ltd.
Fung Sing Co.
Green Land Gardening Services Co.
Lee Ka Garden
New May Landscape Ltd.
New Method Cleaning Services Ltd.
Tung Kee Garden Horticulture Ltd.
Universe Services Co.
Wai Lam Landscaping Co. Ltd.
Wai Shing Engineering Co.
Yee Sun Garden Ltd.

Sports Centre Management Services

Eastpoint Property Management Ltd.
Hong Yip Services Co. Ltd.
Kai Shing Management Services Ltd.

Information Technology Project and Supporting Services

Bravo Personnel Consultancy Ltd.
Hewlett-Packard Hong Kong SAR Ltd.
IBM China/HK Ltd.
PCCW-HKT Business Services Ltd.
Space-Time Systems Ltd.

Summary data of LCSD Services

	<u>Types of Services</u>	<u>No. of Contracts</u>	<u>Total contract value (HK\$M)</u>	<u>Usual duration of the contract (in yrs)</u>	<u>Staff employed</u>	<u>Related Programme *</u>
a)	Cleansing	66	752.6	3	3 140	All
b)	Security Guard	35	281.0	2	1 279	All
c)	Information Technology project & supporting	5	272.1	2**	---	All
d)	Horticultural Maintenance	25	208.5	2	842	(2)
e)	Sports Centre Management	4	83.4	3	120	(1)
f)	Others #	81	131.2	2	---	All
	Total:	<u>216</u>	<u>1,728.8</u>		<u>5 381 ***</u>	

Notes:

* Description of related programmes:

- (1) Recreation and Sports
- (2) Horticultural and Amenities
- (3) Heritage and Museums
- (4) Performing Arts
- (5) Public Libraries

** The usual duration of information technology related service is 2 years and would last longer for major computerization projects.

*** Manpower requirement is not usually specified in the contracts. The employment figures are based on latest available returns from contractors and will vary with changes in service requirements.

Include 18 categories of services, such as agency services, shark prevention nets services, electrical services, design and exhibition services, telecommunication services, etc.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB132

Question Serial No.

0969

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (5) Public Libraries

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Under Programme (5), are there any contract staff employed through personnel management agencies ? If yes, how many personnel management service contracts have been awarded so far ? For such contract(s), what are the respective value and length of contract, number of staff employed by the contractor and salaries of these staff ? Has the Department evaluated the cost-effectiveness of employing contract staff through personnel management agencies ?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply:

At present, four contracts have been awarded for the supply of frontline staff services in public libraries: -

Item	Contract	Contract Period	Contract Value	Contract Man-hours
1	Supply of Library Assistant Services	1.3.2003 - 28.2.2005	\$25.7M	677 372
2	Supply of Library Assistant Services	1.3.2003 - 28.2.2005	\$21.3M	506 624
3	Supply of Computer Technician Services	1.8.2002 - 31.7.2004	\$8.2M	138 882
4	Supply of Computer Technician Services	1.8.2002 - 31.7.2004	\$8.3M	134 032

As the agency staff are directly employed by the respective contractors, the department does not keep information about the number of staff employed nor the salaries of these staff.

The engagement of agency staff services has enabled the public libraries to achieve greater effectiveness in the overall deployment of manpower resources through flexible adjustment of the number of agency staff in meeting operational needs, particularly during peak hours and public holidays.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB133

Question Serial No.

1082

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural
Services Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

In the paper submitted to the Legislative Council Subcommittee to Follow up the Outstanding Capital Works Projects of the Former Municipal Councils in May 2003, the Government stated that 20 and 8 leisure and cultural services projects were expected to commence in 2004-05 and 2005-06 respectively. What is the planning progress of these projects so far? What are the anticipated commencement dates of these projects and the project costs involved?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Chin-shek

Reply :

In May 2003, we reported to the LegCo Subcommittee to Follow up the Outstanding Capital Works Projects of the Former Municipal Councils the latest position of the projects on the Accelerated Programme (AP) which was drawn up in 2001. Under the AP, 28 projects were tentatively planned to start construction in 2004-05 (20) and 2005-06 (8) respectively.

At the meeting, Members noted that we had critically reviewed the priority, delivery mode and implementation schedule of the AP projects, having regard to the shortfall of leisure and cultural facilities in new towns, distribution of facilities throughout the territory, facilities which are in heavy demand, and LCSD's financial capability to operate the facilities in the long term. As a result of the review, of the 28 projects, five projects (with total cost estimates at \$710M) have funding earmarked for construction to start in 2005 and 2006 subject to the approval of the Finance Committee. Two projects (with total cost estimates at \$1,095M) will be implemented under the Private Sector Finance (PSF) approach, where private developers will be invited to develop and operate the facilities; one project (with cost estimate at \$7M) will be implemented as a minor works item and one project (with cost estimate at \$295M) will have to be deleted due to reclamation problem.

Regarding the remaining 19 projects, we will regularly review their priority, implementation schedule and mode of delivery having regard to the prevailing Government budgeting considerations. Depending on the market response to the two PSF projects, we would consider bringing some of the remaining projects under this approach.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG
Director of Leisure and

Post Title Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB134

Question Serial No.

1133

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Heritage and Museums

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the preservation project for Fireboat Alexander Grantham, will the Government inform this Committee:

- a) of the details of the specific arrangements;
- b) of the financial provision relating to the above issue in the coming year with a specific breakdown of the expenses; and
- c) if the public display is expected to benefit tourism promotion?

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

- a) The preservation work to be conducted for the Fireboat Alexander Grantham in 2004-05 will include hull repair and corrosion treatment, application of durable protective coatings onto the metal structures, re-installation of electricity and lighting systems to comply with safety requirements, and modification of access and stairways to facilitate public visits in future. Arrangements will then be made to install the Fireboat at the Quarry Bay Park when the site is made ready by the Architectural Services Department.
- b) The estimated cost to the Department for the aforesaid preservation work is \$2.7 million.
- c) The Fireboat is expected to attract local residents as well as tourists. We will collaborate with the Tourism Board to promote this new cultural attraction to tourists.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB135

Question Serial No.

1140

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Heritage and Museums

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the collaboration with the Airport Authority in the mounting of a sculpture exhibition in the Departure Hall in the Passenger Terminal Building at the airport, will the Government inform this Committee:

- (a) of the arrangements relating to the above project for 2004-05;
- (b) of the specific expenditure of the above project with a breakdown of the expenses involved;
- (c) how it would evaluate the effectiveness of the project since its implementation; and
- (d) whether it would consider implementing similar joint projects in other suitable public places? If so, what are the details? If not, of the reasons for it?

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

- (a) To enhance the Cultural Displays project at the Airport launched in 2001, the Department will collaborate with the Airport Authority to present the display entitled “Glamour of Earth: Contemporary Hong Kong Ceramics” at the Departures Hall (near Gates 21 to 25) of the Hong Kong International Airport from April 2004 onwards.
- (b) The estimated cost of the said display to the Department is \$0.04 million to cover mounting of the exhibits and production of an exhibition pamphlet. The Airport Authority will carry out site works and provide showcases at \$1.10 million.

- (c) As indicated by the passengers' feedback and the increasing support offered by the Airport Authority, the Cultural Displays project has been very well received by passengers and overseas visitors. With a daily turnover of over 100 000 passengers, the International Airport is an ideal location to showcase Hong Kong's unique culture and arts.
- (d) Since 2001 the Department has actively co-organized with public and private organizations to display works of art at various public spaces. Partnership projects include "Installation of Public Artworks at Yat Tung Estate, Tung Chung" with the Housing Department and "Yuen Long Subways Public Art Project" with the Highways Department. In addition, temporary exhibition projects include "Artists in the Neighbourhood Scheme" with the MTR Corporation, government hospitals and shopping malls; "Mobile Art Gallery" with the New World First Bus Services Limited; "Gallery Ferry" with the New World First Ferry Services Limited; and also "Art Care" and "A New Beginning/A New Day" with 5 government hospitals and the art organization, Art in Hospital. We would continue to pursue suitable partnership arrangements with a view to promoting appreciation of Hong Kong's culture and arts.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB136

Question Serial No.

1145

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Will the Government inform this Committee:

- (a) of the details of the arrangements for the deletion of 172 posts in 2004-05;
- (b) of the allocation of resources relating to the above issue with a specific breakdown of their uses; and
- (c) of the categories of the above posts?

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

Of the 172 posts to be deleted, 165 are in the Amenities Assistant, Artisan, Workman and Clerical Assistant grades. The remaining 7 are in the Treasury Accountant, Information Officer, Computer Operator, Supplies Supervisor, Supplies Assistant, Personal Secretary and Typist grades. These are either existing vacancies or vacancies arising from the retirement of officers under the 2nd Voluntary Retirement Scheme. These posts can be deleted by January 2005 after all the VR takers have left the service upon exhaustion of their terminal leave. The deletion of these posts will not give rise to any staff redundancy.

The work of these posts includes supervision and operation of leisure venues such as swimming pools, sports centres, parks and playgrounds, as well as administrative support for leisure services. Such work will either be outsourced or absorbed within the department through business re-engineering, streamlining of procedures and better deployment of resources. By these measures, we shall be able to maintain the quality of our services to the public at the current high level.

The gross savings in full year salary cost resulting from the deletion of these posts will amount to about \$27.3M per annum. These savings will be reallocated as follows:

- (a) \$15.1M will be used to meet the cost of outsourcing of the services in question;
- (b) the remaining \$12.2M will:
 - (i) be redeployed for funding new recreational facilities coming on stream in 2004-05 (e.g. the Ma On Shan and Tai Po Hui Sports Centres, the Kowloon Bay Park, etc); and
 - (ii) contribute towards efficiency savings required of the department.

Signature

Name in block letters

MS ANISSA WONG

Director of Leisure and

Post Title

Cultural Services

Date

24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB137

Question Serial No.

1146

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (4) Performing Arts

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the large-scale arts festival, the New Vision Arts Festival, will the Government inform this Committee:

- a) of the details of the Festival;
- b) of the financial provision and human resources relating to the issue for the year 2003-04 with a specific breakdown of the expenses;
- c) of the benefits expected to be achieved;
- d) whether there will be other thematic cultural activities to be organized? If yes, what are the details of the activities? If no, what are the reasons behind such decision?
- e) whether, in the light of past experience, arts festivals with designated themes are effective in cost and in promoting the designated fields of art to a wider public?

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

- (a) The New Vision Arts Festival 2004 is the second festival organized after its successful debut in 2002. It aims to encourage Hong Kong people to enhance their international perspective in arts and culture and highlight Hong Kong's position as Asia's world city. The festival will feature innovative and high quality cross-cultural performances with a focus on Asian arts expressed in a contemporary style. About 20 artist groups in some 70 performances/ events will be presented in the festival.

(b) The Festivals Office of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department has 14 permanent staff.

Besides the New Vision Arts Festival, this office also organizes the International Arts Carnival in the summer. Temporary staff will be engaged to cope with the seasonal workload during the festival period. The estimated budget for the New Vision Arts Festival 2004 is \$13.15M.

A breakdown of the major expenditure items is as follows:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount (HK\$)</u>
(a) Performance fees	8,919,000
(b) Design, decoration and other production costs	863,000
(c) Printing and Publicity	1,924,000
(d) Extension activities	600,000
(e) Temporary staff and miscellaneous expenses	<u>840,000</u>
Total	13,146,000

(approx. 13,150,000)

(c) The Festival will promote cutting-edge/performing arts programmes to local residents and tourists, develop collaborative projects with festivals in other cities, and enhance the image of Hong Kong as a cultural hub in the region. The Festival is estimated to attract a total of 55 000 participants.

- (d) LCSD organizes cultural programmes all year round, including thematic series such as jazz, instrumental music, Cantonese opera and film directors to enhance the public's appreciation of specific art forms. In the festivals context, other than the New Vision Arts Festival, an International Arts Carnival is organized in July and August for children, teenagers and families during the summer vacation. In alternate years different theme festivals are organized in Autumn, e.g. the 'Legends of China' Festival in 2001 and 2003.
- (e) Thematic art festivals are effective in promoting a better and more in-depth understanding and appreciation of a focused aspect of the performing arts. This is borne out by the enthusiastic response of audience, press and critics to the New Vision Arts Festival 2002. By presenting high quality programmes on related themes, arts festivals can make greater appeal and impact on the community.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG
Director of Leisure and

Post Title Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB138

Question Serial No.

1147

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (5) Public Libraries

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the setting up of a Basic Law Library at City Hall Public Library, will the Government inform this Committee:

- a) of the details of the specific arrangements;
- b) of the financial provision relating to the above issue in 2004-05 with a specific breakdown of the expenses;
- c) how will the setting up of the library tie in with the activities of other government departments and non-government organizations in promoting the understanding of the Basic Law among members of the public; and
- d) whether there is still any plan of setting up other thematic libraries in future and the details of it?

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

- a) The Basic Law Library in the City Hall Public Library will be a collaboration project between the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and the Basic Law Institute. The Library is scheduled for opening in October 2004. It will be a reference library providing books, periodicals, multi-media materials, on-line databases and newspaper clippings relating to the subject. The Library will have an initial stock of 8 000 items of library materials, of which about 4 500 items will be donated by the Basic Law Institute and the other 3 500 items will be from the existing collection of the Department. The Basic Law Institute has also agreed to update the library collection in the subsequent two years and the Department will continue to build up the collection on the subject.
- b) For 2004-05, the estimated set up cost for equipment and furniture is \$367,000 while the annual recurrent cost for staffing, electricity and cleansing for the Library is \$260,000.

- c) A wide range of extension activities including exhibitions, talks, book displays and school visits will be arranged by the Library to promote the Basic Law to the community. It will collaborate closely with various Government Departments, the Basic Law Institute, other educational and community organizations, and schools to promote the Library's services and extension activities.
- d) LCSD is planning to set up an Education Resource Centre in the Kowloon Public Library in 2006. The proposed Centre will provide books, periodicals, multi-media materials, language learning packages, educational software and online databases on education to facilitate learning, teaching and research by educators as well as useful information for the parents. .

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB139

Question Serial No.

1148

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Under “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2004-05”, it is mentioned that under-utilized sports facilities would be converted to other uses. Will the Government inform this Committee:

- (a) of the details of the specific arrangements;
- (b) of the financial provision relating to the above issue in 2004-05 with a specific breakdown of the expenses; and
- (c) of the benefits expected to be achieved and the manpower resources to be saved?

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

- (a) We have plans to convert 19 least popular squash courts (with usage rates ranging from 6.0% to 29.7%) for other uses such as basketball court, table tennis, American Pool, golf driving range and multi-purpose uses like judo and yoga activities to meet the need of local people in 2004-05. These squash courts are located in Victoria Park Squash Courts, Tuen Mun Swimming Pool Squash Courts, Yuen Long Jockey Club Squash Courts, Tai Kiu Market Squash Courts, Sir Denys Roberts Squash Courts, Sha Tin Jockey Club Squash Courts, Siu Lek Yuen Road Playground Squash Courts and Tai Po Sports Ground Squash Courts respectively. Details of the proposed conversion work are at Annex.
- (b) The conversion work for Victoria Park Squash Courts into an outdoor basketball court will be carried out by contractors of the Architectural Services Department at an estimated cost of \$1.5M. Converting the squash courts for other uses does not require structural work. The additional cost involved will be for the purchase of the equipment, which is minimal.

- (c) There will be an estimated saving of \$0.15M in annual recurrent cost after the conversion of the Victoria Park Squash Courts into an outdoor basketball court. All facilities concerned will continue to be managed by existing staff upon conversion.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Annex**Plans to Convert Under-utilised Squash Courts into Other Uses**

<u>District</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>No. of Squash Courts</u>	<u>Average usage rate in 2002-03</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Eastern	Victoria Park Squash Courts	4	12.3%	To demolish the building and convert the site into an outdoor basketball court. Estimated cost for conversion is about \$1.5M and the estimated saving in annual recurrent cost is \$0.15M.
Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Swimming Pool Squash Courts	4	6.0%	To convert 2 courts for table tennis activities and 2 courts for multi-purpose uses such as judo and yoga activities. No structural conversion is required.
Yuen Long	Yuen Long Jockey Club Squash Courts	4	17.6%	To convert 1 court for table tennis activities. No structural conversion is required.
	Tai Kiu Market Squash Courts	2	13.8%	To convert all courts for multi-purpose uses such as judo and yoga activities. No structural conversion is required.
Shatin	Sir Denys Roberts Squash Courts	4	16.5%	To convert 2 courts for American Pool activities. No structural conversion is required.
	Sha Tin Jockey Club Public Squash Courts	6	20.3%	To convert 2 courts for American Pool activities. No structural conversion is required.
	Siu Lek Yuen Road Playground (Squash Courts)	4	29.7%	To convert 2 courts for table tennis activities. No structural conversion is required.
Tai Po	Tai Po Sports Ground (Squash Courts)	6	12.9%	To convert 1 court into an indoor golf driving range and 1 court for multi-purpose uses such as judo and yoga activities. No structural conversion is required.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB140

Question Serial No.

1256

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the promotion of the utilization of sports facilities during non-peak hours, will the Government inform this Committee:

- a) of the arrangements for the above issue;
- b) of the level of expenditures involved with a specific breakdown of their uses for the above issue in 2004-05; and
- c) of the benefits of such measures in enhancing productivity of the Department?

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

- (a) To promote the utilization of sports facilities during non-peak period, the Department will continue to allow schools, subvented non-government organizations (NGOs), national sports associations and district sports associations to use selected sports facilities with low utilization free of charge during non-peak hours. We will liaise with these organizations, in particular schools and NGOs for elderly services, to maximize the use of these sports facilities as well as to promote sports among students and elderly people. We will also continue to implement the Healthy Elderly Scheme, under which programmes will be organized for elderly people during non-peak hours. Venue managers will also keep up their efforts to promote the use of facilities and organize activities with local schools and organizations to enhance the utilization rate of their venues.
- (b) The promotion of utilization of sports facilities is an on-going task and forms an integral part of venue managers' day-to-day responsibilities. No additional staff or expenditure will be involved.
- (c) The promotional efforts will help improve utilization of available sports facilities and help drive a wider participation of the community in sports activities.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB141

Question Serial No.

1257

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (5) Public Libraries

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Will the Government inform this Committee:

- (a) of the specific arrangements for the deletion of 103 posts in 2004-05;
- (b) of the allocation of resources relating to the above issue with a specific breakdown of their uses; and
- (c) whether all the above posts are of temporary nature or under other categories? And what are the details?

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

The 103 posts to be deleted are all permanent posts for Cultural Services Assistant, Clerical Officer and Motor Driver grades for the provision of support services in public libraries. These are either existing vacancies or vacancies arising from the retirement of officers under the 2nd Voluntary Retirement Scheme. Their deletion will not give rise to any staff redundancy.

The deletion of these posts will give the department more flexibility in delivering library services, whereby multi-skilled contract staff are employed to perform the duties conventionally undertaken by Cultural Services Assistants and Clerical Officers respectively. This approach will bring about greater flexibility in staff deployment, efficiency enhancement and manpower saving of up to 10%.

Gross savings in full year salary cost of about \$21.3M are expected to result from the deletion of these posts. These savings will be reallocated as follows:

- (a) \$14M for upgrading support and front-line services in public libraries; and
- (b) the remaining \$7.3M for contributing towards efficiency savings required of the department.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB142

Question Serial No.

1258

Head : 95 – Leisure and
Cultural Services
Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Horticulture and Amenities

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Will the Government inform this Committee:

- (a) of the estimated expenditure for implementing the beautification programmes of providing portable plants on footbridges, and the detailed breakdown of the expenses;
- (b) of the locations of the footbridges for implementing the above programmes; and
- (c) how to evaluate the effectiveness of the programmes?

Asked by : Hon. IP Kwok-him

Reply :

- (a) The estimated total expenditure for implementing the beautification programme for footbridges is \$500,000, with \$350,000 for the purchase of portable planters and \$150,000 for plants.
- (b) The locations of footbridges to be provided with portable plants in 2004-05 are at Annex.
- (c) The department will evaluate the effectiveness of the programmes by assessing the greenery effect of the plants to the city environment as well as monitoring public response.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Ms ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Beautification Programme for Footbridges in 2004-05

Serial No.	District	Location
1	Central & Western	Across Rodney Street near Harcourt Road
2	Eastern	Across Harmony Road and On Yip Street near Harmony Garden at Siu Sai Wan
3	Southern	Across Aberdeen Praya Road and Aberdeen Main Road near Ocean Court
4	Sham Shui Po	Across Lung Cheung Road and Nam Cheong Street near Beacon Heights
5	Tuen Mun	Across Tuen Mun Road near Yan Oi Tong Circuit
6	Tuen Mun	Across Tuen Mun Road and Tsing Hoi Circuit near Chi Lok Fa Yuen
7	Kwai Tsing	Across Hing Fong Road and near Kwai Fuk Road
8	Tsuen Wan	Across Sha Tsui Road near Tsuen Wan Town Hall
9	North	Across Fanling Highway and San Wan Road near Greenpark Villa

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB143

Question Serial No.

1392

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding squash courts, will the Government provide this Committee with the following information:

- a) the usage rate of squash courts in 2003; and
- b) starting from 2002, the Department has successively converted those under-utilized squash courts to table-tennis, American pool and dance rooms. What were the usage rates of these three types of converted facilities in 2003? What are the expected usage rates in 2004-05?

Asked by : Hon. TANG Siu-tong

Reply :

- (a) The usage rate of squash courts in 2003 was 30%.
- (b) The Department has converted some under-utilized squash courts into table tennis, American pool and dance rooms in 2003. The usage rates of these three types of converted facilities in 2003 were 47%, 12% and 78% respectively. The usage rates of table tennis and dance rooms in 2004 are expected to be at the same level. As for American pool, more training programmes and fun days will be organized to further promote the utilization of the facilities in the coming year.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG
Director of Leisure and

Post Title Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB144

Question Serial No.

1393

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Last year, the Department indicated that it would actively consider converting under-utilized tennis courts to multi- and alternative use; however, the usage rate of these venues still remained at 44% in 2003. What is the progress of the improvement work? What is the situation expected in 2004-05?

Asked by : Hon. TANG Siu-tong

Reply :

During the period from March 2002 to March 2004, we have completed the conversion of 11 under-utilized tennis courts (in Tsing Wah Lei Tennis Court, Tin Shui Wai Park, Mei King Playground, Tsing Yi Park, Tai Wong Ha Playground and Cheung Chau Park) into basketball courts, tai chi gardens and multi-purpose facilities for gateball and dance play-in etc. to meet the need of the local people. Details of the conversion work are at Annex.

With the conversion of some under-utilized tennis courts, the average usage rate of our tennis courts have slightly increased from 42% in 2002 to 44% in 2003. We will continue to promote the use of our tennis courts and will initiate conversion work where appropriate to ensure that the facilities are put to effective use.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Annex

Tennis courts converted into other uses

<u>District</u>	<u>Venues</u>	<u>No. of Courts</u>	<u>Converted for Other Uses</u>	<u>Completion Date</u>
Tuen Mun	Tsing Wah Lei Tennis Court	1	1 to basketball court	September 2002
Yuen Long	Tin Shui Wai Park (Tennis Courts)	7	2 to basketball courts	May 2003
Kwai Tsing	Mei King Playground (Tennis Courts)	4	2 to basketball courts	March 2002
	Tsing Yi Park (Tennis Courts)	8	1 to basketball court	April 2003
	Tai Wong Ha Playground (Tennis Courts)	2	2 to tai chi gardens	March 2004

Tennis courts opened for multi-purpose uses such as gateball and dance play-in

<u>District</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>No. of Courts</u>	<u>Implementation Date</u>
Islands	Cheung Chau Park	3	February 2003

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB145

Question Serial No.

1426

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Recreation and Sports
 (4) Performing Arts

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

In paragraph 71 of the Budget Speech, the Financial Secretary mentioned that a leisure and cultural centre would be built in Kwun Tong. Please provide a brief account of the development plan concerned and the scope of facilities to be provided, the expected work progress in the coming year and the anticipated completion date of the whole project.

Asked by : Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply :

We plan to develop a leisure and cultural centre in Kwun Tong and will invite the private sector to finance, build and manage the facilities at their own cost. The public facilities to be provided include a cultural complex with an auditorium, a covered and heated 50-metre main pool upon refurbishment of the existing Kwun Tong Swimming Pool Complex and an ancillary car park. To make the project commercially viable, the successful tenderer may provide, in addition to the above required public facilities, other permitted facilities such as restaurants, retail shops, etc. under the relevant zoning of the site (currently Government, Institution or Community), subject to the approval of the Town Planning Board (TPB).

We have consulted the Kwun Tong District Council, which supports the proposal. We will submit the Development Brief of the project to the TPB for endorsement shortly. Upon TPB's endorsement, we will work out the tender document and invite the private sector to finance, build and manage these facilities. Upon successful completion of the tender exercise, the construction period for the whole project is estimated to be around 4.5 years.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG
 Director of Leisure and
Post Title Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB146

Question Serial No.

1571

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (1) Recreation and Sports

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The Administration plans to convert under-utilized sports facilities to other uses. What are the details? What is the estimated number of facilities that can be converted to other uses? How much resources are to be allocated for this plan?

Asked by : Hon. MA Fung-kwok

Reply :

We have plans to convert 19 least popular squash courts (with usage rates ranging from 6.0% to 29.7%) for other uses such as basketball court, table tennis, American Pool, golf driving range and multi-purpose uses like judo and yoga activities to meet the need of local people in 2004-05. These squash courts are located in Victoria Park Squash Courts, Tuen Mun Swimming Pool Squash Courts, Yuen Long Jockey Club Squash Courts, Tai Kiu Market Squash Courts, Sir Denys Roberts Squash Courts, Sha Tin Jockey Club Squash Courts, Siu Lek Yuen Road Playground Squash Courts and Tai Po Sports Ground Squash Courts respectively. Details of the proposed conversion work are at Annex.

The conversion work for Victoria Park Squash Courts into an outdoor basketball court will be carried out by contractors of the Architectural Services Department at an estimated cost of \$1.5M. Converting the squash courts for other uses does not require structural work. The additional cost involved will be for the purchase of the equipment, which is minimal.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Annex

Plans to Convert Under-utilised Squash Courts into Other Uses

<u>District</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>No. of Squash Courts</u>	<u>Average usage rate in 2002/03</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Eastern	Victoria Park Squash Courts	4	12.3%	To demolish the building and convert the site into an outdoor basketball court. Estimated cost for conversion is about \$1.5M and the estimated saving in annual recurrent cost is \$0.15M.
Tuen Mun	Tuen Mun Swimming Pool Squash Courts	4	6.0%	To convert 2 courts for table tennis activities and 2 courts for multi-purpose uses such as judo and yoga activities. No structural conversion is required.
Yuen Long	Yuen Long Jockey Club Squash Courts	4	17.6%	To convert 1 court for table tennis activities. No structural conversion is required.
	Tai Kiu Market Squash Courts	2	13.8%	To convert all courts for multi-purpose uses such as judo and yoga activities. No structural conversion is required.
	Sir Denys Roberts Squash Courts	4	16.5%	To convert 2 courts for American Pool activities. No structural conversion is required.
Shatin	Sha Tin Jockey Club Public Squash Courts	6	20.3%	To convert 2 courts for American Pool activities. No structural conversion is required.
	Siu Lek Yuen Road Playground (Squash Courts)	4	29.7%	To convert 2 courts for table tennis activities. No structural conversion is required.
Tai Po	Tai Po Sports Ground (Squash Courts)	6	12.9%	To convert 1 court into an indoor golf driving range and 1 court for multi-purpose uses such as judo and yoga activities. No structural conversion is required.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB147

Question Serial No.

1572

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead ():

Programme : (5) Public Libraries

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The Administration has planned to set up a Basic Law Library at the City Hall Public Library. What are the details ? How much resources are required ? How will it attract visitors to use it ?

Asked by : Hon. MA Fung-kwok

Reply :

The Basic Law Library in the City Hall Public Library will be a collaboration project between the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) and the Basic Law Institute. The Library is scheduled for opening in October 2004. It will be a reference library providing books, periodicals, multi-media materials, on-line databases and newspaper clippings relating to the subject. The Library will have an initial stock of 8 000 items of library materials, of which about 4 500 items will be donated by the Basic Law Institute and the other 3 500 items will be from the collection of the Department. The Basic Law Institute has also agreed to update the library collection in the subsequent two years, while the Department will continue to build up our collection on this subject.

For 2004-05, the estimated set up cost for equipment and furniture is \$367,000 while the annual recurrent cost for staffing, electricity and cleansing for the Library is \$260,000 respectively.

A wide range of extension activities including exhibitions, talks, book displays, and school visits will be arranged by the Library. It will collaborate closely with various Government Departments, the Basic Law Institute, other educational and community organizations, and schools to promote the Library's services and extension activities.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB148

Question Serial No.

1684

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Heritage and Museums

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

One of the targets under the Programme of Heritage and Museums is to computerize data on museum collections and archive and render them easily accessible to the public. In this regard, when is the computerization of data expected to be completed? How will the public gain access to the data? What resources will be involved in this project?

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply :

Computerization of museum collections and archival records are carried out in phases. The images and brief description of all 12 000 collection items of the Hong Kong Museum of Art have been uploaded to the website of the museum for public access through the internet since 2002. Computerization of the 85 000 collection items of the Hong Kong Museum of History has also been completed, and images and brief description of selected items will be uploaded to the website of the museum by late 2004. Computerization of the 70 000 collection items of the Hong Kong Heritage Museum is in progress and will be completed by 2006, but images and brief description of selected items can now be viewed at the museum's website. The Hong Kong Film Archive has computerized the catalogue of 250 000 items of its collection of films, videos, stills and relevant archival materials. The catalogue information with selected images are now available through the internet. It is a continual process for the museums and the Film Archive to computerize newly acquired collection items. It is estimated that \$3.23 million will be spent on the above computerization projects in 2004-05.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG
Director of Leisure and

Post Title Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB149

Question Serial No.

1685

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Heritage and Museums

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

In 2004-05, the Administration will organise cultural exchange programmes on archaeology with Mainland institutions. Please briefly introduce the programme(s) and the provision involved.

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply :

In 2004-05, the Department will organize two major cultural exchange programmes on archaeology with Mainland institutions. Firstly, the University of Peking will be invited to conduct post excavation research later this year on the data and remains collected from a rescue excavation at So Kwun Wat in Tuen Mun conducted in 2000 to give way for the construction of an electric substation. A full archaeological report will be compiled upon completion of the research project, which is estimated to cost \$333,000. Secondly, the Department also plans to invite experts to be recommended by the State Administration of Cultural Heritage to participate in another major rescue excavation in early 2005 in an adjacent area at So Kwun Wat before the commencement of the construction work for two new primary schools. The estimated expenditure for this joint excavation project is \$3 million. Other smaller scale exchanges such as seminars, workshops and visits will also be organized from time to time and the estimated provision is \$5,000.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG
Director of Leisure and

Post Title Cultural Services

Date 25 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB150

Question Serial No.

1686

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Heritage and Museums

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

In 2004-05, the Administration will formulate plans for archaeological conservation of the Wun Yiu archaeological site, which is a very rare archaeological find in the history of Chinese ceramics as well as an important cultural heritage of Hong Kong. Will the archaeological conservation plan be linked to tourism development so as to attract local and foreign visitors? How much resources are required for the plan?

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply :

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department has commissioned a consultancy study on the conservation and development of the Tai Po Wun Yiu Pottery Kiln Site. The findings and recommendations of the Consultants are expected to be available in the second quarter of 2004 and will be put to the Antiquities Advisory Board and Tai Po District Council for consultation on the way forward including proposals on tourism development. Resources for any future development are yet to be estimated and will depend on the outcome of the consultancy study.

In the meantime, a provision of \$4.071 million has been reserved to carry out urgent protective measures such as vegetation clearance and restoration of important archaeological structures, as well as setting up a display centre on the Wun Yiu archaeological site in 2004-05.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG
Director of Leisure and

Post Title Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB151

Question Serial No.

1687

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Heritage and Museums

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

One item of work of the Administration involves providing subvention to the Hong Kong Archaeological Society to meet the expenses incurred in connection with the excavation activities conducted for the study and preservation of Hong Kong's archaeological heritage. Please provide a list of the excavation projects conducted by the Hong Kong Archaeological Society in 2003 using the above subvention with a specific breakdown of the expenses for each project.

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply :

In 2003, a subvention of \$0.164M was granted to the Hong Kong Archaeological Society for conducting an archaeological investigation at Fu Tei Au, Yuen Long. The project expenses included travelling expenses, excavation tools and equipment, transportation, site office, electricity and telephone charges, photofinishing, crop compensation and insurance.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB152

Question Serial No.

1688

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Heritage and Museums

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

There were 136 seminars/conferences/workshops/exhibitions/heritage tours in 2003. As regards heritage tours, how many members of the public used the service under the docent scheme in 2003? What is the situation expected in 2004-05?

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply :

A docent scheme has been introduced since early 2002 to provide free guided tours to schools and non-profit-making organizations visiting Heritage Trails at Central, Sheung Wan, Ping Shan and Lung Yeuk Tau in Fanling. Prior booking with the Antiquities and Monuments Office for such service is required. The Office has trained 16 docents to provide the service. For 2003-04, guided tours were given to 3 261 visitors under the docent scheme. In view of increasing public demand, it is estimated that the scheme will attract over 4 000 participants in 2004-05.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG
Director of Leisure and
Post Title Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Date 25 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB154

Question Serial No.

1690

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (3) Heritage and Museums

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please list the names of the historical buildings which had been restored or maintained in 2003 with the cost involved, and compare them with the estimates for 2004.

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply :

There were 30 historical buildings restored or maintained in 2003-04 as detailed in the list attached. The recurrent expenditure for routine maintenance of historical buildings for 2003-04 was \$1.82 million, while the allocation for 2004-05 is \$2.312 million. In addition, a provision of \$8.641 million was set aside under the capital account for major restoration of historical buildings in 2003-04, while the allocation for 2004-05 is \$23.997 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 25 March 2004

Annex

1. Lik Wing Tong Study Hall, Kam Tin, Yuen Long (元朗錦田力榮堂)
2. Tin Hau Temple, Causeway Bay(銅鑼灣天后廟)
3. Hau Mei Fung Ancestral Hall, Kam Tsin Tsuen, Sheung Shui (上水金錢村味峰侯公祠)
4. Hung Lau, Tuen Mun (屯門紅樓)
5. Cheung's Ancestral Hall, Shan Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long(元朗山廈村張氏宗祠)
6. King Law Ka Shuk, Tai Po (大埔敬羅家塾)
7. Tang Ancestral Hall, Ping Shan Yuen Long(元朗屏山鄧氏宗祠)
8. Tin Hau Temple, Lung Yeuk Tau, Fanling (粉嶺龍躍頭天后宮)
9. Wing Ning Wai, Lung Yeuk Tau, Fanling (粉嶺龍躍頭永寧圍)
10. Tung Kok Wai, Lung Yeuk Tau, Fanling (粉嶺龍躍頭東閣圍)
11. Leung Ancestral Hall, Yuen Long (元朗元崗村梁氏宗祠)
12. Tsang Tai Uk, Shatin (沙田曾大屋)
13. Tai Fu Tai, San Tin, Yuen Long (元朗新田大夫第)
14. Tang Chung Ling Ancestral Hall, Lung Yeuk Tau, Fanling (粉嶺龍躍頭松嶺鄧公祠)
15. Man Lun Fung Ancestral Hall, San Tin, Yuen Long(元朗新田麟峰文公祠)
16. Haw Par Mansion, Tai Hang(大坑虎豹別墅)
17. / Yeung Hau Temple, Ping Shan(屏山楊侯古廟)

18. Pak Mong Watchtower, Lantau Island(大嶼山白芒更樓)
19. Liu Man Shek Tong, Sheung Shui(上水廖萬石堂)
20. Brigade Headquarters Complex, Wong Nai Chung Gap Road, Hong Kong
(黃泥涌峽道西族指揮部)
21. Yi Tai Study Hall, Kam Tin, Yuen Long(元朗錦田二帝書院)
22. King Law Ka Shuk, Tai Po Tau Tsuen, Tai Po(大埔大埔頭村敬羅家塾)
23. Kat Hing Wai, Kam Tin(錦田吉慶圍)
24. St. John's Cathedral, Central (中環聖約翰座堂)
25. Man Mo Temple, Tai Po(大埔文武二帝廟)
26. Lo Wai, Lung Yeuk Tau, Fanling(粉嶺龍躍頭老圍)
27. Kang Yung Study Hall, Sheung Wo Hang, Sha Tau Kok(沙頭角上禾坑
鏡蓉書屋)
28. I Shing Kung, Wang Chau, Yuen Long(元朗橫洲二聖宮)
29. Cheung Shan Kwu Tsz, Ping Che, Sha Tau Kok(沙頭角坪輦長山古寺)
30. Kun Ting Study Hall, Ping Shan(屏山觀廷書室)

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB155

Question Serial No.

1702

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (5) Public Libraries

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the “setting up of computer and information centres in the district libraries by phases”, will the Administration inform this Committee :

- a. what are the specific service areas of the computer and information centres ?
- b. which district libraries will set up such centres in 2004-05 and what are the related priorities ?
- c. what is the estimated expenditure of each centre ? Please provide a specific breakdown of the expenses.

Asked by : Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply :

- a. Each Computer and Information Centre provides some 20 personal computers with Internet search and printing facilities for public use. The computers are installed with commonly used office automation, design, publishing and database software.
- b. In 2004-05, two new Computer and Information Centres will be provided in the new Tai Po Public Library and Ma On Shan Public Library. The former is expected to be open in late 2004 and the latter in early 2005.
- c. The estimated set up cost of each Computer and Information Centre is \$0.7M, including \$168,000 for computer hardware and furniture, \$492,000 for software, and \$40,000 for network and dataline installation. The annual recurrent cost is \$0.25M including hardware and software maintenance cost at \$0.08M and staff cost at \$0.17M.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB156

Question Serial No.

0433

Head : 170 – Social Welfare
Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Community Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the care and support networking team (CSNT) formed by the Social Welfare Department in 2003, what is the outcome of this? What is the respective number of service users for each of the three target groups of the team in 2003? What are the annual expenditure and manpower involved and the estimated expenditure in 2004-05?

Asked by : Hon. YEUNG Sum

Reply :

The CSNT commenced operation in July 2003. According to CSNT's Funding and Service Agreement, it has to serve three target groups namely ex-offenders, ex-mentally ill persons and street sleepers and to reach at least 180 new target individuals per annum. In the period July to December 2003, the operating non-governmental organisation (NGO) reached and served 284 cases comprising 71 ex-offenders, 98 ex-mentally ill persons, 86 street sleepers and 29 other vulnerable persons.

The project's part-year cost for the period July 2003 to March 2004 is \$1.0 m and the draft estimate for 2004-05 is \$1.3 m.

Under the lump sum grant mode of subventions, the operating NGO is given the flexibility to determine its manpower requirements, such as the number and rank of posts, having regard to its operational needs.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Paul TANG
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	25 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB157

Question Serial No.

0636

Head : 170 – Social Welfare
Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Community Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Under this programme area, it is stated that the Social Welfare Department formed a care and support networking team (CSNT) to render outreaching service to three target groups, i.e. street sleepers, ex-mentally ill persons and ex-offenders. In this connection, would the Administration inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) details of the outreaching service and the number of service users; and
- (2) the expenditure involved in the service?

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

- (1) The CSNT commenced operation in July 2003. It aims at reaching out to the ex-offenders, ex-mentally ill persons and street sleepers, matching their needs with appropriate social and welfare services, and strengthening their social functioning and life skills for their reintegration into the community. Apart from outreaching and networking services, the CSNT also provides support services including temporary financial aid and case and group work services to the target groups.

According to the Funding and Service Agreement of CSNT, it has to reach at least 180 new target individuals per year. As at December 2003, the team has already served 284 new target individuals.

- (2) The part-year cost of CSNT from July 2003 to March 2004 is \$1.0 m and the draft estimate for 2004-05 is \$1.3 m.

Signature
Name in block letters
Post Title
Date

Paul TANG

Director of Social Welfare

25 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB158

Question Serial No.

0892

Head : 170 – Social Welfare
Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Community Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

In 2003, the Social Welfare Department formed a care and support networking team (CSNT). What is the amount of resources involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHU Yu-lin, David

Reply :

The CSNT was set up in July 2003. Its part-year cost from July 2003 to March 2004 is \$1.0 m. The draft estimate for it is \$1.3 m in 2004-05.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Paul TANG
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	25 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB159

Question Serial No.

0894

Head : 170 – Social Welfare
Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Community Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

- (a) Regarding the financial provision for community development, what is the reason for a substantial drop of 96.8% in the amount of provision in 2004-05 as compared with 2003-04?
- (b) What kind of community development services will be provided by the Government sector in 2004-05?

Asked by : Hon. CHU Yu-lin, David

Reply :

- (a) As compared with the 2003-04 estimate for this programme under the Government sector, the decrease of 96.8% in the 2004-05 estimate is mainly due to the transfer of activities and provision from this programme to Programme (1) Family and Child Welfare at the beginning of 2004-05 and the lapsing of temporary jobs in 2003-04 (earmarked funding for their extension has been approved outside the 2004-05 estimate by Finance Committee on 20 February 2004).
- (b) Due to the transfer of resources from this programme to Programme (1) Family and Child Welfare as stated in (a) above, the Government sector will no longer directly provide community development services in 2004-05. Such services will be provided by non-governmental organisations.

Signature
Name in block letters
Post Title
Date

Paul TANG

Director of Social Welfare

25 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB160

Question Serial No.

1179

Head : 170 – Social Welfare
Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Community Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

There will be a decrease of 96.8% for the Social Welfare Department's expenditure on community development in 2004-05 when compared with the original estimate in the previous year. What are the reasons for such a drastic decrease and the respective number of organisations and staff affected?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

As compared with the 2003-04 estimates for this programme under the Government sector, the decrease of 96.8% in the 2004-05 estimate is mainly due to the transfer of activities and provision from this programme to Programme (1) Family and Child Welfare at the beginning of 2004-05 and the lapsing of temporary jobs in 2003-04 (earmarked funding for their extension has been approved on 20 February 2004 outside the 2004-05 estimate). No organisation will be affected by the transfer. Staff will also not be affected due to the extension of temporary jobs with separate provision approved by Finance Committee on 20 February 2004 or the redeployment of staff to fill vacancies in the department.

Signature
Name in block letters
Post Title
Date

Paul TANG
Director of Social Welfare
25 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB161

Question Serial No.

1180

Head : 170 – Social Welfare
Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Community Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Apart from the termination of Integrated Neighbourhood Projects (INPs) in targeted old urban areas in 2003-04, has the Social Welfare Department cut down other services in community development, including services for the new arrivals as a result of the redeployment of resources?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

As a follow up to the recommendations of the consultancy study on Review of INPs conducted by the University of Hong Kong, the INPs were terminated upon the expiry of their contractual periods. The consultant had recommended that the resources of INPs be re-deployed to serve vulnerable families.

Following such advice, the department has formed eight Family Support Networking Teams with resources deployed from the terminated INPs to serve target groups including new arrivals in the same old urban areas where the INPs operated. Also, a Care and Support Networking Team for serving vulnerable individuals was formed in July 2003 with resources deployed from a terminated Neighbourhood Level Community Development Project.

Apart from the above service re-engineering, the department has not reduced other services under community development in 2003-04.

Signature
Name in block letters
Post Title
Date

Paul TANG

Director of Social Welfare

25 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB162

Question Serial No.

1181

Head : 170 – Social Welfare
Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Community Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Will the Social Welfare Department (SWD) deploy resources in 2004-05 to help non-governmental organisations (NGOs) launch development projects such as the “Community Economy Project” under the “Community Economy and Mutual Assistance” in Wan Chai?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The above project conducted by the St James' Settlement with resources from the Oxfam serves as a good example of NGOs making use of community resources to meet unique service demands. SWD has no plan to deploy resources for NGOs to conduct similar projects.

We will however continue to provide recurrent subventions for the 13 Community Centres including the one run by St James' Settlement to provide a wide range of services to promote mutual support, self-reliance, social responsibility and cohesion within the community. Projects to promote mutual help for needy individual/families may be provided.

Signature
Name in block letters
Post Title
Date

Paul TANG

Director of Social Welfare

25 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB163

Question Serial No.

1480

Head : 170 – Social Welfare
Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (6) Community Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

With regard to the provision for community development, please inform this Committee:

- (1) The 2004-05 Estimates will see a substantial reduction in the total amount of provision for community development, in which the provision for the Government sector will be reduced by 96.8%. Please state the amount of reduction for achieving efficiency savings and clawed back by the Central Government and the amount of reduction for other purposes (please state the contents of such purposes).
- (2) In the 2004-05 Estimates, a total of \$129.7 m is provided to the subvented sector for community development. What is the provision for the 13 group and community work units in district community centres and the 20 Neighbourhood Level Community Development Projects? What is the amount of provision for meeting the administrative expenses of monitoring of the services of community development by the Social Welfare Department?

Asked by : Hon. LAW Chi-kwong

Reply :

- (1) The adjustment in provision for Community Development (CD) services of the Government sector for 2004-05 is mainly due to the transfer of activities and provision of Family Support and Resource Centre and Family Support Networking Team at \$107.5 m from Programme (6) to Programme (1) Family and Child Welfare to facilitate the formation of Integrated Family Service Centres in 2004-05 and the lapsing of temporary jobs at \$12.5 m in 2003-04 (earmarked funding for their extension has been approved by Finance Committee on 20 February 2004 outside the 2004-05 estimate).
- (2) The administrative cost of the Government sector for CD services is \$3.9 m in 2004-05. The estimate for CD services of the subvented sector for 2004-05 is as follows:

Service	2004-05 Estimate (\$M)
Provision for 13 Community Centres	98.8
Provision for one Care and Support Networking Team and 22 Neighbourhood Level Community Development Projects (NLCDP) including two NLCDPs to be terminated in 2004-05 subject to confirmation of the clearance of their serving areas	30.9
Total	129.7

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Paul TANG
Post Title	Director of Social Welfare
Date	25 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB164

Question Serial No.

1022

Head : 180 – Television and Entertainment
Licensing Authority

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (4) Entertainment Licensing

Controlling Officer : Commissioner for Television and Entertainment Licensing

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question : The target time for the approval of entertainment licenses is very long and is not business-friendly. For example, a target time of 18 weeks is required for the issue of an amusement game centre licence, 8 weeks is required for a transfer and 6 weeks for a renewal. Can the target and actual time for approval be shortened? If yes, is it necessary to increase the allocation of resources?

Asked by : Hon. CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, Selina

Reply :

When processing applications for amusement game centre licences, the Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority (TELA) has to seek the views of different government departments and district opinions. Consideration is given to whether the applicant is a fit and proper person to operate an amusement game centre, whether the proposed location and area is suitable for the operation of the centre etc. If it is considered that the application can proceed further, notice will be given to the applicant to start the fitting-out works. Upon completion of the fitting-out works, TELA will conduct a final inspection before the issue of licence. Currently it takes about a total of 18 weeks for TELA to process the applications.

When processing applications for the renewal and transfer of amusement game centre licences, TELA has also to confirm that the applicant or transferee is able to continue to fulfil the duties of the licensee. Advice from the Police will be sought if necessary and inspection will be conducted before granting an approval. As the amusement game centres are already in operation, the time required for approval of licence transfer and renewal is shorter than the approval time for new licences applications.

Since 1997, TELA has tried its best to shorten the approval time for amusement game centre licences in respect of new application, transfer and renewal. The target time for processing these applications has been shortened gradually from 24, 12 and 8 weeks to the current 18, 8 and 6 weeks respectively. The licences approved in 2003 in respect of new application, transfer and renewal are 4, 46 and 411 respectively. It should be noted that for transfers and renewals, the amusement game centres can continue to operate while applications are being processed.

TELA will review the internal procedures of applications approval and may consider to further shorten the target time for approval with the resources available. TELA will also study the issue of shortening the time for processing application with other departments.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Ms. Lorna WONG

Commissioner for Television and
Entertainment Licensing

25.3.2004

Reply Serial No.

Question Serial No.

1705

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question : What is the progress for the following projects ? How will the allocation for the coming year be spent ?

- (a) 3180SC : Community hall at Tsz On Estate housing development phase 3;
- (b) 3183SC : Community hall at Yau Tong Estate redevelopment phase 4;
- (c) 3368RO : Kowloon Bay Recreation Ground;
- (d) 3370RO : Hammer Hill Road Park, Diamond Hill; and
- (e) 3384RO : Improvement to Lok Wah Playground, Kwun Tong.

Asked by : Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

<u>Reply :</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Progress and Funding Requirement</u>
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- (a) 3180SC The superstructure works of the community hall in Tsz On Estate Phase 3 is being carried out by Housing Department and is expected to be completed by end of April 2004. Thereafter, Architectural Services Department will carry out the fitting out works of the community hall for expected completion by end December 2004.

The allocation for 2004-05 is for payment of part of the superstructure works and the fitting out works.

- (b) 3183SC The superstructure and fitting out works for the community hall in Yau Tong Estate Phase 4 will be carried out by Housing Department. The piling works for the community hall is underway and is expected to be completed by end of April 2004. In view of the recent change in the master programme of the housing development, Housing Department proposed to suspend the construction of the housing blocks. As a result, the design of the community hall is changed from the original integrated structure to a stand alone one. As a result, the commencement date for the superstructure works of the community hall will be deferred to end of 2004 and the construction period is 15 months.

The allocation for 2004-05 is for payment of the superstructure works.

- (c) 3368RO The project is under construction and is about 75% completed. The concreting works and underground drainage works have mostly been completed. The finishing works and installation of boundary fence walls and lamp posts are in progress.

The allocation for 2004-05 is for the finishing works, sports and play equipment and landscaping works. The expected completion date is 3rd quarter 2004.

- (d) 3370RO The project is under construction and is about 25% completed. The site formation, concreting works and drainage works are in progress.

The allocation for 2004-05 is for the drainage and plumbing works, concreting works, building services installation, finishing works and consultancy fees. The expected completion date is mid 2006.

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- (e) 3384RO The project is under construction and is about 50% completed. The concreting works and underground drainage works are almost completed. The installation of steel boundary fence walls and lamp posts are in progress.

The allocation for 2004-05 is for the finishing works, play equipment, landscaping works, site staff cost, and consultancy fees. The expected completion date is end 2004.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C. H. YUE

Post Title _____ Director of Architectural Services

Date _____ 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB166

Question Serial No.

1745

Head : 703 - Buildings Subhead : 3173SC

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question : In respect of Project 3173SC Centre for Youth Development, what are the progress and the planned use of the building to be constructed ?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Chin-shek

Reply : The Centre for Youth Development, through the provision of a wide range of venues and facilities, will serve as a focal point for territory-wide youth development programmes and activities. The Centre would also provide support to non-government organizations (NGOs) and youth groups in promoting youth development.

Construction of substructure works for the Centre was completed in late 2003. The Government is now reviewing the future management and operation mode of the Centre, with a view to determining the implementation plan of the superstructure works.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C. H. YUE

Post Title _____ Director of Architectural Services

Date _____ 24 March 2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB167

Question Serial No.

0813

Head : Capital Works
Reserve Fund 707
New Towns and
Urban Area
Development

Subhead (No. & title):
7014CX Rural Public Works

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The estimated provision for Rural Public Works in 2002-03 and 2003-04 were \$160 million and \$150 million respectively. Why does the estimated provision decrease drastically by 13% to \$130 million in 2004-05?

Asked by : Hon. TANG Siu-tong

Reply :

To speed up the improvement in public facilities and to create more job opportunities, Government has pledged to spend an additional \$2 billion for works-related block allocations in each of the 2002-03 and 2003-04 financial year. The allocation for Subhead 7014CX has thus increased from \$118 million (the average for 1999-2000 to 2001-02) to \$160 million (2002-03) and \$150 million (2003-04). The provision of \$130 million for 2004-05 is in fact higher than the average provision of \$118 million before the additional allocation of \$2 billion came into play.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 24.3.2004

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB168

Question Serial No.

1432

Head : Capital Works
Reserve Fund
707 – New Towns
and Urban Area
Development

Subhead (No. & title): 7015CX Urban
Minor Works
Programme

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please list the works projects in Kwun Tong and Wong Tai Sin districts which are under block allocations 7015CX – Urban Minor Works Programme

Asked by : Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply :

The projects to be carried out under the Urban Minor Works Programme in Kwun Tong and Wong Tai Sin districts are -

Kwun Tong District

1. Repaving of a passage between Kwong Tin Estate bus stop and O King Road, Lam Tin
2. Improvement to the vacant area behind paper recycling factory in Cha Kwo Ling Village
3. Improvement to the vacant area near the Dragon Boat Inn in Cha Kwo Ling Village
4. Construction of cover over the staircase linking Kung Lok Road and Luen On Street
5. Improvement to morning walk trail at Lam Tin
6. Planting works in Kwun Tong District

Wong Tai Sin District

1. Construction of Wong Tai Sin Cultural Garden
2. Wong Tai Sin District travel information map boards
3. Repair and improvement to rear lanes at Fung Wong San Tsuen (2004-05)
4. Greening works in Wong Tai Sin District (2004-05)
5. Provision of arbours near Kai Tak Nullah

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Mrs PAMELA TAN

Post Title _____ Director of Home Affairs

Date _____ 24.3.2004