

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

**Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs
[Session No. : 16] [File name : HAB-e1.doc]**

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
HAB001	0046	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	53	Recreation, Sport and Entertainment Licensing
HAB002	0047	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	53	District and Community Relations
HAB003	0048	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	53	District and Community Relations
HAB004	0059	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	53	Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
HAB005	1355	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	53	Rights of the Individual
HAB006	1356	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	53	Rights of the Individual
HAB007	1357	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	53	District and Community Relations
HAB008	1358	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	53	District and Community Relations
HAB009	1359	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	53	Culture
HAB010	0450	CHOY So-yuk	53	Rights of the Individual
HAB011	0451	CHOY So-yuk	53	Rights of the Individual
HAB012	0452	CHOY So-yuk	53	Rights of the Individual
HAB013	0830	CHOY So-yuk	53	Information Policy
HAB014	1730	CHOY So-yuk	53	District and Community Relations
HAB015	1731	CHOY So-yuk	53	District and Community Relations
HAB016	1732	CHOY So-yuk	53	District and Community Relations
HAB017	1733	CHOY So-yuk	53	Youth Development
HAB018	1734	CHOY So-yuk	53	Youth Development
HAB019	1735	CHOY So-yuk	53	Recreation, Sport and Entertainment Licensing
HAB020	1736	CHOY So-yuk	53	Culture

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
HAB021	1737	CHOY So-yuk	53	Subvention: HK Academy for Performing Arts, HK Arts Development Council and HK Sports Institute Limited
HAB022	1744	CHOY So-yuk	53	Recreation, Sport and Entertainment Licensing
HAB023	0453	HO Chun-yan, Albert	53	Rights of the Individual
HAB024	0454	HO Chun-yan, Albert	53	Rights of the Individual
HAB025	0455	HO Chun-yan, Albert	53	Rights of the Individual
HAB026	0456	HO Chun-yan, Albert	53	Youth Development
HAB027	0457	HO Chun-yan, Albert	53	Youth Development
HAB028	0458	HO Chun-yan, Albert	53	Youth Development
HAB029	0459	HO Chun-yan, Albert	53	Youth Development
HAB030	0460	HO Chun-yan, Albert	53	Youth Development
HAB031	0874	HO Chun-yan, Albert	53	Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
HAB032	0875	HO Chun-yan, Albert	53	Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
HAB033	0976	HO Chun-yan, Albert	53	Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
HAB034	0977	HO Chun-yan, Albert	53	Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
HAB035	0978	HO Chun-yan, Albert	53	Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
HAB036	0979	HO Chun-yan, Albert	53	Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
HAB037	1175	HO Chun-yan, Albert	53	Youth Development
HAB038	1176	HO Chun-yan, Albert	53	Youth Development
HAB039	1177	HO Chun-yan, Albert	53	Youth Development
HAB040	0461	CHAN Yuen-han	53	Youth Development
HAB041	0462	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	53	District and Community Relations
HAB042	0463	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	53	District and Community Relations
HAB043	1171	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	53	Rights of the Individual
HAB044	1324	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	53	Rights of the Individual
HAB045	1325	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	53	Rights of the Individual
HAB046	1326	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	53	District and Community Relations
HAB047	1327	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	53	District and Community Relations
HAB048	1350	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	53	District and Community Relations
HAB049	1351	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	53	District and Community Relations
HAB050	0465	CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew	53	Subvention: HK Academy for Performing Arts, HK Arts Development Council and HK Sports Institute Limited
HAB051	0466	CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew	53	District and Community Relations
HAB052	0588	TAM Heung-man	53	Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
HAB053	0589	TAM Heung-man	53	Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
HAB054	0592	WONG Kwok-hing	53	District and Community Relations

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
HAB055	0662	WONG Ting-kwong	53	District and Community Relations
HAB056	0720	WONG Ting-kwong	53	Rights of the Individual
HAB057	0721	WONG Ting-kwong	53	Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
HAB058	0770	WONG Ting-kwong	53	Recreation, Sport and Entertainment Licensing
HAB059	1651	WONG Ting-kwong	53	Culture
HAB060	0725	NG Margaret	53	Rights of the Individual
HAB061	0726	NG Margaret	53	Rights of the Individual
HAB062	0903	LAU Wong-fat	53	Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
HAB063	1015	FOK Tsun-ting, Timothy	53	Recreation, Sport and Entertainment Licensing
HAB064	1083	CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, Selina	53	Subvention: HK Academy for Performing Arts, HK Arts Development Council and HK Sports Institute Limited
HAB065	1152	LEE Cheuk-yan	53	Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data
HAB066	1153	LEE Cheuk-yan	53	Rights of the Individual
HAB067	0045	CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy	63	Licensing
HAB068	0488	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	63	Community Building
HAB069	0489	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	63	Community Building
HAB070	0613	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	63	Community Building
HAB071	0614	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	63	Community Building
HAB072	1160	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	63	Community Building
HAB073	1505	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	63	Community Building

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
HAB074	0490	YOUNG Howard	63	Licensing
HAB075	0833	LAU Kin-ye, Miriam	63	Territory Planning and Development
HAB076	0901	LAU Wong-fat	63	Territory Planning and Development
HAB077	0902	LAU Wong-fat	63	Local Environmental Improvements
HAB078	1098	CHEUNG Hok-ming	63	Community Building
HAB079	1099	CHEUNG Hok-ming	63	Community Building
HAB080	1100	CHEUNG Hok-ming	63	Community Building
HAB081	1102	CHEUNG Hok-ming	63	Community Building
HAB082	1134	LEE Cheuk-yan	63	All Programmes
HAB083	1289	CHAN Yuen-han	63	Community Building
HAB084	1290	CHAN Yuen-han	63	Community Building
HAB085	1291	CHAN Yuen-han	63	Community Building
HAB086	1652	WONG Ting-kwong	63	Licensing
HAB087	1699	NG Margaret	63	Community Building
HAB088	1700	NG Margaret	63	All Programmes
HAB089	1887	WONG Kwok-hing	63	Local Environmental Improvements
HAB090	0493	LEONG Kah-kit, Alan	74	All Programmes
HAB091	0112	LAU Wai-hing, Emily	95	Horticulture and Amenities
HAB092	0514	CHAN Bernard	95	Recreation and Sports
HAB093	0515	LEUNG Yiu-chung	95	All Programmes
HAB094	0516	LEUNG Yiu-chung	95	Heritage and Museums
HAB095	0565	CHOY So-yuk	95	Horticulture and Amenities
HAB096	0566	CHOY So-yuk	95	Horticulture and Amenities
HAB097	1646	CHOY So-yuk	95	Recreation and Sports
HAB098	0627	CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew	95	Public Libraries

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
HAB099	0974	CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew	95	Heritage and Museums
HAB100	1389	CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew	95	Recreation and Sports
HAB101	1390	CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew	95	Recreation and Sports
HAB102	1013	FOK Tsun-ting, Timothy	95	Recreation and Sports
HAB103	1014	FOK Tsun-ting, Timothy	95	Recreation and Sports
HAB104	1084	CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, Selina	95	Heritage and Museums
HAB105	1136	LEE Cheuk-yan	95	All Programmes
HAB106	1137	LEE Cheuk-yan	95	All Programmes
HAB107	1415	WONG Kwok-hing	95	Performing Arts
HAB108	1416	WONG Kwok-hing	95	Public Libraries
HAB109	1432	WONG Kwok-hing	95	Horticulture and Amenities
HAB110	1433	WONG Kwok-hing	95	Horticulture and Amenities
HAB111	1434	WONG Kwok-hing	95	Horticulture and Amenities
HAB112	1435	WONG Kwok-hing	95	All Programmes
HAB113	1436	WONG Kwok-hing	95	All Programmes
HAB114	1437	WONG Kwok-hing	95	All Programmes
HAB115	1450	WONG Kwok-hing	95	Recreation and Sports
HAB116	1748	LI Kwok-ying	95	Recreation and Sports
HAB117	1764	SIN Chung-kai	95	Recreation and Sports
HAB118	0150	HO Chun-yan, Albert	170	Community Development
HAB119	0767	LEONG Kah-kit, Alan	170	Community Development
HAB120	0912	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	170	Community Development
HAB121	1504	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	170	Community Development
HAB122	0963	CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando	170	Community Development

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
HAB123	1222	FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick	170	Community Development
HAB124	1271	CHAN Yuen-han	170	Community Development
HAB125	0636	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	703	District open space in Area 2, Tung Chung
HAB126	1599	LI Wah-ming, Fred	703	Community hall at Tsz On Estate housing development phase 3; Community hall at Yau Tong Estate redevelopment phase 4; Kowloon Bay Recreation Ground; Hammer Hill Road Park, Diamond Hill and Improvement to Lok Wah Playground, Kwun Tong
HAB127	0401	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	707	Urban Minor Works Programme
HAB128	0403	CHAN Wai-yip, Albert	707	Rural Public Works Programme
HAB129	0975	CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew	710	Library Automation System and Digital Library System
HAB130	1082	CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, Selina	49	Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

As part of the public education programme targeted at youths, we co-organized with HKedcity a gambling education campaign between May and July 2004. The campaign, known as “Say No to Gambling – Youth Creative Awards”, included a series of creative competitions for youths. The competitions were intended to drive home messages relating to self-control and resistance to gambling temptation among youths through their own language and influence over their peers. To further enhance the awareness of gambling-related problems among young people, HKedcity recently collaborated with a professional drama group to launch a series of roving interactive drama in secondary schools. We seek to make use of stimulating interactive activities to drive home the messages about the adverse consequences of excessive gambling among young people.

We would take into account the participation rate, feedback from participants as well as experts’ opinions in assessing the cost-effectiveness of the public education programmes. We are currently conducting a survey on public participation in gambling activities. This survey would gauge, among other things, the public awareness of the various measures launched by the Government in addressing gambling-related problems. The findings of the study would provide useful information to facilitate the planning of preventive and remedial services to address gambling-related problems in future.

Signature _____

Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 24 March 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB003

Question Serial No.

0048

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 : What are the manpower and expenditure involved in educating the public on gambling-related issues in 2005–06? Please provide details of the specific work plans, including the estimated expenditure of the proposed activities.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

In 2003, we set up the Ping Wo Fund (the Fund) for the purpose of financing preventive and remedial measures to address gambling-related problems. The Hong Kong Jockey Club (HKJC) 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. One of the major objectives of the Fund is to finance education programmes to enhance public understanding about the nature and risks of gambling activities as well as increase public awareness of gambling-related problems.

The Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) is responsible for managing 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 B1, 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 2005 – 06, we would continue to launch public education programme to warn the general public against excessive gambling, as well as to remind the public to seek assistance when they have gambling-related problems. Specifically, we have commissioned an advertising agency to produce a new series of TV and radio Announcements in the Public Interest which would start to be broadcast in April or May 2005. Posters and banners to warn against excessive gambling would also be displayed in different locations, including Off-course betting branches of HKJC. In addition, we would explore the possibility of producing a new series of TV docu-drama on gambling-related problems.

Separately, we are planning to commission organizations with experience in conducting school and youth education programme, in particular experience in handling gambling-related problems, to launch youth education campaigns in schools and districts. We would be launching an on-line portal on gambling-related education and dissemination of related information. We would also be staging roving interactive drama in secondary schools so as to make use of stimulating interactive activities to drive home messages about the adverse consequences of excessive gambling among young people.

The overall budget for all the various public education programmes to be implemented in 2005-06 is around \$5 million. They would be financed by both the Ping Wo Fund and the operating expenditure of HAB.

Signature _____

Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 24 March 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB004

Question Serial No.

0059

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

Programme : (9) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and 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, the Equal Opportunities Commission received about 560 000 enquiries, some 140 000 cases more than that of 2003. How many of such cases were related to sex discrimination, disability discrimination, family status discrimination, racial discrimination and other forms of discrimination respectively?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

The following table shows the breakdown of the number of enquiries received by the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) in 2003 and 2004.

Breakdown of Enquiries Received by EOC

	Year 2003	Year 2004
Specific Enquiries (directly related to discrimination)	5,457	4,811
	<u>within jurisdiction</u> 4,484	<u>within jurisdiction</u> 4,069
	<i>Sex Discrimination Ordinance (SDO)</i> 1,748	<i>SDO</i> 1,316
	<i>Disability Discrimination Ordinance (DDO)</i> 2,538	<i>DDO</i> 2,615
	<i>Family Status Discrimination Ordinance (FSDO)</i> 198	<i>FSDO</i> 138
	<u>outside jurisdiction</u> 973	<u>outside jurisdiction</u> 742
<i>Age</i> 57	<i>Age</i> 42	
<i>Race</i> 56	<i>Race</i> 41	
<i>Religion or Belief</i> 6	<i>Religion or Belief</i> 13	
<i>Sexual Orientation</i> 21	<i>Sexual Orientation</i> 9	
<i>Others</i> 833	<i>Others</i> 637	
General Enquiries (including all enquiries not directly related to discrimination but more on Equal Opportunities Commission's work, its general functions and events, EOC's publicity materials such as Code of Practice, newsletters, good management practice, etc. through hotline, Interactive Voice Response System and Website)	411,752	559,857
Total Enquiries	417,209	564,668

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **STEPHEN FISHER**

Post Title _____ **Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)**

Date _____ **23 March 2005**

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB005

Question Serial No.

1355

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

Programme : (2) Rights of Individual

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

As mentioned under “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2005-06”, HAB will introduce the Bill against racial discrimination. What is the legislative timetable? Has financial provision been made for education programmes to promote racial harmony and drive home the message of anti-discrimination? If so, please give details of the programmes and the estimated expenditure and manpower involved.

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

Legislative timetable: we are now drafting the Bill and hope to introduce it into the Legislative Council later this year.

Public education against racial discrimination and the promotion of racial harmony (2005-06): as in 2004-05, we have reserved \$5.79 million for these purposes. The breakdown is as follows –

Item	Estimated expenditure
Staff cost of Race Relations Unit	\$1.5 million
Equal Opportunities (Race) Funding Scheme	\$0.56 million
Mobile Information Service at the Airport	\$1 million
Service Guide Books	\$0.3 million
After school support programme	\$0.5 million
Language classes	\$0.65 million
Printing and operational expenses	\$0.58 million
Culture in Motion	\$0.24 million
Radio programmes	\$0.36 million
Other promotional activities	\$0.1 million
Total:	<u>\$5.79 million</u>

Manpower: our 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.

Signature _____

Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 31 March 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB006

Question Serial No.

1356

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 :

As mentioned under “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2005-06”, HAB will set up a “Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit” (the “Unit”). Would the Administration inform this Committee of the following:

1. In addition to offering advice on the survey on sex discrimination conducted by the consultant, what are the other duties and objectives of the Unit?
2. What is the organisational set-up of the Unit, the number of full-time staff and the amount of financial provision?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

1. In 2005-06, we are putting more resources into the area of sexual orientation and gender identity discrimination. We have already set up a Sexual Minorities Forum. We will also set up a Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit initially as a 2-year pilot scheme. This is modelled on HAB's existing “Race Relations Unit”.

The unit was not involved in providing comments to the questionnaire of the “survey on sex discrimination” as mentioned in the question. It will handle gender identity and sexual orientation issues and conduct activities to further promote equal opportunities for persons of different sexual orientation and transgender persons. The unit will also maintain a hotline for enquiry and complaints about discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation and gender identity, and will liaise with relevant NGOs and government departments.

2. The unit will have two full-time non-civil servant contract staff. We are in the process of recruiting the staff to run the unit. The unit is expected to commence operation by around the third quarter of 2005. The budget for the unit will be \$1.5 million per year.

Signature _____

Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 31 March 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB007

Question Serial No.

1357

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs
Bureau

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (4) District and Community Relations

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The Administration has indicated that it will try to draw more middle class people and/or youths and women into advisory and statutory bodies (ASBs) when their role and functions are being reviewed. Has the Administration any plan to draw more middle class people and/or youths and women into advisory and statutory bodies in 2005-06? What are the specific plans, work schedule and estimated expenditure ?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

We had issued guidelines to bureaux/departments to ensure a balanced gender composition. An initial working target of at least 25% for each gender has been suggested for benchmarking purpose. There has been steady progress in improving the gender balance. As at 28 Feb 2005, about 24% of appointed members of ASBs are women. As for young persons (people under 40), while no working target has been set for this group at this stage, we would also encourage bureaux/departments to target them for appointment to ASBs. We would issue further guidelines to bureaux/departments to enhance diversity in appointments to ASBs.

On 10 March 2005, we established the Public Affairs Forum to involve more middle class people in the discussion of political affairs. The Forum is operated mainly through a dedicated website which will provide a platform in the form of a discussion room for exchange of views among members of the Forum. We have already appointed 340 middle class persons as members of the forum. Our ultimate target is to have around 600 members on the forum.

Expenditure in relation to the above tasks will be subsumed under the provisions for personal emoluments and operational expenses of the respective Controlling Officers.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **STEPHEN FISHER**

Post Title _____ **Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)**

Date _____ **31 March 2005**

Central Personality Index
(As at 31 December 2004)

Distribution by Sex

Sex	Number
Female	5 060
Male	18 715
Total	23 775 *

* Excluding 222 deceased and 1 549 to be ascertained.

Distribution by Age Group

Age Group	No of Person
Below 30	198
30-39	1 066
40-49	4 392
50-59	6 958
60-69	3 660
70 and above	3 253
Not provided by data subjects	4 248

Distribution by Professional Grouping*

Professional Grouping	No of Person
Accountancy	328
Agriculture & Fisheries	90
Architectural	286
Banking	287
Catering	178
Chinese Medicine	128
Commercial	1 085
Culture	95
Education	1 388
Engineering	816
Financial Services	369
Health Services	259
Higher Education	1 349

Professional Grouping	No of Person
Hotel	74
Import & Export	259
Industry	681
Information Technology	448
Insurance	248
Labour	177
Legal	971
Medical	565
Performing Arts	106
Pharmacist	42
Planning	80
Real Estate & Construction	594
Religious	78
Social Welfare	747
Sports	70
Surveying	177
Textile & Garment	183
Tourism	161
Transport	469
Wholesale & Retail	334
Others	2 489
Not provided by data subjects	10 119

*As some data subjects reported of multiple professional grouping, the total number of persons in this table is greater than the total number of persons in the table of 'distribution by sex'

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB009

Question Serial No.

1359

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 :

Matters requiring special attention in 2005-06 include “organise various activities to promote creative industries in Hong Kong”.

1. Please list the titles and natures of the activities, the creative industries involved and their estimated cost.
2. What is the total estimated provision for the above activities and the manpower involved with ranks?
3. In addition to organisation of activities, are there any other plans to promote creative industries? If so, what are these plans?
4. What was done in 2004-05 to promote development of creative industries in Hong Kong? And what is the amount of expenditure?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Yu-yan, Tommy

Reply :

1. The activities to be organized and sponsored by the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) to promote creative industries in 2005-06 are as follows:-

<u>Title</u> <u>(month)</u>	<u>Nature</u>	<u>Creative & Industries</u> <u>Involved</u>
Sovereign Art Prize Project (April 2005)	The Art Prize invites entries from both established and emerging artists residing throughout Asia.	Art
Public Art Project (July 2005)	A public art project to promote the habit of outdoor reading. The project will align with the 2005 Hong Kong Book Fair.	Art / Publishing
Youth Art Performance Scheme (September 2005 to August 2006)	A year-long programme to provide a regular platform at Leisure and Cultural Services Department venue for young people to showcase their talents in performing arts.	Performing Arts

The third Asia Cultural Co-operation Forum (November 2005)	The Forum will be attended by cultural ministers of People Republic of China and Asian countries, renowned artists etc.	A cluster of creative industries
Creative November (November 2005)	A month-long creativity-themed events.	A cluster of creative industries
Comic Home Base (Commencing January 2006)	A one-year programme comprising exhibitions of local comic artists, international comic fair and conference, publications etc.	Publishing
“What’s Good” Conference and Exhibition (February 2006)	Cross media exhibition of creative talents in Hong Kong, focusing on creative personalities of a particular age group.	A cluster of creative industries

The estimate cost of the above events is HK\$9.33M.

2. Funds will be provided for the above activities with an estimated expenditure of \$9.33M. HAB will go into partnership with outside organizations to organise/sponsor the above activities, except the third Asian Cultural Co-operation Forum which will be hosted by the Bureau. The above activities are handled by the Culture Section 1 of HAB. Officers in this Section comprising an Administrative Officer Staff Grade C officer, four non-directorate officers and seven supporting/ secretarial staff. They will handle these activities on top of their daily work. No additional manpower resources will be incurred.
3. In addition to organizing activities to enhance community awareness and appreciation of creative industries, efforts would be made to foster and cultivate creativity through promoting arts education, research work, liaison with the cultural sectors and enterprises, and promotion of regional partnerships. Also, HAB has engaged the Centre for Cultural Policy Research of the University of Hong Kong in a study on the Hong Kong Creativity Index (HKCI) with a view to devising a framework for the HKCI.
4. The following activities were organized / sponsored in 2004-05 to promote the development of creative industries:
 - (a) *“Creative Teen” – Employment Programme (Jan – Dec 2004)*
A one-year program for youngsters, comprising enterprising and vocational skills training programs; Career Expo and placement and web-networking with potential employers.
 - (b) *Asia Cultural Co-operation Forum 2004 (Nov 2004)*
The flagship cultural event of Asia initiated by HAB with the aim of fostering the momentum in regional cultural co-operation, sharing experience on the development of creative industries, enhancing partnership between governments and facilitating and promoting private sector initiatives. Cultural Ministers from the PRC, 8 Asian economies and over 20 international guest speakers attended the four-day forum, attracting over 2,000 attendants.

(c) *New Trends in Architecture (Jan 2005)*

Held from 5 to 19 January 2005. The exhibition featured works of 20 architects from the Asia-Pacific and Europe, the young Hong Kong architects, and the architectural students of The University of Hong Kong and The Chinese University of Hong Kong. The event also included two symposiums.

(d) *“What’s Good ?” Conference (Jan 2005)*

This event was held from 8 to 11 January 2005 in the Arts Centre. Over 12 international and local creative innovators were invited as speakers for five conference sessions. The event also included an exhibition on creative works and spin-off seminars.

(e) *Entertainment Expo (March 2005)*

Held from 22 March to 4 April 2005, bringing together for the first time eight leading entertainment events, namely the Hong Kong International Films and TV Market (FILMART); Hong Kong-Asia Film Financing Forum; the Digital Entertainment Leadership Forum; the 3rd Hong Kong Digital Entertainment Excellence Awards; the Hong Kong International Film Festival; the Hong Kong Film Awards Presentation Ceremony; the IFPI Hong Kong Top Sales Music Award and the Hong Kong Independent Short Film and Video Awards.

(f) *The Annual University Student Film and TV Festival in the Greater China Region (March 2005)*

Held for the first time in Hong Kong and organized by Hong Kong Baptist University. Participants include representatives from over 40 academic institutions in the film and media discipline in the Greater China Region. Prominent international figures from the film industry also attended as speakers.

The total expenditure incurred for the above activities was \$10.53M.

Signature _____

Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 8 April 2005

<p>(4) <u>Seminar on National Education</u> To organize an international seminar on national education in June 2005 for the purpose of sharing the expertise and experiences from different jurisdictions in promoting national education to the general public outside schools.</p>	<p>800,000 <i>(Amount paid in 2004-05: 200,000)</i></p>	<p>500</p>
<p>(5) <u>Seminar on Corporate Citizenship</u> To organize a seminar on corporate citizenship in April 2005 for the purpose of enhancing awareness and understanding of corporate social responsibility amongst the local business community.</p>	<p>144,300 <i>(Amount paid in 2004-05: 36,000)</i></p>	<p>150</p>
<p>(6) <u>Biennial Survey on Civic Awareness</u> To gauge public views on a specified range of aspects relating to civic awareness and national identity. The fieldwork has been completed and the survey results will be ready in early 2005.</p>	<p>260,000 <i>(Amount paid in 2004-05: 260,000)</i></p>	<p>Not applicable</p>
<p>(7) <u>Promotion of the Basic Law in the local community</u> To organize a public speaking contest on the Basic Law targeted at young people in late 2005, and to produce/reprint education materials/teaching kits.</p>	<p>1,296,800</p>	<p>800</p>
<p>(8) <u>Civic Education Telephone Hotline</u> To launch a new series of teleline stories in early 2005 for the purpose of conveying civic education messages</p>	<p>206,400</p>	<p>300,000</p>
<p>(9) <u>Education Materials and Publications</u> To continue the publication of, and sponsorship of the production of publications for the purpose of disseminating messages of good citizenship and civic responsibilities.</p>	<p>2,640,000</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>

Signature _____

Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 30 March 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB011

Question Serial No.

0451

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 :

1. Regarding the setting up of the “Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit”, please provide details of its operation, including its objectives, the number of members, members’ selection criteria and operating expenditures.
2. Has the Administration consulted any concerned parties, including religious organizations and sexual orientation concern groups’ on the setting up of the Unit? If so, what are the views of such organizations/groups?

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply :

1. In 2005-06, we are putting more resources into the area of sexual orientation and gender identity discrimination. We have already set up a Sexual Minorities Forum. We will also set up a Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit initially as a 2-year pilot scheme. This is modelled on HAB’s existing “Race Relations Unit”. The budget for the unit will be \$1.5 million per year.

The unit will handle gender identity and sexual orientation issues and conduct activities to further promote equal opportunities for persons of different sexual orientation and for transgender persons. The unit will also maintain a hotline for enquiry and complaints about discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation and gender identity, and will liaise with relevant NGOs and government departments. We are in the process of recruiting two non-civil servant contract staff to run the unit. The unit is expected to commence operation by around the third quarter of 2005.

2. The idea of setting up a Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit was discussed at the Sexual Minorities Forum and the proposal was supported. The Forum was attended by many local organizations that have an active interest in issues regarding gender identity and sexual orientation. We have received no objection on the setting up of the unit in our discussions in this area with some religious groups and concern groups on family values.

Signature _____

Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 31 March 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB014

Question Serial No.

1730

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 :

- (1) It is noted that the Administration will continue to conduct public education on gambling-related issues. What is the estimated expenditure involved in 2005–06?
- (2) Has the Administration evaluated the effectiveness of the public education conducted, such as by finding out whether there is a reduction in the number of gamblers?

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply :

- (1) In 2003, we set up the Ping Wo Fund (the Fund) for the purpose of financing preventive and remedial measures to address gambling-related problems. The Hong Kong Jockey Club (HKJC) 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. One of the major objectives of the Fund is to finance education programmes to enhance public understanding about the nature and risks of gambling activities as well as increase public awareness of gambling-related problems, so as to prevent them from developing problem or pathological behaviour in gambling.

In 2005–06, we would continue to launch public education programmes to warn the general public against excessive gambling, as well as to remind the public to seek assistance when they have gambling-related problems. Specifically, we have commissioned an advertising agency to produce a new series of TV and radio Announcements in the Public Interest which would start to be broadcast in April or May 2005. Posters and banners to warn against excessive gambling would also be displayed in different locations, including Off-course betting branches of HKJC. In addition, we would explore the possibility of producing a new series of TV docu-drama on gambling-related problems.

Separately, we are planning to commission organizations with experience in conducting school and youth education programme, in particular experience in handling gambling-related problems, to launch youth education campaigns in schools and districts. We would be launching an on-line portal on gambling-related education and dissemination of related information. We would also be staging roving interactive drama in secondary schools so as to make use of stimulating interactive activities to drive home messages about the adverse consequences of excessive gambling among young people. The estimated expenditure for the various public education programmes in 2005-06 is around \$5 million. They would be financed by both the Ping Wo Fund and the operating expenditure of the Home Affairs Bureau.

- (2) We would take into account the participation rate, feedback from participants, as well as experts' opinions in assessing the cost-effectiveness of the public education programmes. We are currently conducting a survey on public participation in gambling activities. This survey would gauge, among other things, the public awareness of the various measures launched by the Government in addressing gambling-related problems. The findings of the study would provide useful information to facilitate the planning of preventive and remedial services to address gambling-related problems in future.

Signature _____

Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 31 March 2005

In August 2004, we commissioned the University of Hong Kong (HKU) to conduct a study on the Hong Kong people's participation in gambling activities. Apart from a telephone survey on the general population, the study also includes a survey on adolescents to look into their gambling behaviour and experience. Problem and pathological gamblers and their significant others would also be invited to attend focus group discussions for the purpose of understanding their service needs and their pathways to problem or pathological gambling. The findings of the study would shed light on the risk factors for problem and pathological gambling in Hong Kong and provide useful information to facilitate the planning of preventive and remedial services to address gambling-related problems in the future. The results of this study are expected to be available in mid-2005.

- (3) The results of the study on Hong Kong people's participation in gambling activities would be available in mid-2005. We would take into account the results of the study in considering whether to commission other research or studies on any specific gambling-related issues in 2005–06.

Signature _____

Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 31 March 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB020

Question Serial No.

1736

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 :

With the establishment of the Cantonese Opera Advisory Committee in May 2004, what is the financial provision for the work plans of the Committee in 2005-06? How will the Administration facilitate the Committee's development of such plans?

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply:

The Cantonese Opera Advisory Committee was set up by the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) in May 2004 to advise the government on the promotion, preservation, study and development of Cantonese opera and help formulate policies in the development of Cantonese opera. In addition to promotion of Cantonese Opera and its training, the Committee facilitates cooperation between the Cantonese Opera sector and other organizations, and mobilizes participation of various sectors and organizations in promoting Cantonese Opera. The Committee also examines, preserves and studies the history and heritage of Cantonese opera, and assists in exploring financial sources, including the feasibility of establishing a development fund for Cantonese Opera. Moreover, it considers the possible ways to promote the social recognition and status of Cantonese Opera. Four working groups have been set up under the committee on venues, development fund, promotion and heritage. As the Committee is advisory in nature, their work is carried out through HAB and Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD), hence there is no special financial provision to this Committee.

Throughout the year, the Theatre and Chinese Opera Office of LCSD stages a variety of Chinese operatic presentations, particularly Cantonese opera. It commissions the production of a good number of new works, with due regard to preservation of the tradition of Cantonese opera, such as its traditional repertoire and routine. The Cantonese operatic presentations are put on the programme list of arts festivals of related theme. In addition, arts appreciation activities such as seminars, lectures, workshops, etc. are arranged before and after performances to vigorously promote Chinese opera including Cantonese opera. On the other hand, the Audience Building Office of LCSD launches promotional programmes at school and community levels, such as District Cantonese Opera Parade, in order to promote Cantonese Opera and nurture budding artists and Cantonese opera troupes. The Office also encourages operatic troupes to participate in the Artist-in-Residence Scheme and the Community Cultural Ambassador Scheme; sponsors organized professional training courses of Chinese opera through provision of the venue; and supports the educational programmes by organizing Chinese opera appreciation programmes with

educational institutions. Besides, the Entertainment Office of LCSD regularly arranges free admission for Cantonese opera and music programmes across the territory. To preserve the Cantonese operatic heritage, the Hong Kong Heritage Museum, the Hong Kong Museum of History, the Hong Kong Film Archive and the Hong Kong Central Library have their own collections of heritage, films and other relevant materials relating to Cantonese Opera.

In 2004-05, LCSD allocated a total of \$14,297,000 for promotion of Cantonese Opera. The provision is about the same in 2005-06 for the promotion of Cantonese Opera and to support the work plan of the Cantonese Opera Advisory Committee.

Signature _____

Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB024

Question Serial No.

0454

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

Programme : (2) Rights of Individual

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

What is the amount of expenditure on the promotion of racial harmony and equality in 2005-06? Please give a detailed list of the work programmes and their expenditures involved, staff establishment and timetables.

Asked by : Hon. HO Chun-yan, Albert

Reply :

We plan to spend \$5.79 million to promote racial harmony and equality in 2005-06. The breakdown is as follows-

Item	Estimated expenditure
Staff cost of Race Relations Unit	\$ 1.5 million
Equal Opportunities (Race) Funding Scheme	\$ 0.56 million
Mobile Information Service at the Airport	\$ 1 million
Service Guide Books	\$ 0.3 million
After school support programme	\$ 0.5 million
Language classes	\$ 0.65 million
Printing and operational expenses	\$ 0.58 million
Culture in Motion	\$ 0.24 million
Radio programmes	\$ 0.36 million
Other promotional activities	\$ 0.1 million
Total:	<u>\$ 5.79 million</u>

Staff establishment: 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.

Timetables: the existing initiatives are on-going. They include such things as language classes, the Equal Opportunities Funding Scheme, service guidebooks, the After school support programme, Radio programmes in selected minority languages, and public education campaigns. We are also organising a series of thematic Sunday cultural programmes entitled 'Culture in Motion'. The programmes include music and dance performances, exhibitions, and other forms of entertainment to promote the cultural heritage of the main ethnic communities. The first programme took place in February 2005 and we hope to organise others in 2005-06.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ STEPHEN FISHER _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting) _____

Date _____ 30 March 2005 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB027

Question Serial No.

0457

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Bureau Subhead :

Programme : (5) Youth Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the uniformed groups receiving subventions from the Home Affairs Bureau in 2004-05, please state the name, subventions received and number of members subvented for each of the uniformed groups and youth organizations.

Asked by : Hon. HO Chun-yan, Albert

Reply :

We provide recurrent subventions to 10 uniformed groups in support of their non-formal education and training programmes for young people aged between 8 and 25. The names of these uniformed groups, subvention amounts in 2004-05, and number of members aged 8-25 are as follows:

<u>Uniformed Groups</u>	<u>Subvention in 2004-05</u> (\$)	<u>Number of members aged 8-25</u> (as at 31 March 2004)
Scout Association of Hong Kong	17,128,000	54,299
The Hong Kong Girl Guides Association	9,736,000	38,144
Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps	892,000	3,173
Hong Kong Sea Cadet Corps	1,047,000	1,523
Hong Kong Adventure Corps	806,000	1,546
Hong Kong Red Cross	7,063,000	14,284
Hong Kong St. John Ambulance	1,153,000	2,447
The Boys' Brigade, Hong Kong	1,800,000	4,274
The Girls' Brigade (Hong Kong)	762,000	1,082
Hong Kong Road Safety Association	528,000	8,864

Signature _____

Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 6 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB028

Question Serial No.

0458

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead :
 Bureau

Programme : (5) Youth Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please give details of the major projects carried out by the Commission on Youth in 2004-05, including the project titles, the amount of expenditure and the number of participants for each project.

Asked by : Hon. HO Chun-yan, Albert

Reply :

The major projects undertaken in consultation with the Commission on Youth, the estimated expenditure and number of participants in 2004-05 are as follows:

Projects	Estimated expenditure (\$)	No. of Participants
Community Participation Scheme for Organizing Study Tours to the Mainland	7,500,000	6,354
Youth Summit	530,000	2,700
Updating of Youth Statistical Profile	160,000 (of which \$80,000 was paid in 2003-04)	-
Benchmark Survey on Civic Engagement and Social Networks of Youth in Hong Kong	505,600 (50% of the payment, i.e. \$252,800 was paid in 2003-04 and the remaining 50% would be paid in 2005-06 as the project is expected to be completed in April 2005)	-

Projects	Estimated expenditure (\$)	No. of Participants
Sponsorship for RTHK's "Challenge of Life" Programme	150,000	500 (and around 400,000 TV viewers)
Sponsorship for ICAC's Interactive Drama (staged in schools)	200,000	28,000

Signature _____

Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 30 March 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB030

Question Serial No.

0460

Head : 53 – GS : Home Affairs Subhead :
Bureau

Programme : (5) Youth Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

What is the total expenditure for the Community Participation Scheme for organizing study tours to the Mainland in 2004-05? Please list the names of the participating organizations, the amount of subsidy to each organization and the number of youths participating in the tours hosted by each of them.

Asked by : Hon. HO Chun-yan, Albert

Reply :

The estimated total expenditure on the Community Participation Scheme for organizing study tours to the Mainland in 2004-05 is around \$7.5 million. The participating organizations, the names of the study tours, the amount of subsidy granted and the number of youth participants are as follows:

Participating Organizations	Name of Study Tours	No. of Youth Participants	Amount of Subsidy (\$)
中華基督教會基協中學	廣西山區文化交流及生活體驗	33	52,851.32
順利天主教中學	赤子情繫自治區 – 蒙回文化考察之旅	16	39,680
香港中華基督教青年會 天水圍會所	成都文化體驗考察之旅	16	39,680
香港華仁書院	國內中學文化學習、交流雙週	26	66,392.20
佛教葉紀南紀念中學	粵北扶貧體驗之旅	40	33,600
香港交通安全會	華東體驗交流團	59	128,030
循道衛理中心 – 火鳳凰 社區支援服務計劃	「濃情大地 – 肇慶之旅」	16	11,200

Participating Organizations	Name of Study Tours	No. of Youth Participants	Amount of Subsidy (\$)
東華三院鄭錫坤伉儷中學	「心繫祖國·情濃韶關」鄉村服務體驗計劃	16	13,440
香港神託會主辦馬錦明慈善基金馬可賓紀念中學	送暖行動粵北連山瑤壯族交流	19	9,200
救世軍港澳軍區 - 青年候補員部	E世代@內蒙(V.2)	21	39,197.14
中國燭光教育基金	廣東省韶關文化體驗計劃	37	20,720
工聯會新界西地區服務處 - 青年組	西遊紀之廣西服務體驗計劃	15	27,900
佛教覺光法師中學	韶關生活營	20	14,000
香港基督女青年會龍翔綜合社會服務處	情繫清遠 - 青年國內服務計劃	26	14,560
安徒生會離島社會服務隊(大澳中心)	肇慶文化考察團	18	10,080
香港女童軍總會 - 「同心同根萬里行 2004」香港青少年制服團體內地考察團	同心同根萬里行 2004	220	200,000
香港國際社會服務社學校社會工作	「體驗、合作、服務粵港交流計劃	24	10,080
香港國際社會服務社學校社會工作服務	「文化、前路 - 會心交流」中港體驗計劃	136	56,791.70
加拿大神召會嘉智中學	生活體驗 - 韶關山區瑤族心連心考察之旅	38	20,160
裘錦秋中學(元朗)	珠江三角地區綜合學習 - 自然生態及經濟考察團	111	46,740
基督教使徒信心會恩澤家庭中心	「恩澤行動清遠體驗團」 - 學生國內農村體驗交流計劃	24	16,800
香港中文大學崇基學院服務學習計劃小組	封開勵學考察團	14	15,680
苗圃行動	第三屆助我成長	70	132,753.29

Participating Organizations	Name of Study Tours	No. of Youth Participants	Amount of Subsidy (\$)
循道衛理楊震社會服務處 - 何文田青少年綜合發展中心	「OffTrek」青年另類生活體驗計劃	7	10,581.10
啟蒙之光基金會有限公司	黔行 - 貴州教育體驗營	28	39,409.50
聖士提反堂中學	吾土農情 - 國內農村體驗計劃	30	20,051.74
香港理工大學學生會中國事務委員會	貴州城鄉生活體驗交流團	27	62,000
愛德循環運動	青少年義工農村服務計劃 - 「別有『動』天在清遠」	25	14,700
五旬節聖潔會永光書院	「毬」出中國心 - 毬藝交流及韶關考察計劃	19	13,300
香港大學學生會天文學會	星河探索 2004	24	81,031.30
衛理中學	雲南少數民族文化及經濟考察	15	27,900
中華基督教會扶輪中學	吉林考察采風之旅	29	89,900.00
香港基督教服務處觀塘職業訓練中心	中國貴州省少數民族考察及服務計劃	25	62,000
中山大學法律系香港同學會	珠三角經濟法制考察團	39	21,840
香港聖公會馬鞍山(南)青少年綜合服務中心	我們都是這樣長大的 2004	30	21,000
匡智張玉瓊晨輝學校	同根心 II 地域無疆界中港心連心(探訪韶關山區小學及山區三無老人計劃)	20	11,196.70
香港大學學生會中國教育小組	2005 湖南山區教育考察團	20	26,744.77
基督教香港信義會深信堂	湘西歷史考察生活體驗學習計劃	23	49,910
香港浸會大學教育學系	中國西南民族地區文化教育交流計劃	17	42,160

Participating Organizations	Name of Study Tours	No. of Youth Participants	Amount of Subsidy (\$)
香港科技大學學生會社會服務團	中國內地生活體驗團	20	10,693.60
育才中學 (沙田)	關懷大地青遠山區交流計劃	25	14,000
炮台山循道衛理中學	穗港雙向文化交流新體驗	47	24,690
香港路德會社會服務處一路德會海濱花園綜合服務中心	文化森林—山東考察之旅	14	34,720
香港路德會社會服務處一路德會雍盛綜合服務中心	CIYT - TOUR 放眼上海考察交流計劃	17	31,620
香港路德會社會服務處一賽馬會華明綜合服務中心	「港·湘·情」	52	108,500
明愛馬鞍山中學	港京兩地文化交流之旅	16	34,720
培僑中學	2004 江西文化歷史考察之旅	49	75,950
香港中文大學崇基學院學生會天文學會	大漠星情	30	38,137.80
循道愛華村服務中心社會福利部—愛華青少年綜合服務隊	情龍 Teen 地—中國軍訓及生活體驗計劃	16	13,440
香港城市大學市場營銷學系中國企業管理學科	中國管理暑期培訓班	57	126,000
香港基督教女青年會西環綜合社會服務處、英華書院及英華女校合辦	「情繫廣西」— 國內農村體驗服務計劃	23	49,910
香港聾人福利促進會—新界綜合服務中心	聾健「滬」「蘇」「忠」國情	20	37,200
香港基督教女青年會	南京、安徽義工服務及交流團	16	24,800
北角居民協會青年部	粵港青年軍訓、文化交流營	42	40,000.00

Participating Organizations	Name of Study Tours	No. of Youth Participants	Amount of Subsidy (\$)
救世軍隆亨青少年中心	「愛心同建夢」農村體驗計劃	22	9,240
救世軍油麻地青少年綜合服務	連繫港青一國內考察計劃	17	9,520
救世軍屯門青少年綜合服務	廣西手拉手扶貧考察之旅	38	58,900
香港遊樂場協會	穗港佛青年義工互動實踐計劃	125	78,970
佛教慧因法師紀念中學	慧因國內義工服務及農村生活體驗計劃	17	6,638.10
循道衛理觀塘社會服務處	雲南交流及生活體驗之旅	15	27,900
香港遊樂場協會	新疆吐魯番少數民族生活體驗之旅	29	68,320
崇基扶輪青年服務團	教出個未來—廣西山區扶貧體驗團	31	22,548.84
佛教何南金中學	粵港融一家，經濟共繁榮	37	20,720
香港專業教育學院（黃克競分校）工商管理系	廣州南沙商貿考察團	90	33,600
職業訓練局—香港專業教育學院（觀塘分校）	北京首都政經發展及民情考察團	40	74,400
利民會	「認識康復關懷祖國」—廣州康復工作考察計劃	16	13,440.00
香港海事青年團	海南島青年考察交流營	45	109,034.40
香港海事青年團	香港青少年制服團體北京考察團	34	56,091
交通事業從業員協會	香港青年四川科技考察之旅	16	44,640
香港學生輔助會	珠三角體驗之旅	25	21,000
沙田青年協會	「燃亮愛心、獻出善與真」體驗之旅	25	17,500

Participating Organizations	Name of Study Tours	No. of Youth Participants	Amount of Subsidy (\$)
仁濟醫院羅陳楚思中學	隨班就讀初體驗－順德大良羅定邦中學交流及歷史文化考察之旅	77	64,680
香港文匯報	上海跨國企業人才市場實地考察團	110	200,000
英華書院家長教師會	青年內地考察團	26	20,577.81
保良局何蔭棠中學	「革命搖籃」體驗營	30	37,640
香港中小型企業聯合會	尋根問祖訪珠璣	77	53,900
保良局李城璧中學	清新縣魚埧鎮體驗服務團	35	13,575.30
香港物流協會有限公司	珠三角、香港現代物流規劃考察團	111	74,200
浩洋青年商會（香港青年商會附屬分會）	第二屆健康共和國－健商新一代之少年軍校	52	58,240.00
東華三院邱子田紀念中學	江南學習之旅	20	43,263
香港青年會	江南之旅－歷史文化交流團	53	98,580
香港青年會	「閩」之旅－歷史文化考察團	21	36,325
基督復臨安息日會山景青少年中心	「深情之旅」－青年內地考察團資助計劃	20	14,000
北區青年協會	投入祖國懷抱，觸摸璀璨文明－成都、西昌之旅	23	35,650
北區青年協會	港珠菁英更緊密雙向關係交流團(香港篇)	66	42,909.80
新界西貢坑口區鄭植之中學	『青年就業多新機、商機無限遍內地』	30	16,800
匯基書院	第六屆連南體驗之旅	31	26,040
基督教中國佈道會九龍灣萬善堂	農村考察團	7	6,860
仁愛堂陳黃淑芳紀念中學	「雙城比翼，共創繁榮」－上海、香港	27	41,850

Participating Organizations	Name of Study Tours	No. of Youth Participants	Amount of Subsidy (\$)
世界龍岡學校劉皇發中學	"一國兩制"與"大珠三角"	72	72,400
世界龍岡學校劉皇發中學	潮汕文化之旅	33	23,100
世界龍岡學校劉皇發中學	從古代西安走向現代中國	20	62,000
香港中華基督教青年會	清遠阡陌行 - 清遠交流服務計劃	18	11,340
香港城市大學學生會崇德社及香港浸會大學青年崇德社	《我不懂摩梭》母系社會文化考察計劃	22	65,927.50
中華基督教會協和書院	熱愛生命 - 山區生活體驗團	33	18,480
西貢區社區中心	滬港青年〈創業〉展前程 - 上海交流團	12	21,629
香港浸會大學市場學系	廈門暑期實習計劃 2004	10	19,032.36
香港課外活動主任協會有限公司	珠三角古建築風貌學習之旅	72	70,560
「愛我中華、建樹香江」國民教育協進會	農村生活體驗團	100	98,000
中聖書院	上海文化交流體驗計劃	20	31,000
BUSSINESS ASSOCIATION BEA HKUSU	ACADEMIC TOUR PROGRAM 2004	34	55,800
香港專業教育學院 - 摩理臣山分校	珠三角企業考察團	40	16,800
香港基督教青年會	粵在廿一世紀 - 廣東文化生活體驗之旅	13	7,280
半山社區事務促進會	粵北遊學體驗團	31	13,020
中華基督教會公理高中書院	粵港職業訓練學生學術交流團	15	6,300
中華青少年歷史文化教育基金	中華航天科技考察交流團	37	68,820

Participating Organizations	Name of Study Tours	No. of Youth Participants	Amount of Subsidy (\$)
中華青少年歷史文化教育基金	赴江西「中華歷史文化教育交流團」	39	51,200
龍翔官立中學	首都情、祖國心，北京胡同人家及歷史文化學習之旅	28	38,750
青年觀塘	陝西考察團·中華文明的搖籃	15	37,200
民主建港聯盟青年小組	「外交新世代」- 香港青年學生和中國外交學院學生互訪交流計劃	17	21,080
民主建港聯盟青年小組	「進一步的天空」- 香港大專生暑期內地實習計劃2004	60	117,600
明愛專業及成人教育中心 - 長洲	中國通識教育和青年珠三角才幹增值遊	173	160,717.90
香港中文大學學生會國是學會	感受西部---廣西義教交流團	16	27,161
新世紀協會有限公司	新世紀協會青年內地考察交流團----接觸點、線、面	31	21,000
香港灣仔區各界協會	中國政制發展研討營	34	9,520
香港紅十字會青年及義工事務部新界總部	「健康「傳」接觸」服務暨義工交流計劃	30	11,315.74
香港紅十字會青年及義工事務部新界總部	2004年「珠港澳深穗」紅十字青少年夏令營	18	12,039.40
迦密主恩中學	一日千里的上海 - 傳統與現代視野的拓展	35	54,250
寧波公學	樂文之旅 2004	71	59,640
香港島各界聯合會	希望工程持續發展考察團	23	12,880
道慈佛社楊日霖紀念學校	「龍的傳人龍的心」文化交流考察團	20	8,400
學生大使協會	學生環保大使考察團	40	22,400

Participating Organizations	Name of Study Tours	No. of Youth Participants	Amount of Subsidy (\$)
無國界義工	愛在山區的日子 - 雲南路	14	27,010.13
無國界義工	愛在山區的日子 - 貴州行 2004	13	23,543.59
仁愛堂田家炳中學	演變中的城市及農村	80	30,132
香港勞校校友會 - 青年部	探索中國近代史考察團 - 如何走上民族復興路	30	65,100
香港勞校校友會 - 青年部	遼寧省中國歷史考察團	6	11,160
九龍城區居民聯會青年部	珠三角百年變遷(近代中國)考察團	37	20,720
九龍城青年協進會	「中原文化文明與現代農村」考察團	26	56,420
香港青年大專學生協會	香港大專生貴州省苗族義務教學團	28	86,800
香港青年大專學生協會	「開拓新天地 2004」香港大專生珠江三角洲(廣州)工作體驗計劃	49	96,040
將軍澳青年會	西安、延安交流考察團	26	54,250
趙聿修念紀中學/ 五旬節中學合辦	西安寧夏歷史文化考察交流團	18	44,640
循理會屯門青少年綜合服務中心	青春起義 04	88	49,280
愛心聯盟有限公司	貴州生活體驗及文化交流之旅	60	75,192.20
葵青青年團	西部大開發下的西蜀「四川文化、經濟、科技交流考察團」	22	47,740
嶺南大學學生會社會服務團	「廣西·農情」~ 國內農村體驗服務計劃	25	38,725.66
中華基督教會譚李麗芬紀念中學	情牽祖國環保青年廣州行	23	14,000

Participating Organizations	Name of Study Tours	No. of Youth Participants	Amount of Subsidy (\$)
美浸信會－浸信會鳳德青少年綜合服務	家、國、情、心 ~ 京港青年雙向交流	27	117,180
美浸信會－浸信會鳳德青少年綜合服務	第三屆－龍心行北京考察團	21	52,080
基督教香港信義會學校社會工作組	愛國龍情學生交流體驗計劃	20	14,000
基督教宣道會華基堂青年中心	「珠三角之旅」內地考察團	36	20,160
土房子	「愛人愛己」體驗考察團	24	22,978.20
香港青年聯會	「愛我中華」香港青年內地考察團	73	121,180
香港青年資訊科技協會	中國珠江三角洲香港青年IT考察團	24	23,520
寶達社區事務促進會	新世代－軍事考察訓練團	21	23,268
循道衛理楊震社會服務處－油尖旺青少年綜合發展中心	青雲南天建義采	23	42,780
香港聖公會馬鞍山(北)青少年綜合服務中心	「猜」·「情」·「尋」	16	8,960
香港樹仁學院社區服務團－杭滬社區服務考察交流團籌備小組	杭滬社區服務考察交流團	26	62,160.58
錫安社會服務處～綜合青少年服務中心	尋秦記～西安、延安歷史、文化及生活體驗	14	30,380
香港青少年服務處－天平青少年綜合服務中心	「施與受」互動助人之旅	20	14,000
萬德學會有限公司	珠三角(省港澳)考察服務團	86	66,150
香港浸會大學學生事務處·浸大義務特工隊	貴州山區義工學習考察團	14	43,400
香港浸會大學學生事務處·浸大義務特工隊	惠州市社會服務學習考察團	29	36,540

Participating Organizations	Name of Study Tours	No. of Youth Participants	Amount of Subsidy (\$)
香港浸會大學學生事務處領袖素質中心	領袖培訓計劃 2004-2005 — 珠江三角洲考察之旅	33	11,958
香港專業進修學校	「阡陌情」農民生活考察計劃	67	50,960
香港中華基督教青年會 — 沙田青少年外展社會工作隊	北京考察團	32	69,440
學生福利聯盟	SWA 清遠愛心扶貧體驗團 2004	36	18,270.74
香港基督教女青年會 — 西環綜合社會服務處	「山區暖流」---國內體驗服務計劃	11	7,700
香港青年義工團	經濟融合與環保合作 — 珠三角環保考察團	11	6,160
新界工商業總會沙田分會青年部	「吾國新貌」中國發展考察交流團	26	10,920
香港新一代文化協會	我的祖國 — 京港澳學生交流營 2004	120	200,000
香港小童群益會	珠三角少年領袖會議 2004	74	83,250
香港小童群益會 — 摩星嶺學校社工	情濃內地 — 農人、軍人體驗計劃	83	55,436.96
香港小童群益會	揭開內地新聞報導的面紗 — 少年廣州考察團	40	8,096.75
香港中文大學社會工作學系系會幹事會	同心同根 — 北京內蒙社會工作學術營	29	43,529.80
香港大學學生會中醫藥學會	中醫藥文化交流團，粵之旅 2005 春	33	12,600
基督教香港信義會信義中學	肇慶文化生活交流團	22	14,000
基督教香港信義會信義中學	中山市綜合考察團	21	9,840

Participating Organizations	Name of Study Tours	No. of Youth Participants	Amount of Subsidy (\$)
VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL INSTITUTE OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION (TSING YI)	A SUMMER CAMP AT ZHONGSHAN UNIVERSITY	30	42,000
香港兒童美術及教育協會	藝術文教影響內地經濟及社會的發展節奏	20	34,100
深青社	山西 - 中國文化尋根之旅 II	23	64,086.90
西貢區社區中心	學習無疆界	20	11,200
香港南區青年聯會	香港南區青年聯會陽山考察團	14	9,800
香港童軍總會鯉魚門區	童軍同心連山行	26	18,200
基督教巴拿愛心服務團「蝴蝶計劃」中心	愛在中華	16	11,200
香港傷健協會 - 沙田青少年綜合服務中心	「心靈重塑」系列	23	44,950
九龍社團聯會青年義工組	尋找山區的足印 - 貴州服務體驗團	18	39,060

Signature _____

Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 30 March 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB031

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

0874

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

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Among the 566 cases of complaint relating to discrimination received in 2004-05, only 33 cases have been processed and 23 cases resolved. What were the reasons for not processing the remaining cases? What was the average cost for processing one case of complaint by Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC)?

In the provision for EOC in 2005-06, have funds been allocated for EOC to prepare for taking up the statutory function of the implementation of legislation on racial discrimination?

Asked by : Hon. HO Chun-yan, Albert

Reply :

The EOC investigates into complaints arising from –

- (1) complaints lodged by aggrieved persons (complaints of this kind are classified as “complaints for investigation/conciliation”); and
- (2) EOC’s own initiatives (complaints of this kind are classified as “complaints for follow-up action”; such complaints include reports by the public who do not wish to lodge a complaint with the EOC).

In 2004, the Commission received 566 complaints in the above category (1). In that year, it handled in total 860 complaints which included complaints received in the year and those carried forward from the previous year. 650 of the complaints were concluded in that year.

In 2004, the Commission also handled 33 complaints in the above category (2), 23 of which were resolved.

EOC did not keep statistics on the average cost for handling cases.

As regards the last question, EOC's 2005-06 provision does not include the provision for future implementation of the proposed legislation against racial discrimination.

If it is decided that EOC would implement the proposed new legislation, we plan to transfer our existing resources for the promotion of racial harmony and for the handling of enquiries and complaints about racial discrimination (over \$5 million per year) to EOC when the legislation comes into operation. Besides, EOC has retained a significant amount of its surplus as reserves over the last few years and this could be spent on these related matters.

Signature _____

Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 31 March 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB033

Question Serial No.

0976

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

Programme : (9) Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission and 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 11 cases of complaint lodged by the public under the anti-discrimination ordinances and which had been taken to court in 2004, please give a list of such cases, stating the target(s) of complaint, reason(s) for complaint and the time taken from receiving the complaint to taking the case to court.

Asked by : Hon. Albert HO Chun-yan

Reply :

According to the information provided by the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC), complaints taken to court in 2004 (1 January 2004 to 31 December 2004) included:

Case – parties involved (Reason/s)	Complaint Lodged	Legal Assistance Applied	Writ Issued
1. EO No. 2 of 2004 Lam Ka Lee v Ease Cox International Company Limited (Disability Discrimination – sick leave)	3 October 2002	27 February 2003	5 February 2004
2&3. EO No. 6 of 2004 Lam Wing Lai v Y.T. Cheng (Ching Tai) Ltd (Pregnancy & Family Status Discrimination – dismissal after return of maternity leave)	22 November 2002	29 October 2003	17 May 2004
4. EO No. 9 of 2004 Siu Kai Yuen v Maria College (Disability Discrimination – termination of employment while on sick leave (rectum cancer))	12 January 2003	3 November 2003	3 June 2004

Case – parties involved (Reason/s)	Complaint Lodged	Legal Assistance Applied	Writ Issued
5&6. EO No. 11 of 2004 Chan Yeuk Shing v AGI Logistics (Hong Kong) Limited (Pregnancy and Family Status Discrimination)	14 October 2003	13 December 2003	21 July 2004
7. EO No. 12 of 2004 Kwok Yeuk Ching v Hip Wall Industries Limited & Mac Thuong Can (Disability Discrimination in employment – SARS case)	27 July 2003	1 March 2004	24 September 2004
8. EO No. 13 of 2004 Lau Wai Chuen v Appollo Ice Cream Company Limited (Family Status Discrimination)	4 September 2003	6 February 2004	11 October 2004
9. EO No. 14 of 2004 Lai Yim Ching v Chi Wing Rattan Factory (Pregnancy and Family Status Discrimination)	7 October 2003	29 January 2004	4 November 2004
10. EO No. 15 of 2004 Law Mei Chu v Walker Shop Footwear Ltd (Disability Discrimination on employment)	26 January 2003	22 March 2004	12 November 2004
11. EO No. 16 of 2004 Chui King On v Chang Lee Ling (Disability Discrimination on employment)	16 July 2003	10 December 2003	25 November 2004

Remarks: The 11 cases stated above represent the no. of complaints lodged with the EOC and not the no. of writs issued.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ STEPHEN FISHER _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting) _____

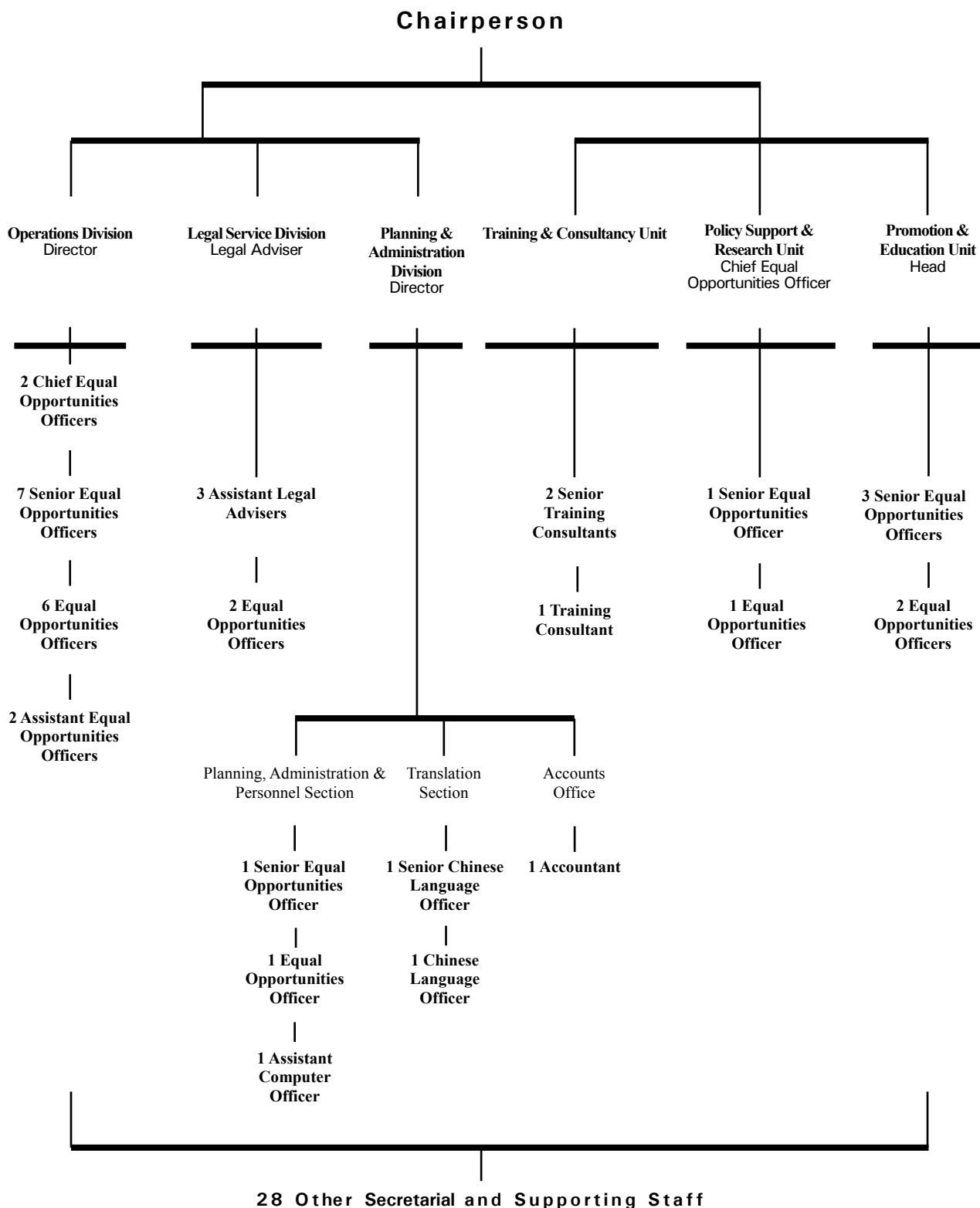
Date _____ 30 March 2005 _____

The complaint-handling process varies with the complexity of individual cases, cooperation of parties involved and availability of related information, etc. In 2004, 80% of the cases were concluded within six months which exceeded the 75% target.

Applications for legal assistance are handled by the EOC's Legal Service Division. There is at present one Legal Adviser, 5 Officers and 2 Secretarial Staff dealing with legal matters. A total of 51 applications for legal assistance were received in 2004 and the EOC was able to notify 87% of the applicants within 3 months of the outcome of their applications (the target was 85%).

Signature _____
Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER
Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)
Date 1 April 2005

Organizational Structure of the Equal Opportunities Commission (as at 31 March 2005)



Notes:

1. Total number of staff including those under establishment and others on short-term renewable contract is 76 (excluding EOC Chairperson).
2. Total number of staff under establishment is 71 (as shown above).
3. Total number of staff on short-term renewable contract is 5.

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB037

Question Serial No.

1175

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

Programme : (5) Youth Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the expenditure on youth development activities in 2004-05 and 2005-06, please give details of the major projects, including the project titles, the amount of expenditure, the organizations concerned and the number of participating young people for each project.

Asked by : Hon. HO Chun-yan, Albert

Reply :

The estimated total expenditure on youth development programmes and activities is \$73.4 million in 2004-05 and \$73.1 million in 2005-06. The expenditure would mainly be used to finance programmes organized in consultation with the Commission on Youth, as well as recurrent subvention for 10 uniformed groups and two non-governmental organizations.

The major programmes organized and programmes planned (to be organized in consultation with the Commission on Youth) are as follows:

Activities	2004-05		2005-06	
	Estimated Expenditure (\$)	Estimated No. of Participants	Estimated Expenditure (\$)	Estimated No. of Participants
Community Participation Scheme for Organizing Study Tours to the Mainland	7,500,000	6,354	4,500,000 (The Board of Management of the Chinese Permanent Cemeteries has made a commitment to donate around \$4,500,000 in support of the Scheme in 2005-06)	7,600

Activities	2004-05		2005-06	
	Estimated Expenditure (\$)	Estimated No. of Participants	Estimated Expenditure (\$)	Estimated No. of Participants
Youth Development Funding Scheme on specific theme(s)	-	-	3,000,000 (The Board of Management of the Chinese Permanent Cemeteries has made a commitment to donate \$3,000,000 to support this Scheme in 2005-06)	5,000
Youth Summit	530,000	2,700	600,000	3,000
Youth Forum	-	-	1,600,000	210
Updating of Youth Statistical Profile	160,000	-	160,000	-
Benchmark Survey on Civic Engagement and Social Networks of Youth in Hong Kong	(50% of the payment, i.e. \$252,800 was paid in 2003-04)	-	252,800 (remaining 50% of the payment)	-
Sponsorship for ICAC's youth programmes	200,000	28,000	200,000	80,000
Sponsorship for RTHK's "Challenge of Life" Programme	150,000	500 (and around 400,000 TV viewers)	-	-
International Youth Exchange Programme	1,500,000	114	1,350,000	90
Other youth-related research projects	-	-	1,000,000	-

We provide recurrent subvention to 10 uniformed groups in support of their non-formal education and training programmes for young people aged between 8 and 25. The names of these uniformed groups, subvention amounts in 2004-05 and 2005-06, and number of members aged 8-25 are as follows:

Uniformed Groups	Subvention in 2004-05 (\$)	Subvention in 2005-06 (\$)	Number of members aged 8-25 (as at 31 March 2004)
Scout Association of Hong Kong	17,128,000	16,457,000	54,299
The Hong Kong Girl Guides Association	9,736,000	9,354,000	38,144
Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps	892,000	857,000	3,173
Hong Kong Sea Cadet Corps	1,047,000	1,006,000	1,523
Hong Kong Adventure Corps	806,000	774,000	1,546
Hong Kong Red Cross	7,063,000	6,786,000	14,284
Hong Kong St. John Ambulance	1,153,000	1,108,000	2,447
The Boys' Brigade, Hong Kong	1,800,000	1,729,000	4,274
The Girls' Brigade (Hong Kong)	762,000	732,000	1,082
Hong Kong Road Safety Association	528,000	507,000	8,864

We also provide recurrent subvention for the Hong Kong Award for Young People in support of their structured progressive training and award schemes for young people aged 14 to 25. The subvention amounts in 2004-05 and 2005-06 are \$5.093 million and \$4.893 million respectively. The total number of young people participating in the organization as at 31 March 2004 was 47,221.

Separately, we provide recurrent subvention for the Agency for Volunteer Service in support of their work in promoting the development of sustainable volunteerism, in particular, to young people in Hong Kong. The subvention amounts in 2004-05 and 2005-06 are \$4.519 million and \$4.342 million respectively. The number of registered volunteers as at 31 March 2004 was 5,257.

Signature _____

Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 31 March 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB039

Question Serial No.

1177

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

Programme : (5) Youth Development

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please list the work programmes and expenditure involved in co-ordinating youth development measures by the Government and the Commission on Youth. Please also provide details of the measures to help ease the problem of youth unemployment.

Asked by : Hon. HO Chun-yan, Albert

Reply :

The major youth development programmes organized and programmes planned (to be organized in consultation with the Commission on Youth) in 2004-05 and 2005-06 are as follows:

Activities	2004-05		2005-06	
	Estimated Expenditure (\$)	Estimated No. of Participants	Estimated Expenditure (\$)	Estimated No. of Participants
Community Participation Scheme for Organizing Study Tours to the Mainland	7,500,000	6,354	4,500,000 (The Board of Management of the Chinese Permanent Cemeteries has made a commitment to donate around \$4,500,000 in support of the Scheme in 2005-06)	7,600

Activities	2004-05		2005-06	
	Estimated Expenditure (\$)	Estimated No. of Participants	Estimated Expenditure (\$)	Estimated No. of Participants
Youth Development Funding Scheme on specific theme(s)	-	-	3,000,000 (The Board of Management of the Chinese Permanent Cemeteries has made a commitment to donate \$3,000,000 to support this Scheme in 2005-06)	5,000
Youth Summit	530,000	2,700	600,000	3,000
Youth Forum	-	-	1,600,000	210
Updating of Youth Statistical Profile	160,000	-	160,000	-
Benchmark Survey on Civic Engagement and Social Networks of Youth in Hong Kong	(50% of the payment, i.e. \$252,800 was paid in 2003-04)	-	252,800 (remaining 50% of the payment)	-
Sponsorship for ICAC's youth programmes	200,000	28,000	200,000	80,000
Sponsorship for RTHK's "Challenge of Life" Programme	150,000	500 (and around 400,000 TV viewers)	-	-
International Youth Exchange Programme	1,500,000	114	1,350,000	90
Other youth-related research projects	-	-	1,000,000	-

In his inaugural speech on 1 July 2002, the former Chief Executive asked the Commission on Youth to come up with a plan to provide young people with multiple and divergent options in training and employment. In March 2003, the Commission on Youth submitted to the former Chief Executive a report on "Continuing Development and Employment Opportunities for Youth". The report recommended, among others, that the Government should establish a Research and Development Fund in support of new initiatives or pilot projects related to continuing development and employment opportunities for non-engaged youth.

In response to the recommendations of the Commission on Youth, the former Chief Executive, in his 2004 Policy Address, announced that a Youth Sustainable Development and Employment Fund (“the Fund”) would be established to promote trial schemes and exploit opportunities for training, placement and employment. A total of \$50 million was subsequently allocated for this purpose. The Fund is currently administered by the Task Force on Continuing Development and Employment-related Training for Youth under the Education and Manpower Bureau. The Fund is expected to last till the end of 2006.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ STEPHEN FISHER _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting) _____

Date _____ 31 March 2005 _____

The Community Participation Scheme for organizing study tours to the Mainland is a funding scheme whereby non-governmental organizations could apply for funding subsidy for organizing different types of youth study tours to the Mainland. The primary objective is to enhance the understanding of the Mainland among young people. The number of participants in these study tours varied from year to year, depending on the number of applications received, the types and nature of the study tours approved, the number of participants involved, as well as the total amount of funding incurred by the organizations. The actual number of participants was 7,732 in 2003 and 6,677 in 2004, even with a similar total amount of funding subsidy approved under the Scheme (around \$8 million). The number of participants in such Mainland study tours receiving subsidy under this Scheme in 2005-06 has been estimated on the basis of these latest figures, and the expectation of increasing community interest in organizing Mainland study tours for youth.

These two schemes are serving different objectives. We have no plan to gradually reduce the number of participants under the International Youth Exchange Programme while increasing the participants under the Community Participation Scheme for organizing study tours to the Mainland.

Signature _____

Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 30 March 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
 INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB044

Question Serial No.

1324

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

Programme : (2) Rights of the Individual

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Bureau Secretary : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

(1) In 2004-05, what work had been done to promote civic education outside schools and what was the expenditure incurred? How much of it was spent on fostering democracy, sense of national identity and patriotism among the public?

(2) In 2005-06, has the Administration any plans to promote civic education outside schools on the themes of democracy, sense of national identity and patriotism? If so, what are the plans and what is the expenditure incurred?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

(1) In 2004-05, the estimated total expenditure on the promotion of civic education outside schools is \$10,166,000. The major breakdown is as follows:

Activities	Estimated total expenditure (\$)	Estimated Expenditure relating to promotion of democracy (\$)	Estimated Expenditure relating to promotion of national education (including promotion of Basic Law) (\$)
(a) Civic education projects sponsored under the Community Participation Scheme	3,810,000	264,245	100,800
(b) Special publicity campaigns and educational materials on civic education	6,356,000	-	2,432,700
Total:	10,166,000	264,245	2,533,500

(2) In 2005-06, the estimated total expenditure on the promotion of civic education outside schools is \$10,100,000. The major programmes under planning which are related to the promotion of democracy and national education are as follows:

Activities	Estimated Expenditure (\$)
(a) <u>Community Participation Scheme on “Social Harmony”</u> which could also sponsor projects on promotion of democracy	4,000,000 (estimated funding share of projects on democracy not available)
(b) <u>Television Announcement of Public Interests (TVAPI) on National Education</u> To produce a new series of TVAPI on “Faces of China” to enhance public understanding of the motherland.	800,000
(c) <u>Seminar on National Education</u> To organize an international seminar on national education in June 2005 for the purpose of sharing expertise and experiences from different places in promoting national education to the general public outside schools.	600,000
(d) <u>Promotion of the Basic Law in the local community</u> To organize a public speaking contest on the Basic Law targeting at youngsters in late 2005; to launch new telephone hotline stories in early 2005 and to produce or reprint educational materials	1,300,000
Total:	2,700,000 (excluding (a))

Signature _____

Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 31 March 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB045

Question Serial No.

1325

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

Programme : (2) Rights of Individual

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

- 1) In the financial year 2004-05, what work has been done to publicise the five human rights treaties which apply to Hong Kong? What is the expenditure involved?
- 2) For the financial year 2005-06, has the Administration any plans to launch publicity programmes on the five human rights treaties which apply to Hong Kong so as to enhance public understanding of these treaties? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

- 1) In 2004-05, the Government incurred an expenditure of \$298,935 for the promotion of United Nations (UN) human rights treaties. The breakdown is as follows –

Item	Amount
Children's Council	\$77,680
Children's Forum	\$75,554
Publication of reports and booklets	\$124,787
Duty visits	\$19,380
Expenses on visitors	\$1,534
Total:	<u>\$298,935</u>

Note: In February 2005, we released an API to promote the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). But we have not listed it here as it was paid for in 2003-04 at a cost of \$0.36 million.

- 2) For 2005-06, we will continue with the initiatives listed under (1) above, and the budget for the purpose would be increased to \$1,091,000, with the breakdown as follows –

Item	Amount
Children rights' promotional activities	\$200,000
Publication of reports and booklets	\$195,000
Duty visits	\$600,000
Expenses on visitors	\$96,000
Total:	<u>\$1,091,000</u>

The budgets for duty visits and expenses on visitors are largely increased due to three UN hearings of our human rights reports being scheduled in the coming year, and the pre-hearing visits to Hong Kong by the relevant treaty monitoring bodies.

Signature _____

Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 31 March 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB046

Question Serial No.

1326

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 :

- (1) For the 2004–05 financial year, what are the specific measures taken by the Administration in providing counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers and what is the amount of expenditure involved?
- (2) For the 2005–06 financial year, what are the details of the specific work plans for providing counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers and what is the estimated expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

- (1) In October 2003, we set up the Ping Wo Fund (the Fund) to finance 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. The major objective of the Fund is to finance a) research and studies on gambling-related issues and problems; b) public education and other measures to prevent gambling-related problems; and c) counselling and treatment as well as other remedial services for problem and pathological gamblers, and those affected by them. We also set up the Ping Wo Fund Advisory Committee to advise on the use and application of the Fund.

We commissioned Caritas and the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals to operate two dedicated counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers for a period of three years and they commenced operation in October 2003. The funding for each centre is \$3.5 million each year. The centres provide professional counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers as well as their significant others. From October 2003 to February 2005, a total of 1 473 gamblers have sought counselling and treatment services at the two centres. As of 28 February 2005, 415 cases have been closed upon the gamblers' abstinence from their problematic gambling behaviour after receiving the counselling and treatment services. In September 2004, we commissioned Hong Kong Polytechnic University (HKPU) to conduct an evaluative study on the services of the two counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers.

- (2) In 2005-2006, the two dedicated counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers would continue to provide professional services to problem and pathological gamblers as well as their significant others. The funding for each centre would continue to be \$3.5 million each year. We would assess whether the resources for the services are effective and adequate in meeting the demand for such services, having regard to the results of the evaluative study conducted by HKPU to evaluate the services provided by the two centres and to operational experience.

Signature _____

Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 31 March 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB047

Question Serial No.

1327

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 :

- (1) What was the expenditure on members' allowance or honorarium for each of the advisory and statutory bodies in 2004-05 ?
- (2) What is the estimated expenditure on members' allowance or honorarium for each of the advisory and statutory bodies in 2005-06 ?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

There are currently some 500 advisory and statutory bodies in the public sector. As the honoraria of non-official members, if any, are paid under the operational expenses of the relevant bureau, department or the body itself, the total annual expenditure on honoraria for non-official members is not readily available. The approved rates of remuneration for non-official members have been made public. Up-to-date details are available on the webpage of the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau (<http://www.fstb.gov.hk/tb/eng/info/payment.html>).

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **STEPHEN FISHER** _____

Post Title _____ **Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)** _____

Date _____ **31 March 2005** _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB048

Question Serial No.

1350

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 :

- (1) Please give details of the specific measures taken to regulate authorized football betting and lotteries and the expenditure involved in 2004 – 05.
- (2) Please give details of the specific work plans to regulate authorized football betting and lotteries and the estimated expenditure in 2005 – 06.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

- (1) The Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) is responsible for the formulation and implementation of gambling policy, as well as the regulation of authorized gambling activities, including authorized football betting and lotteries. We have been working closely with the Football Betting and Lotteries Commission (the Commission) to ensure that authorized football betting and lotteries are properly regulated. Specifically, we regulate the operation of licensed operators of authorized football betting and lotteries in accordance with both the Betting Duty Ordinance and the relevant licensing conditions, draw up and review codes of practice for authorized football betting and lotteries, handle complaints about authorized betting activities, as well as monitor the prevalence of illegal gambling activities. In 2004 – 05, the relevant work was undertaken by a team comprising an Administrative Officer Staff Grade B1, 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.
- (2) In 2005 – 06, we will continue the above regulatory work, and work closely with the Commission on it. The manpower and resources devoted to the regulation of authorized football betting and lotteries in 2005 – 06 will be about the same as those in 2004 – 05.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date _____

31 March 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB049

Question Serial No.

1351

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 specific measures taken to conduct public education on gambling-related issues and research on gambling and the expenditure involved in 2004–05?
- (b) Please give details of the specific work plans for conducting public education on gambling-related issues and research on gambling and the estimated expenditure in 2005–06?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

- (a) In October 2003, we set up the Ping Wo Fund (the Fund) to finance preventive and remedial measures to address gambling-related problems. The Hong Kong Jockey Club (HKJC) 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. The major objective of the Fund is to finance a) research and studies on gambling-related issues and problems; b) public education and other measures to prevent gambling-related problems; and c) counselling and treatment as well as other remedial services for problem and pathological gamblers, and those affected by them. We also set up the Ping Wo Fund Advisory Committee to advise on the use and application of the Fund.

Public education programme

In 2004–05, we continued to launch public education programmes to warn the general public against excessive gambling, which included television and radio Announcements in the Public Interest, as well as posters and banners. With the financial support of the Ping Wo Fund, we commissioned the Hong Kong Education City (HKedcity) to launch an education campaign targeting adolescents in October 2003. The project, which is known as “Say No to Gambling” Action, is a two-year project which seeks to enhance the understanding of adolescents, parents and teachers towards gambling-related problems, 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.

As part of the public education programme targeted at youths, we co-organized with HKedcity a gambling education campaign between May and July 2004. The campaign, known as “Say No to Gambling – Youth Creative Awards”, included a series of creative competitions for youths to participate. The competitions were intended to drive home messages relating to self-control and resistance to gambling temptation among the youths through their own language and influence over their peers. To further enhance the awareness of gambling-related problems among young people, Hkedcity recently collaborated with a professional drama group to launch a series of roving interactive drama in secondary schools. We seek to make use of stimulating interactive activities to drive home messages about the adverse consequences of excessive gambling among young people. The expenditure on the various public education programmes in 2004 – 05 is around \$5 million.

Research and studies on gambling-related issues

In September 2004, we commissioned Hong Kong Polytechnic University (HKPU) to conduct an evaluative study on the services of the two counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers. This study is expected to be completed in March 2006. In August 2004, we commissioned the University of Hong Kong (HKU) to conduct a study on the Hong Kong people’s participation in gambling activities. This study seeks to track the results of a similar study conducted by HKPU in 2001. The results of this study are expected to be available in mid-2005. The expenditure on the various research and studies on gambling-related issues is around \$0.8 million.

- (b) The specific work plans for public education on gambling-related issues and research on gambling in 2005 – 06 are as follows:

Public education programmes

In 2005 – 06, we would continue to launch public education programmes to warn the general public against excessive gambling, as well as to remind the public to seek assistance when they have gambling-related problems. Specifically, we have commissioned an advertising agency to produce a new series of TV and radio Announcements in the Public Interest which would start to be broadcast in April or May 2005. Posters and banners to warn against excessive gambling would also be displayed in different locations, including Off-course betting branches of HKJC. In addition, we would explore the possibility of producing a new series of TV docu-drama on gambling-related problems.

Separately, we are planning to commission organizations with experience in conducting school and youth education programme, in particular experience in handling gambling-related problems, to launch youth education campaigns in schools and districts. We would be launching an on-line portal on gambling-related education and dissemination of related information. We would also be staging roving interactive drama in secondary schools so as to make use of stimulating interactive activities to drive home messages about the adverse consequences of excessive gambling among young people. The estimated expenditure on the various public education programme is around \$5 million.

Research and studies on gambling-related issues

HKU is now conducting a study on Hong Kong People’s participation in gambling activities. The findings of the study are expected to be available in mid-2005. We would take into account the results of the study to consider commissioning further research on gambling-related issues. The estimated expenditure on gambling-related research is around \$1 million.

The estimated expenditure would be financed both by the Ping Wo Fund and the operating expenditure of the Home Affairs Bureau.

Signature _____

Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 31 March 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB050

Question Serial No.

0465

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

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

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The estimate of the Hong Kong Sports Institute for 2005-06 is 7% higher than the original estimate for 2004-05. What are the reasons? And what is the breakdown of the increased estimate?

Asked by : Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply :

The Hong Kong Sports Institute Limited (HKSIL) was set up on 1 October 2004 following the dissolution of the Hong Kong Sports Development Board (HKSDB) on the same date. Having considered that HKSIL has inherited a budget deficit situation from the former HKSDB and in order to strengthen the support to elite training, an upward adjustment of subvention from \$90.93 million to \$97.3 million to HKSIL for the year 2005-06 has been made. The breakdown of the increased subvention of \$6.37 million is as follows:-

	\$ million
Additional amount to cover the annual rental required for the HKSI complex following the return of ownership of the HKSI site upon dissolution of HKSDB on 1 October 2004	2.10
Conditional subvention to be granted based on cost saving scheme proposed by HKSIL	4.27
Total amount	6.37

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **STEPHEN FISHER**

Post Title _____ **Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)**

Date _____ **4 April 2005**

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB051

Question Serial No.

0466

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 enactment of legislation to regulate authorized football betting in 2003, would the Administration please provide the following information:

- (a) Details and expenditure of public education on gambling in 2003–04 and 2004–05; details of counseling and treatment services for problem and pathological gambler, including the number of service seekers and rehabilitants and the expenditure involved; and details of the research on impact of gambling;
- (b) Details of public education programme on gambling-related issues, treatment of problem and pathological gamblers and research on impact of gambling in 2005 – 06 and the expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. CHENG, Ka-foo, Andrew

Reply :

- (a) In 2003, we set up the Ping Wo Fund (the Fund) to finance 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. The major objective of the Fund is to finance a) research and studies on gambling-related issues and problems; b) public education and other measures to prevent gambling-related problems; and c) counselling and treatment as well as other remedial services for problem and pathological gamblers, and those affected by them. We also set up the Ping Wo Fund Advisory Committee to advise on the use and application of the Fund.

Public education programme

In 2003-04 and 2004-05, 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 encouraging people who have gambling-related problems to seek assistance. The programme included TV and radio Announcements in the Public Interest, TV documentary dramas, as well as posters and banners to warn against excessive gambling.

We have also commissioned the Hong Kong Education City (HKedcity) 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 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.

As part of the public education programme targeted at youths, we co-organized with HKedcity a gambling education campaign between May and July 2004. The campaign, known as “Say No to Gambling – Youth Creative Awards”, included a series of creative competitions for youths. The competitions were intended to drive home messages relating to self-control and resistance to gambling temptation among the youths through their own language and influence over their peers. To further enhance the awareness of gambling-related problems among young people, HKedcity recently collaborated with a professional drama group to launch a series of roving interactive drama in secondary schools. We seek to make use of stimulating interactive activities to drive home the messages about the adverse consequences of excessive gambling among young people.

The total expenditure on the public education programme in 2003-04 and 2004-05 was around \$8.5 million.

Counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers

We commissioned Caritas and the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals (TWGHs) to operate two dedicated counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers on a pilot basis for a period of three years. They commenced operation in October 2003. The funding for each centre is \$3.5 million per annum. The centres provide professional counselling and treatment for problem and pathological gamblers as well as their significant others. From October 2003 to February 2005, a total of 1 473 gamblers have sought counselling and treatment services at the two centres. As of 28 February 2005, 415 cases have been closed upon the gamblers’ abstinence from their problematic gambling behaviour after receiving the counselling and treatment services.

Research and studies on gambling-related issues

In February 2003, we commissioned an overseas expert in counselling and treatment services for problem and pathological gamblers to conduct a benchmarking study for similar services in Hong Kong. The scope of the two dedicated counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers was drawn up largely on the basis of the results of this benchmarking study. In September 2004, we commissioned Hong Kong Polytechnic University (HKPU) to conduct an evaluative study on the services of the two counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers. This study is expected to be completed in March 2006. In August 2004, we commissioned the University of Hong Kong (HKU) to conduct a study on the Hong Kong people’s participation in gambling activities. This study seeks to track the results of a similar study conducted by HKPU in 2001. The results of this study are expected to be available in mid-2005.

- (b) In 2005 – 06, we would continue to implement various measures to address gambling-related problems. The estimated total expenditure on these measures is around \$13 million. They would be financed by both the Ping Wo Fund and the operating expenditure of HAB. Specific measures are as follows:

Public education programme

In 2005 – 06, we would continue to launch public education programmes to warn the general public against excessive gambling, as well as to remind the public to seek assistance when they have gambling-related problems. Specifically, we have commissioned an advertising agency to produce a new series of TV and radio Announcements in the Public Interest which would start to be broadcast in April or May 2005. Posters and banners to warn against excessive gambling would also be displayed in different locations, including Off-course betting branches of HKJC. In addition, we would explore the possibility of producing a new series of TV docu-drama on gambling-related problems.

Separately, we are planning to commission organizations with experience in conducting school and youth education programme, in particular experience in handling gambling-related problems, to launch youth education campaigns in schools and districts. We would be launching an on-line portal on gambling-related education and dissemination of related information. We would also be staging roving interactive drama in secondary schools so as to make use of stimulating interactive activities to drive home messages about the adverse consequences of excessive gambling among young people.

Counselling and treatment services

The two dedicated counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers operated by Caritas and the TWGHs respectively would continue to provide professional services for problem and pathological gamblers as well as their significant others. We will assess whether the resources for the services are effective and adequate in meeting the demand for such services, having regard to the results of the evaluative study conducted by HKPU and operational experience.

Research and studies on gambling-related issues

The HKU is now conducting a study on Hong Kong people's participation in gambling activities. The findings of the study are expected to be available in mid-2005. We would take into account the results of the study in considering whether to commission other research or studies on any specific gambling-related issues.

Signature _____

Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 30 March 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB053

Question Serial No.

0589

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

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

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The projected figures of complaints and enquiries to be handled by the Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data are more or less the same as those of previous years. The actual performance of the Office in recent two years was even above target. Does the Office have any plan to suitably adjust its performance targets upwardly so as to provide better services to the public? If so, what are the resources involved?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Heung-man

Reply :

The Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (PCO) is dedicated to providing cost-effective services in the realm of protection for personal data privacy. As far as handling of complaints and enquiries are concerned, communication, investigation and mediation all require substantial input of trained human resources. Whilst increase in manpower will undoubtedly speed up the necessary processing time, the PCO acknowledges that this is not viable amidst the current economic climate. The PCO has instead resorted to streamlining of work procedures and methodology. To upgrade its service to relevant parties, the PCO is planning to enrich the information posted on its homepage to include its views on topical issues for reference by interested parties. Apart from this, the PCO is also exploring the practicability of accepting complaints from the public by telephone. These initiatives, if materialised, would better serve the public and the cost of implementing them would be absorbed within the existing resources.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date _____

30.3.2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB054

Question Serial No.

0592

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 :

In 2005–06, 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 the impact of gambling. Would the Administration please inform this Council:

- (a) of the detailed programme or plans for the three areas of work mentioned above;
- (b) of the expenditure involved;
- (c) whether there is an increase or a reduction in the expenditure when compared with 2004–05? If there is a reduction, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (a) In 2003, we set up the Ping Wo Fund (the Fund) to finance 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. The major objective of the Fund is to finance a) research and studies on gambling-related issues and problems; b) public education and other measures to prevent gambling-related problems; and c) counselling and treatment as well as other remedial services for problem and pathological gamblers, and those affected by them. We also set up the Ping Wo Fund Advisory Committee to advise on the use and application of the Fund.

In 2005-2006, we would continue to implement various preventive and remedial measures to address gambling-related problems. The specific measures are as follows:

Public education programme

In 2005 – 06, we would continue to launch public education programmes to warn the general public against excessive gambling, as well as to remind the public to seek assistance when they have gambling-related problems. Specifically, we have commissioned an advertising agency to produce a new series of TV and radio Announcements in the Public Interest which would start to be broadcast in April or May 2005. Posters and banners to warn against excessive gambling would also be displayed in different locations, including Off-course betting branches of HKJC. In addition, we would explore the possibility of producing a new series of TV docu-drama on gambling-related problems.

Separately, we are planning to commission organizations with experience in conducting school and youth education programme, in particular experience in handling gambling-related problems, to launch youth education campaigns in schools and districts. We would be launching an on-line portal on gambling-related education and dissemination of related information. We would also be staging roving interactive drama in secondary schools so as to make use of stimulating interactive activities to drive home messages about the adverse consequences of excessive gambling among young people.

Counselling and treatment services

The two dedicated counselling and treatment centres for problem and pathological gamblers operated by Caritas and the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals respectively would continue to provide professional services for problem and pathological gamblers as well as their significant others. We will assess whether the resources for the services are adequate and effective in meeting the demand for such services, having regard to the results of an evaluative study conducted by Hong Kong Polytechnic University (HKPU) and operational experience.

Research and studies on gambling-related issues

We have commissioned the University of Hong Kong to conduct a study on Hong Kong people's participation in gambling activities. This study seeks to track the results of a similar study conducted by HKPU in 2001. The findings of the study are expected to be available in mid-2005. We would take into account the results of the study in considering whether to commission other research on any specific gambling-related issues.

- (b) The estimated total expenditure on various gambling-related measures in 2005-06 is around \$13 million. They would be financed by both the Ping Wo Fund and the operating expenditure of HAB.
- (c) In 2005-06, there would be a slight increase in the estimated total expenditure on measures to address gambling-related problems as compared with 2004 – 05.

Signature _____

Name in block letters STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 30 March 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB055

Question Serial No.

0662

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 :

As mentioned under “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2005-06”, HAB will explore development potential of Chinese permanent cemeteries to enhance the quality of service. What is the specific development potential of Chinese permanent cemeteries? What sort of quality service can be provided? What is the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Ting-kwong

Reply :

At present, there are four Chinese permanent cemeteries. They are situated in Aberdeen, Tsuen Wan, Cape Collinson and Junk Bay. These cemeteries are managed and maintained by the Board of Management of the Chinese Permanent Cemeteries (the Board) which is a statutory body.

The Board has been providing a high quality of service to the public at affordable prices. In the past three years, an average of about 10,000 niches were sold each year. Since the four cemeteries have been fully developed, the Board is actively looking for possible sites for developing new cemeteries. In the light of Government’s policy to discourage land burial, the Board will focus on the construction of columbaria in future.

The Board is a financially independent body. It does not receive any subvention from the Government. The Home Affairs Bureau oversees the operation of the Board’s secretariat which is outside the Civil Service establishment. The secretariat is funded by the Board. Any expenditure for new development projects will, therefore, be paid from the Board’s own resources.

Signature _____

Name in block letters **STEPHEN FISHER**

Post Title Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date 31.3.2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB056

Question Serial No.

0720

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 :

As mentioned under “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2005-06” HAB will set up a “Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit” to handle issues relating to sexual minorities. What are the organization, objectives, work programme and staffing establishment of the Unit?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Ting-kwong

Reply :

In 2005-06, we are putting more resources into the area of sexual orientation and gender identity discrimination. We have already set up a Sexual Minorities Forum. We will also set up a Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit initially as a 2-year pilot scheme. This is modelled on HAB's existing “Race Relations Unit”. The budget for the unit will be \$1.5 million per year.

The unit will handle gender identity and sexual orientation issues and conduct activities to further promote equal opportunities for persons of different sexual orientation and for transgender persons. The unit will also maintain a hotline for enquiry and complaints about discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation and gender identity, and will liaise with relevant NGOs and government departments. We are in the process of recruiting two non-civil servant contract staff to run the unit. The unit is expected to commence operation by around the third quarter of 2005.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **STEPHEN FISHER** _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting) _____

Date _____ 1 April 2005 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB057

Question Serial No.

0721

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

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

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

In 2005-06, the Equal Opportunities Commission will pay special attention to partnering with business and industries to develop policies and good practices. What is the form of such partnership? What is the staff establishment involved?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Ting-kwong

Reply :

Partnering with business to develop policies and good practices has been one of EOC's major work focuses in recent years.

In addition to the issuance of Codes of Practice on employment under the three anti-discrimination ordinances, the Good Management Practice series and the Information Kit for SMEs in recent years, the EOC has designed training workshops on the development of company policies and practices on equal opportunities (EO) for human resources practitioners and key decision-makers in business sector. The EOC has also conducted tailor-made workshops for employees and these courses are sector-specific. Some of the workshops have been recognized as Continuing Professional Development programmes by some professional bodies. The EOC also intends to take up more EO policy review work for the business sector as part of its consultancy service in 2005 and will develop more good management practices as the need arises.

Additionally, the EOC will launch an on-line "Business Forum", a special segment in its website, for the business sector to access the most up-to-date information such as equal opportunities (EO) best practices, interactive learning on EO laws, concepts and applications, outcome of legal cases relating to the business sector, and allowing website visitors to post views, questions and answers. The EOC is also considering some joint events with the 18 District Councils to promote the message of EO to both the business and the public sectors.

The EOC's Training & Consultancy Unit and the Promotion & Education Unit will be merged in April this year for better synergy to implement an integrated strategy on communication and public education targeting both the business and the public sectors. The EOC has a staff of 71 at present, and the united team will comprise 12 staff members. There is no anticipated increase in manpower after the merger. The objective is to more efficiently utilize the existing resources.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **STEPHEN FISHER** _____

Post Title _____ **Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)** _____

Date _____ **30 March 2005** _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB059

Question Serial No.

1651

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 :

Under “Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2005-06”, the Home Affairs Bureau indicates that it will continue to organize various activities to promote creative industries in Hong Kong. Please specify the activities and the estimated expenditure involved.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Ting-kwong

Reply:

The Home Affairs Bureau will sustain its efforts in organizing and sponsoring a wide variety of activities in 2005-06 to enhance community awareness and interest in creative industries. Details of the activities/events to be organized are as follows:-

- (i) a Sovereign Art Prize Project in April 2005 to invite entries from both established and emerging artists resident throughout Asia;
- (ii) a public art project in July 2005 to support the habit of outdoor reading. This project will align with the 2005 Hong Kong Book Fair;
- (iii) a year-long programme from September 2005 to August 2006 to provide a regular platform at the LCSD venues for young people to showcase their talents in performing arts;
- (iv) the third Asia Cultural Co-operation Forum in November 2005 to foster cultural links with Asian countries in cultural industries;
- (v) a month-long programme ‘Creative November’ which comprises creativity-themed events in November 2005;
- (vi) a year-long programme, the ‘Comic Home Base’ commencing in January 2006 comprises exhibition of local comic artists and work of international comic fair, conference and publications; and
- (vii) “What’s Good ?” conference and exhibition in February 2006 on cross media exhibition of creative talents in Hong Kong.

The expenditure to organize/ sponsor these activities is estimated to be \$9.33million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ STEPHEN FISHER _____

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting) _____

Date _____ 8 April 2005 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB062

Question Serial No.

0903

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

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

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Why is it that the planned target on handling enquiries in 2005-06 by the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) is lower than the actual performance in 2003-04? Will the Administration consider setting a higher target so as to encourage EOC to achieve optimum efficiency?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply :

EOC is an independent statutory body. Operational matters such as setting of performance targets are decided by the EOC. With an aim to providing quality service, service standards and performance targets were first set in 1998. The same standards and targets have been used since then. EOC has not lowered its standards and targets in 2005.

While the EOC was able to exceed its targets in 2003-04, this had not always been the case in the past years. The situation needs to be monitored over a longer period to consider whether an adjustment in the performance targets is called for. The existing targets are considered to be reasonable by the EOC taking into account that some flexibility is required to cater for special circumstances and difficulties.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date _____

30 March 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB063

Question Serial No.

1015

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 Administration will promote sports exchanges with neighbouring cities in Greater Pearl River Delta. What programmes are now under planning? When will they be held? And what will be the expenditure?

Asked by : Hon. FOK Tsun-ting, Timothy

Reply :

The Home Affairs Bureau of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government have signed two agreements on sports exchange and cooperation with our counterparts in Guangdong Province, Macao SAR and Hainan Province in 2003 and 2004 respectively.

The programmes being planned include a Hainan-Hong Kong Golf Competition and an Inaugural Pan-Pearl River Delta (Pan-PRD) Rally Tour to be held in 2005.

The exchange and cooperation programmes aim at bringing economic benefit and synergy of sport to the HKSAR and the neighbouring cities in Greater Pearl River Delta, tap the sport potential of the region and promote the sports industries. As the above programmes will operate according to the rules of market and are self-financing, the Government will only deploy manpower for their promotion and no direct expenditure will be incurred.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date _____

8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB064

Question Serial No.

1083

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

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

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Will the subvention of Hong Kong Arts Development Council to arts groups, which is generally provided on an annual basis, hamper the development of arts? Will the Government consider offering arts groups ongoing support or matching grant based on the amount of donation they receive from the business sector, as in the case of the Partnership Fund for the Disadvantaged, so as to boost incentive for business-community collaboration?

Asked by : Hon. CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, Selina

Reply :

The Hong Kong Arts Development Council (ADC) supports local arts groups/organizations through the provision of 3-year and 1-year grants. The 3-year grant provides support for six established local arts organizations and the Hong Kong International Film Festival in Hong Kong. The 1-year grant, on the other hand, provides support to smaller and upcoming arts organizations.

Arts organizations seeking funding from the ADC are selected through an open application process which is conducted once every 3 years for 3-year grants and every year for 1-year grants. All existing arts organizations receiving 3-year or 1-year grants are eligible to re-apply and will be awarded a grant for another term if their performance is satisfactory. Organizations receiving grants from the ADC have the full flexibility to deploy the resources allocated.

The ADC has actively sought the involvement of the corporate sector in arts development since 2001. In the past few years, various partnership programmes have been carried out with the corporate sector and other public organizations to foster an environment that is conducive to the development of culture and the arts. The new Council of the ADC is currently considering feasibility of setting up a Matching Grant Scheme to encourage more business support for the arts.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

STEPHEN FISHER

Post Title _____

Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date _____

8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB066

Question Serial No.

1153

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 programme on the setting up of a “Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit” and the establishment and financial provision involved.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply :

In 2005-06, we are putting more resources into the area of sexual orientation and gender identity discrimination. We have already set up a Sexual Minorities Forum. We will also set up a Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Unit initially as a 2-year pilot scheme. This is modelled on HAB's existing “Race Relations Unit”. The budget for the unit will be \$1.5 million per year.

The unit will handle gender identity and sexual orientation issues and conduct activities to further promote equal opportunities for persons of different sexual orientation and transgender persons. The unit will also maintain a hotline for enquiry and complaints about discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation and gender identity, and will liaise with relevant NGOs and government departments. We are in the process of recruiting two non-civil servant contract staff to run the unit. The unit is expected to commence operation by around the third quarter of 2005.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **STEPHEN FISHER**

Post Title _____ Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Acting)

Date _____ 1 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB068

Question Serial No.

0488

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Would the Administration please tabulate the individual usage rates and expenditure of all multi-purpose halls in community halls in 2004-05 and their target usage rates and estimated expenditure in 2005-06?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

———— The individual usage rates of all multi-purpose halls in community halls in the calendar year 2004 are attached at **Annex 1**. We expect that the usage rates of multi-purpose halls in community halls in 2005 will be similar to those in 2004, i.e. an overall usage rate of about 70%.

———— The total recurrent operating expenditure of community halls in 2004-05 is about \$20.4 million which includes staff costs, security guard services charges, cleaning costs, electricity charges, repairs and maintenance, etc. As most of the services are provided on a district basis, a breakdown by district is attached at **Annex 2**. It is estimated that the total recurrent operating expenditure of community halls in 2005-06 will be about \$23.4 million which is inclusive of the expenditure of four new community halls coming into operation in 2005-06.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

MRS PAMELA TAN

Post Title _____

Director of Home Affairs

Date _____

8 April 2005

Usage Rates of Multi-purpose Halls in Community Halls in 2004

District		Name of Community Hall	Usage Rate in 2004
Kwai Tsing	1	Cheung Hang Community Hall	85.2%
	2	Kwai Fong Community Hall	90.3%
	3	Kwai Shing Community Hall	73.0%
	4	Tsing Yi Estate Community Hall	87.6%
	5	Lai King Community Hall	86.4%
	6	Shek Lei Community Hall	62.1%
Sai Kung	7	Tsui Lam Community Hall	66.7%
	8	Kin Choi Community Hall	77.6%
	9	Sheung Tak Community Hall	71.4%
Sha Tin	10	Chun Shek Community Hall	86.3%
	11	Kwong Yuen Community Hall	89.6%
	12	Lek Yuen Community Hall	73.2%
	13	Pok Hong Community Hall	84.2%
	14	Sha Kok Community Hall	74.7%
	15	Sun Tin Wai Community Hall	72.8%
Tai Po	16	Wo Che Community Hall	75.6%
	17	Fu Shin Community Hall	76.2%
	18	Kwong Fuk Community Hall	80.9%
Tsuen Wan	19	Tai Yuen Community Hall	73.0%
	20	Lei Muk Shue Community Hall	74.9%
	21	Shek Wai Kok Community Hall	62.7%
Tuen Mun	22	Kin Sang Community Hall	93.7%
	23	Shan King Community Hall	77.3%
	24	Tai Hing Community Hall	71.9%
	25	Tuen Mun Town Centre Community Hall	72.9%
Yuen Long	26	Long Ping Community Hall	71.2%
North	27	Cheung Wah Community Hall	80.2%
	28	Ta Kwu Ling Community Hall #	18.6%
	29	Sha Tau Kok Community Hall #	26.2%
	30	Luen Wo Hui Community Hall	71.8%
Central & Western	31	Sai Ying Pun Community Complex Community Hall	56.3%
Wan Chai	32	Leighton Hill Community Hall	50.6%
Eastern	33	Hing Wah Community Hall	66.8%
	34	Yue Wan Community Hall	69.8%
Southern	35	Ap Lei Chau Community Hall	57.9%
	36	Lei Tung Community Hall	59.0%

Kwun Tong	37	Lam Tin (East) Community Hall	75.0%
	38	Kai Yip Community Hall	66.8%
Sham Shui Po	39	Lai Kok Community Hall	75.9%
	40	Pak Tin Community Hall	81.4%
	41	Shek Kip Mei Community Hall	81.3%
Yau Tsim Mong	42	Mong Kok Community Hall *	29.6%
Overall Average			70.0%

Ta Kwu Ling Community Hall and Sha Tau Kok Community Hall are located in remote areas which are not densely populated. A Closed Area Permit is required for users to go to Sha Tau Kok.

* Mong Kok Community Hall is a new community hall which came into operation in August 2004.

Total Recurrent Operating Expenditure of Community Halls in 2004-05

District	Total Recurrent Operating Expenditure of Community Halls (\$)
Kwai Tsing	2,955,591.51
Sai Kung	1,195,224.79
Sha Tin	3,725,042.31
Tai Po	1,377,751.80
Tsuen Wan	1,069,554.70
Tuen Mun	1,918,420.82
Yuen Long	624,114.97
North	1,611,961.41
Central & Western	538,362.11
Wan Chai	776,350.54
Eastern	1,105,806.24
Southern	637,498.00
Kwun Tong	654,614.42
Sham Shui Po	1,931,022.93
Yau Tsim Mong	283,442.41
Total	20,404,758.96

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB069

Question Serial No.

0489

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

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please list the amount of provision for community building received by each District Office in 2004-05 and the estimated provision for each District Office in 2005-06.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

Home Affairs Department allocates funds to 18 District Offices each year to enable them to implement, among other things, Community Involvement (CI) projects, with a view to encouraging public participation in community affairs. The allocation in 2004-05 is as follows:

District Office	Allocation for CI Projects (\$)	District Office	Allocation for CI Projects (\$)
Central & Western	7,470,000	Islands	4,262,000
Eastern	11,349,000	Kwai Tsing	13,680,000
Kowloon City	7,323,000	North	7,490,000
Kwun Tong	9,680,000	Sai Kung	7,720,000
Sham Shui Po	9,180,000	Sha Tin	12,189,000
Southern	5,720,000	Tai Po	8,250,000
Wan Chai	6,074,407	Tsuen Wan	8,529,737
Wong Tai Sin	9,383,800	Tuen Mun	9,880,000
Yau Tsim Mong	9,065,000	Yuen Long	9,584,200

The allocation of funds to individual districts for implementing CI projects in 2005-06 will be similar to the arrangements for 2004-05.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MRS PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB070

Question Serial No.

0613

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Would the Administration please tabulate the individual usage rates and expenditure of all multi-purpose halls in community centres in 2004-05 and their target usage rates and estimated expenditure in 2005-06?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

———— The individual usage rates of multi-purpose halls in community centres in the calendar year 2004 are attached at **Annex 1**. We expect that the usage rates of multi-purpose halls in community centres in 2005 will be similar to those in 2004, i.e. an overall usage rate of about 77%.

———— The total recurrent operating expenditure of community centres in 2004-05 is about \$29.8 million which includes staff costs, security guard services charges, cleaning costs, electricity charges, repairs and maintenance, etc. As most of the services are provided on a district basis, a breakdown by district is attached at **Annex 2**. It is estimated that the total recurrent operating expenditure of community centres in 2005-06 will be similar to that in 2004-05.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MRS PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 8 April 2005

Annex 1 of Reply to Question Serial No. 0613

Usage Rates of Multi-purpose Halls in Community Centres in 2004

District		Name of Community Centre	Usage Rate in 2004
Kwai Tsing	1	Cheung Ching Estate Community Centre	79.2%
	2	Cheung Fat Estate Community Centre	80.4%
	3	Tai Wo Hau Estate Community Centre	73.4%
Sai Kung	4	King Lam Neighbourhood Community Centre	85.1%
	5	Sai Kung Jockey Club Town Hall	81.3%
Sha Tin	6	Heng On Estate Community Centre	84.1%
	7	Lung Hang Estate Community Centre	79.6%
	8	Hin Keng Neighbourhood Community Centre	79.9%
Tai Po	9	Tai Po Community Centre	74.1%
	10	Fu Heng Neighbourhood Community Centre	89.1%
	11	Tai Wo Neighbourhood Community Centre	80.6%
	12	Wan Tau Tong Neighbourhood Community Centre	90.1%
Tsuen Wan	13	Princess Alexandra Community Centre	68.4%
Tuen Mun	14	On Ting/Yau Oi Community Centre	74.9%
	15	Butterfly Bay Estate Community Centre	81.6%
	16	Leung King Estate Community Centre	89.9%
Yuen Long	17	Tin Yiu Estate Community Centre	81.7%
	18	Tin Shui Community Centre	84.4%
Eastern	19	Causeway Bay Community Centre	62.6%
Southern	20	Wah Kwai Community Centre	63.5%
	21	South Horizons Neighbourhood Community Centre	54.8%
Kwun Tong	22	Kwun Tong Community Centre	73.0%
	23	Lok Wah Estate Community Centre	85.9%
	24	Shun Lee Estate Community Centre	68.7%
	25	Lam Tin (West) Estate Community Centre	70.6%
	26	Sau Mau Ping (Central) Estate Community Centre	62.6%
	27	Sai Tso Wan Neighbourhood Community Centre	70.2%
Sham Shui Po	28	Cheung Sha Wan Community Centre	79.3%
	29	Nam Cheong District Community Centre	81.7%
	30	Tai Hang Tung Community Centre	76.2%
Wong Tai Sin	31	Wong Tai Sin Community Centre	88.8%
	32	Choi Wan Estate Community Centre	66.5%
	33	Chuk Yuen Estate Community Centre	77.0%
	34	Tsz Wan Shan (South) Estate Community Centre	85.1%
	35	Fung Tak Estate Community Centre	74.8%
Yau Tsim Mong	36	Henry G. Leong Yaumatei Community Centre	71.0%
Overall Average			77.1%

Total Recurrent Operating Expenditure of Community Centres in 2004-05

District	Total Recurrent Operating Expenditure of Community Centres (\$)
Kwai Tsing	2,100,360.78
Sai Kung	1,640,165.59
Sha Tin	2,457,482.89
Tai Po	3,454,115.96
Tsuen Wan	825,678.30
Tuen Mun	2,257,893.01
Yuen Long	2,037,901.16
Eastern	1,469,246.41
Southern	2,339,016.73
Kwun Tong	3,767,993.81
Sham Shui Po	2,501,694.52
Wong Tai Sin	3,524,346.10
Yau Tsim Mong	1,466,145.47
Total	29,842,040.73

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB071

Question Serial No.

0614

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

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Would the Government please tabulate the district campaign activities in districts and the expenditure involved in 2004-05, as well as the proposed district campaigns activities and the details of expenditure in 2005-06?

Asked by : Hon. Chan Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

In 2004, a total of 1 807 “district campaign activities” were organised in the 18 districts. Details are as follows:

Central & Western	152	Wan Chai	139	Sai Kung	44
Eastern	137	Wong Tai Sin	111	Sha Tin	56
Kowloon City	189	Yau Tsim Mong	75	Tai Po	110
Kwun Tong	67	Islands	32	Tsuen Wan	99
Sham Shui Po	90	Kwai Tsing	169	Tuen Mun	75
Southern	149	North	71	Yuen Long	42

The expenditure on “district campaign activities” in financial year 2004-05 amounts to \$53.17 million. The figure also includes sponsorship from various organizations.

We estimate that the amount of expenditure and number of these activities in 2005-06 will be similar to those in 2004-05.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MRS PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 9 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB072

Question Serial No.

1160

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

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

As shown in the indicators under Programme (2), the financial provision for 2005-06 is 5.5% lower than that of 2004-05. According to the Administration, the reduction is mainly due to reduced expenditure on non-recurrent and capital account items. In this connection, how would the Administration enhance its work on community building despite the reduction in expenditure on non-recurrent and capital account items?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

The reduction in 2005-06 non-recurrent expenditure is mainly attributed to the completion of time-limited projects under the Initiatives for Wider Economic Participation Scheme as well as Marketing Campaign for Local Community Economy (LCE). For the former, an additional allocation (\$14.63M) has been obtained from Finance Committee, after preparation of the draft Estimates, to extend the programme to 2005-06. For LCE, while this non-recurrent item will lapse in 2005-06, Home Affairs Department will continue to promote the development of local community economy by redeployment of resources from within the operating expenditure envelope. As regards capital account provision, the decrease is due to the reduced expenditure on improvement works to plant and equipment in community centres/halls as large scale maintenance and replacement works are not required annually.

The reduction of 5.5% in allocation under Programme (2) in 2005-06 Estimate vis-a-vis 2004-05 Original Estimates should not have any significant impact on community building work. The Department will continue to coordinate and implement a wide range of community building programmes to encourage public participation in community affairs.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MRS PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB073

Question Serial No.

1505

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

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Would the Administration please tabulate the activities at district level held by the various District Fight Crime Committees and the expenditure involved in 2004-05, as well as the planned activities and estimated expenditure in 2005-06?

Asked by : Hon. Chan Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

In 2004, the total number of “activities held by District Fight Crime Committees” in the 18 districts was 365. Details are as follows:

Central & Western	12	Wan Chai	7	Sai Kung	5
Eastern	65	Wong Tai Sin	14	Sha Tin	29
Kowloon City	46	Yau Tsim Mong	9	Tai Po	8
Kwun Tong	24	Islands	8	Tsuen Wan	30
Sham Shui Po	17	Kwai Tsing	11	Tuen Mun	11
Southern	43	North	4	Yuen Long	22

The expenditure on “activities held by District Fight Crime Committees” in financial year 2004-05 amounts to \$6.178 million. The figure also includes sponsorship from various organizations.

We estimate that the amount of expenditure and number of these activities in 2005-06 will be similar to those in 2004-05.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MRS PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 9 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB074

Question Serial No.

0490

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : 6304 Licensing

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

How much provision will be allocated for investigating and taking enforcement action against unlicensed guesthouses/bedspace apartments? How many unlicensed guesthouses have been successfully prosecuted in 2004 and what is the target for 2005-06?

Asked by : Hon. YOUNG Howard

Reply :

A sum of \$5.4 million will be allocated for investigating and taking enforcement action against unlicensed guesthouses and bedspace apartments under the Hotel and Guesthouse Accommodation Ordinance (Cap. 349) and the Bedspace Apartments Ordinance (Cap. 447).

In 2004, a total of 15 unlicensed guesthouses have been successfully prosecuted, with their operators or managers convicted of charges of unlicensed operations under the Hotel and Guesthouse Accommodation Ordinance.

We will continue to step up enforcement action against unlicensed operations in 2005-06.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ MRS PAMELA TAN

Post Title _____ Director of Home Affairs

Date _____ 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB075

Question Serial No.

0833

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

Programme : 6305 Territory Planning and Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please list the major infrastructural projects on which Home Affairs Department had consulted public views and gauged public sentiments in 2004-05.

Asked by : Hon. LAU Kin-ye, Miriam

Reply :

In 2004-05, Home Affairs Department assisted relevant bureaux and departments in the public consultation of the following major infrastructural proposals –

1. West Kowloon Cultural District
2. Sheung Shui to Lok Ma Chau Spur Line
3. Reconstruction and Improvement of Tuen Mun Road
4. Deep Bay Link
5. MTRC South Island Line
6. Sewage Systems at Ting Kau and Sham Tseng
7. Kai Tak Planning Review
8. Concept Plan for Lantau
9. KCRC Kowloon Southern Link
10. Central Reclamation Phase III and Enhancement of Harbourfront
11. Harbour Area Treatment Scheme Stage 2
12. Domestic heliport at Sheung Wan
13. MTRC West Island Line
14. KCRC Shatin-Central Link
15. Road T3 in Tai Wai
16. Trunk Road T4 linking Shing Mun Tunnel Road and Sha Tin Road
17. Castle Peak Road Improvement between Area 2 and Ka Loon Tsuen, Tsuen Wan

Signature _____

Name in block letters MRS PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB076

Question Serial No.

0901

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

Programme : 6305 Territory Planning and Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

It is noted that HAD helps to ensure the balanced overall development of Hong Kong, including provision of the necessary infrastructure, services and district-based facilities, which should take cognisance of local sentiments. Why is it that the estimated expenditure in this area in 2005-06 is lower than that in 2003-04 and 2004-05? Does it mean that the Administration is satisfied with the results in this area, or that it intends to reduce the financial commitment concerned?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply :

Home Affairs Department assists relevant bureaux and departments in the monitoring and review of the planning and development of the territory through consultation with the community. In 2005-06, the estimated financial provision for work relating to Territory Planning and Development is \$17.5 million. This represents a slight reduction of 1.1% and 4.9% when compared with the revised estimate for 2004-05 and actual expenditure for 2003-04 respectively. The reduction is mainly due to the deletion of posts and the full-year effect of the 2005 civil service pay cut. The deletion of posts is achieved through rationalization in the provision of supporting staff and enhancement of productivity. The slight reduction in the financial provision will not affect our effort in reflecting community views on planning and development issues.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MRS PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB077

Question Serial No.

0902

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

Programme : 6303 Local Environmental Improvements

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

HAD's efforts in local environmental improvements are aimed at improving the local environment through minor works. Why is it that the estimated expenditure in this area in 2005-06 is lower than that in 2003-04 and 2004-05? Does it mean that the Administration is satisfied with the results in this area, or that it intends to reduce the financial commitment concerned?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wong-fat

Reply :

Home Affairs Department carries out minor works under various programmes in the urban and rural districts. In 2005-06, the estimated financial provision for Local Environmental Improvements is \$177.6 million. This represents a slight reduction of 1.9% and 2.6% when compared with the actual expenditure for 2003-04 and revised estimate for 2004-05 respectively. The reduction is mainly due to reduced expenditure on capital account items, deletion of posts and the full-year effect of the 2005 civil service pay cut. The deletion of posts is achieved through rationalization in the provision of supporting staff and enhancement of productivity. We envisage that the number of minor local environmental improvement projects in 2005 will remain comparable to that of the previous years.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MRS PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB078

Question Serial No.

1098

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the indicator for rates exemption applications processed, while the actual number of such applications processed in 2004 is 1 846, the estimated number of applications processed (in 2005) is reduced to 1 800. Does this have something to do with the 5.6% reduction in provision in 2005-06? What is the estimated expenditure for processing 1 800 rates exemption applications?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

The processing of 1 800 cases in 2005 is an estimated figure having regard to past experience and caseload in hand.

The provision for processing rates exemption applications in 2005-06 will remain at the same level as that of 2004-05, i.e. \$1.9 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ MRS PAMELA TAN _____

Post Title _____ Director of Home Affairs _____

Date _____ 8 April 2005 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB079

Question Serial No.

1099

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

How many rates exemption applications were received in 2004-05 ? What was the average processing time for each application ? With the reduction in allocated resources and the target number of applications processed, how long will the average processing time be extended?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

A total of 2 270 applications were received in 2004. The average processing time for each application is about nine months.

In 2005-06, the provision to be allocated for processing rates exemption applications will remain at the same level as that of 2004-05. We do not anticipate any increase in the average processing time.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MRS PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB080

Question Serial No.

1100

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

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Will the Administration allocate resources to conduct studies on how the rates exemption application procedures can be streamlined with a view to reducing the applicants' waiting time and the expenditure on application processing?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

The Home Affairs Department has set up a Working Group with Heung Yee Kuk and relevant departments to discuss issues of concerns regarding rates exemption for indigenous inhabitants of the New Territories. The Working Group has discussed, among other things, how the existing processing procedures can be streamlined. In this respect, we are exploring possible improvements to the application procedures in consultation with Heung Yee Kuk.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MRS PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB081

Question Serial No.

1102

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

What concrete plans does HAD have in promoting the development of local community economy in 2005-06? Will the initiatives cover all 18 districts or will they just focus on individual districts? What will be the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

The key objectives for promoting the development of local community economy (LCE) are to stimulate domestic consumption and promote district characteristics. They are achieved mainly through Government's facilitation measures such as enhancing co-ordination among departments and promotional/publicity support etc.

The Home Affairs Department and its 18 District Offices play the role of a co-ordinator. They provide the focal point of contact with the community and co-ordinate Government efforts in the facilitation measures.

In 2005-06, we will continue our efforts to promote LCE in the 18 districts. We will enhance the release of information and publicity targetted at Mainland visitors. We will revamp our LCE website (www.gohk.gov.hk) to make it more user-friendly to Mainland tourists and to include more information on district characteristics and interesting places to go. A territory-wide marketing campaign will also be launched. This will include programmes on Mainland TV channels, radio programme segments, posters, giant banners and visitors' guides etc. A total of \$2.5 million has been set aside in 2005-06 for the above marketing campaign.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ MRS PAMELA TAN

Post Title _____ Director of Home Affairs

Date _____ 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB082

Question Serial No.

1134

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Department

Subhead : 000 Operational
Expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

What is the estimated number of temporary staff employed in 2005–06? Please provide a breakdown by programmes, posts, salaries and duration.

Asked by : Hon. LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply :

In 2005-06, it is estimated that some 1 600 non-civil service contract staff (including Community Organizers and Assistant Community Organizers) would be employed to meet operational needs. The figure has already taken into account some 280 temporary jobs to be created under the Initiative for Wider Economic Participation Scheme in 2005-06. Details of the job titles, salaries and contract durations are set out at the Annex. These contract staff perform a wide range of duties in the Department and are not designated for any particular programme areas.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ MRS PAMELA TAN _____

Post Title _____ Director of Home Affairs _____

Date _____ 8 April 2005 _____

Estimated Number of Non-civil Service Contract Staff in 2005-06

Job Title	No. of staff	Pay		Contract Duration
		Monthly Rate	Hourly Rate	
Community Organizer	829		\$41.50	12 months
Assistant Community Organizer	231		\$34	12 months
Clean Hong Kong Community Organizer	90	\$2,200/month (average)		about 12 months
Building Management Assistant	112	\$3,400/month (average)		about 12 months
Community Services Assistant	60	\$5,950/month (average)		about 12 months
Project Co-ordinator	18	\$11,000/month (average)		about 12 months
Assistant Director (Special Duties)	1	\$110,000		6 months
Administrative Executive/Executive Assistant/Senior Project Coordinator	43	\$14,000 - \$16,000		12 months
Administrative Assistant/Manager, Lantau Link View Point/Project Executive	6	\$11,000 - \$12,000		12 months
Programme Coordinator	2	\$25,000		6 months
Contract Clerk/District Council Secretariat Assistant	86	\$8,000		6 - 12 months
Project Assistant/General Duties Assistant	32	\$7,000		12 months
Operation Assistant	1	\$9,500		12 months
Contract Computer Technician	4	\$11,280		12 months
Contract Systems Analyst	3	\$36,000		12 months
Contract Engineer	2	\$38,285		12 months
Contract Works Supervisor	17	\$13,000		12 months
Licensing Inspector	12	\$11,500		12 months
Assistant Supplies Officer	1	\$9,800		12 months
Contract Liaison Officer/Assistant	58	\$11,900		12 months
Total	1,608			

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB083

Question Serial No.

1289

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding this Programme, please give details of the work and expenditure involved in promoting effective building management in 2005-06.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The Building Management Ordinance (BMO) provides a legal framework for the incorporation of owners and the operation of the owners' corporations (OC). In order to assist OCs in performing their duties, rationalise the appointment procedures of a management committee (MC), and safeguard the interests of property owners, we will introduce the Building Management (Amendment) Bill 2005 into the Legislative Council on 27 April 2005. We believe that the Bill, if enacted, would bring about better building management in our community.

At the Headquarters level of the Home Affairs Department (HAD), a dedicated team has been set up to coordinate all building management matters, for both policy and execution purposes. At district level, District Building Management Liaison Teams (DMBLTs) have been set up in all the 18 District Offices to provide assistance to owners and OCs in resolving their building management problems.

HAD has since 1998 set up four Building Management Resource Centres (BMRCs) in Central, Yau Ma Tei, Tsuen Wan and Sha Tin respectively. In addition to providing general information and advice on building management, BMRCs also offer free professional consultation by appointment. In 2004, BMRCs received a total of 52 093 visitors, handled 67 096 enquiries and processed 323 applications for free professional advice.

Furthermore, HAD also organises workshops and seminars regularly to enhance public understanding of building management. In 2004, a total of 52 training courses, workshops and seminars were organized at BMRCs. In order to equip owners with an adequate knowledge of their responsibility to manage and maintain their own properties, a total of 500 educational and publicity programmes on building management were held in the 18 districts in 2004. We will continue to organize education and publicity programmes in 2005.

In the financial year of 2004-05, \$2 million was allocated to the Headquarters for building management-related promotion activities. Among others, we have jointly worked with Radio Television Hong Kong to produce a series of radio and TV programmes to promote messages on proper building management. In addition, a "Quality Building Competition" was organized in the 18 districts to instil in the public a stronger awareness of the importance of building management. Representatives of winner buildings were invited to share their valuable experiences in good building management on the radio. These activities would continue to be organized in the coming year.

HAD has all along encouraged OCs and owners to procure third party risks insurance to protect owners' interests. The Building Management (Amendment) Ordinance 2000 already introduced a new section to require that an OC shall procure and keep in force in relation to the common parts of the building a policy of insurance in respect of third party risks. It will be an offence if the OC does not comply with this legal requirement. To implement this new section, we need to draw up a Regulation to set out the detailed requirements. The draft Regulation has already been issued to the Legislative Council under the Brief on the Building Management (Amendment) Bill. In order to ensure OC's compliance with the mandatory requirement, we will focus our publicity effort in the coming year on the procurement of third party risks insurance.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MRS PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB084

Question Serial No.

1290

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please provide details of the work of the Administration in promoting the development of local community economy in 2005-06 financial year and the expenditure 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. They are achieved mainly through Government's facilitation measures such as enhancing co-ordination among departments and promotional/publicity support etc.

In the coming year, we will promote the unique characteristics of our 18 districts by enhancing the release of information and publicity targetted at Mainland visitors. We will revamp our LCE website (www.gohk.gov.hk) to make it more user-friendly to Mainland tourists and to include more information on district characteristics and interesting places to go. A territory-wide marketing campaign will also be launched. This will include programmes on Mainland TV channels, radio programme segments, posters, giant banners and visitors' guides etc. A total of \$2.5 million has been set aside in 2005-06 for the above marketing campaign.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ MRS PAMELA TAN _____

Post Title _____ Director of Home Affairs _____

Date _____ 8 April 2005 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB085

Question Serial No.

1291

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

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding this Programme, please give details of the expenditure on the provision of services in the past two years for new arrivals from the Mainland. What are the work plans and budget for the coming year?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

Services for new arrivals from the Mainland, such as welfare services, employment services and special education programmes, are primarily provided by non-governmental organisations and a number of 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, organize community education programmes and publish service handbooks for new arrivals with a view to promoting the integration of new arrivals into the community.

The expenditure on the provision of services to promote the integration of new arrivals in 2003-04 and 2004-05 is set out as follows –

	<u>Expenditure for 2003-04</u>	<u>Expenditure for 2004-05</u>
Community Education Programme on New Arrivals	\$240,000	\$245,000
Publicity Programme on Radio	–	\$70,000
Publicity Campaign to Promote the Integration of Mainland New Arrivals into the Community	–	\$295,000
Service Handbook for New Arrivals	\$600,000	\$630,000
Total	\$840,000	\$1,240,000

Home Affairs Department will continue to organise community education programmes and publish service handbooks for new arrivals. The Department will also conduct a thematic household survey to assess the needs of new arrivals from the Mainland during their early years of stay in Hong Kong in late 2005. The estimates of expenditure on the above-mentioned services are as follows –

	<u>Estimates for 2005-06</u>
Community Education Programme on New Arrivals	\$250,000
Service Handbook for New Arrivals	\$660,000
Thematic Household Survey on the Needs of New Arrivals from the Mainland	\$1,000,000
Total	\$1,910,000

Signature _____

Name in block letters MRS PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB087

Question Serial No.

1699

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

Programme : 6302 Community Building

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Regarding the indicators under Programme (2) Community Building, the usage rates of community centres and community halls were just 77% and 70% respectively. In this connection, what measures would the Administration propose to enhance the usage rates of these venues?

Asked by : Hon. NG Margaret

Reply :

We have recently proposed to reduce the basic hire charges for multi-purpose halls in community centres and community halls from \$187 per hour to \$82 per hour. In addition, to increase the flexibility in hiring facilities, the revised fees will be charged on an hourly basis rather than on the basis of every two hours as under the existing arrangements. We will continue to promote and encourage the use of facilities in community centres and community halls.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MRS PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB088

Question Serial No.

1700

Head : 63 – Home Affairs Department

Subhead : 000 Operational
Expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

HAD will reduce the number of its non-directorate posts by 29 in 2005-06. What are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. NG Margaret

Reply :

The reduction in manpower is part of the efficiency savings to be achieved by the Home Affairs Department and is in line with the Government's downsizing policy. Details include –

	<u>No. of Posts</u>
(a) rationalization of the provision of supporting staff in district sub-offices	11
(b) re-engineering of the Office of Licensing Authority	3
(c) rationalization of Works Division	2
(d) rationalization of departmental transport services	2
(e) rationalization of secretarial services	11

Signature _____

Name in block letters MRS PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB089

Question Serial No.

1887

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

Programme : 6303 Local Environmental Improvements

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

At present, seats for pedestrians are provided along some pavements. Will the Administration continue to carry out such works this year to provide more seats for pedestrians? If so, what is the estimated number of such works and what is the expenditure involved? If not, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

Home Affairs Department undertakes minor works having regard to local needs in the districts. These may include projects on the provision of seats for pedestrians. We plan to carry out about eight such projects in 2005-06 at an estimated expenditure of about \$1.8 million under the Urban Minor Works programme and the Rural Public Works programme.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MRS PAMELA TAN

Post Title Director of Home Affairs

Date 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB090

Question Serial No.

0493

Head : 74 – Information Services Department Subhead (No. & title): 000 – Operational Expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Information Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question : The estimate for General Departmental Expenses of the Information Services Department amounts to \$43.565 million in 2005, representing an increase of about 14% over the revised estimate for the preceding year. The revised estimate for General Departmental Expenses in 2004 has also increased by 20% over the actual expenditure in 2003. Will the Government inform this Committee -

- (a) of the reasons for the increase in General Departmental Expenses for the two years;
- (b) whether a double-digit increase in such expenses is expected in the next five years and what are the estimated percentages of increase; and
- (c) of the initiatives, if any, to reduce such expenses?

Asked by : Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply :

- (a) The Department has been trying its best to control the expenditure as indicated by the reduction in the overall operational expenses by \$19.645 million (5.4%) in the 2005-06 estimate over the 2004-05 original estimate. For the component of General Departmental Expenses, the revised estimate of 2004-05 is also \$2.992 million (7.3%) less than the original estimate.

The increase in the estimate for General Departmental Expenses for the two years is mainly attributed to enhancement of equipment to facilitate service delivery and improve operational efficiency. These include enhancement of the audio and visual equipment for supplying dubbed version of government television Announcements in the Public Interest to TV stations for broadcasting; implementation of Government's e-initiative by providing all staff with dedicated or shared computer terminals; replacement or upgrading of computer work stations and related accessories; improvement of office equipment; hiring of services for short term specialised tasks; and rise in maintenance charges to cater for more IT systems.

- (b) We estimate that the General Departmental Expenses will be maintained at more or less the same level or even reduced in the next five years, as most of the items attributed to the increase in 2004-05 and 2005-06 are one-off in nature.

- (c) The Department will adhere to the Government's economy drive to reduce expenses on printing, energy and paper consumption, transportation, etc. We will continue to make wider use of information technology and encourage communication over the Internet and intranet to achieve higher efficiency and savings. We will also look out for opportunities to achieve savings such as amalgamating maintenance contracts of related IT systems.

Signature _____

Name in block letters Miss Yvonne CHOI

Post Title Director of Information Services

Date 6.4.2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB091

Question Serial No.

0112

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 :

During the financial year of 2005-06, the Administration plans to extend the Community Garden Programme to all districts. What is the timetable for implementing the Programme in different districts? What is the expenditure involved? Out of the expenditure involved, how much will be used to promote the Programme and greening message to the public?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Wai-hing, Emily

Reply :

We established community gardens in six districts in 2004-05. We are going to extend the programme to the remaining 12 districts in 2005-06. We plan to launch the programme in Tsuen Wan, Tai Po and Sha Tin Districts in April 2005, in Southern and Yuen Long Districts in May 2005, in Sai Kung, Tuen Mun, Central & Western, Kowloon City, Kwun Tong and Wan Chai Districts in November/December 2005 and in Yau Tsim Mong District in early 2006.

A total expenditure of \$1 million has been earmarked for the Community Garden Programme in 2005-06, out of which \$20,000 is estimated to be incurred for publicising the programmes through banners, posters and notices. We would also publicise the programme through posting information in LCSD websites and issue of press releases.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 9 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB092

Question Serial No.

0514

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 :

Usage rate of tennis courts remained at a relatively low level of 44 per cent, and it is stated in para. 8 that the Department will convert under-utilised sports facilities to other uses in 2005-06. Will the Administration elaborate what are those sports facilities, what will they be converted to, and their location?

Besides, the Department will also promote utilisation of sports facilities during non-peak period. What would be the measures?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Bernard

Reply :

We have plans to convert some under-utilised sports facilities to other uses. We have identified some less popular squash courts for conversion into other uses such as basketball court, activity room and landscaped open space in 2005-06. These squash courts are located in Java Road Sports Centre, Po Kong Village Road Sports Centre, Victoria Park, Morse Park and Fanling New Town Squash Courts respectively. Details of the proposed conversion work are at **Annex**. In addition, we will explore conversion of under-utilised tennis courts to mini-soccer pitch or basketball court to meet local need.

To promote the utilisation of sports facilities during non-peak period, the Department will continue to enable schools, subvented non-government organisations (NGOs), national sports associations and district sports associations to use selected sports facilities free of charge during the non-peak hours (i.e. from opening time to 5 p.m.). We will continue to outreach these organisations, in particular schools and NGOs for elderly services, to maximise the use of these sports facilities as well as to promote sports among students and the elderly. We will continue to work in partnership with NGOs under the Healthy Elderly Scheme to promote the organisation of programmes for the elderly at sports centres during non-peak hours. Local organisations would be invited to attend "Promotion Days" with free seminars, visits, and sport

activities organised at our facilities in order to promote their awareness of these facilities and their functions. Venue managers of sports facilities will make every effort to publicise the facilities and organise tailor-made programmes to further enhance their utilisation rates.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 9 April 2005

Annex**Plans to Convert Under-utilised Squash Courts into Other Uses**

<u>District</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>No. of Courts</u>	<u>Plans</u>
Eastern	Java Road Sports Centre	7	To convert two squash courts into an activity room by taking down the partition wall.
	*Victoria Park Squash Courts Building	4	To demolish the squash courts building and convert the site into an outdoor basketball court.
Wong Tai Sin	Po Kong Village Road Sports Centre	6	To convert two squash courts into an activity room by taking down the partition wall.
	*Morse Park Squash Courts Building	3	To demolish the squash courts building and convert the site into landscaped open space.
North	*Fanling New Town Squash Courts Building	2	To demolish the squash courts building and convert the site into landscaped open space.

* Free standing squash courts building

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB093

Question Serial No.

0515

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural Services Department Subhead (No. & title): 000
Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please provide the figures and expenditures involved in respect of the following categories of staff on the establishment:

1. civil servants on permanent terms;
2. civil servants on agreement terms;
3. non-civil service contract staff;
4. staff employed under outsourced service contracts.

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

The information requested are as follow:-

- (1) & (2) As at 31.3.2005, the number of civil servants on permanent terms is 6 988 and the number of civil servants on agreement terms is 53. Their related expenditure as included in the draft Estimates 2005-06 is \$1,687 million.
- (3) (a) The number of Non-Civil Service Contract (NCSC) staff the Department employs and the expenditure incurred vary with the number and scale of leisure and cultural events and activities it organises at different times of the year. For 2004-05, the Department employs a maximum of 3 500 full-time (including 634 trainees employed under the Youth Job Creation Program) and 4 900 part-time NCSC staff in August 2004 at an expenditure of \$45 million. It fell back to 1 900 full-time (including 213 trainees employed under the Youth Job Creation Program) and 2 700 part-time in January 2005 at an expenditure of \$34 million. The total expenditure on the employment of NCSC staff for the whole of the 2004-05 financial year is about \$442 million.
- (b) The Department also employs some 350 Ex-Council Contract (ECC) staff who were transferred to LCSd from the former municipal councils upon its establishment on 1.1.2000. Their number stood at 348 as at 1.3.2005 and the total expenditure on these ECC staff for the whole of the 2004-05 financial year is about \$86 million.

- (4) As the staff employed under outsourced service contracts are engaged by the contractors, LCSD does not have the full employment information of these staff members. However, from the latest available information provided by the contractors of some major services (i.e. cleansing, security guard, horticultural maintenance and sports centre management), they employ about 5 800 workers.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 9 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB094

Question Serial No.

0516

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 heritage, what are the reasons for the significant drop in the number of seminars/conferences/workshops/exhibitions/heritage tours from 214 in 2004 to 160 in 2005?

Asked by : Hon. LEUNG Yiu-chung

Reply :

The Antiquities and Monuments Office organises about 160 programmes per year. For example, in 2001 and 2002, 155 and 165 programmes were organised respectively. Owing to the outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome in 2003, only 136 programmes were organised. 20 scheduled heritage tours for students and teachers were postponed to 2004. In 2004, the demand for heritage tours for students and teachers has increased. An additional 78 tours were organised, including those originally scheduled for 2003. The estimated number of 160 programmes in 2005 is at a normal level.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB095

Question Serial No.

0565

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 :

How many cases of complaint about the destruction, damage or removal of trees did the Department receive annually in the past five years? How many trees were involved? What was the expenditure on handling of these complaints by the Department? What is the estimated expenditure on handling this issue for 2005-06?

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply :

There were 51 complaint cases in the past five years about damage, destruction or removal of 51 trees, that is ten each in 2000 and 2001, five in 2002, 12 in 2003 and 14 in 2004. The total expenditure involved in the handling of these complaints by the Department was about \$100,000, which was mainly used for pruning, staking, planting and transplanting of trees. Assuming that there are ten complaint cases in 2005-06, the estimated expenditure on handling such cases is about \$20,000.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB096

Question Serial No.

0566

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 :

What was the annual expenditure on planting of trees by the Department in the past three years? What is the estimated expenditure on this item for 2005-06?

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply :

In the past three years, we have planted a total of 120 000 trees at a cost of \$60 million i.e. 60 000 in 2002 costing \$30 million, 40 000 in 2003 costing \$20 million, 20 000 in 2004 costing \$10 million. We are planning to plant another 15 000 trees in 2005. The estimated cost is \$7.5 million.

Since 2000, we have planted a total of 240 000 trees. Due to the limited availability of sites suitable for planting trees, we have reduced the number of trees to be planted each year. We plant more flowering shrubs instead as a substitute. As a result, the total number of trees, shrubs and annuals planted in the past three years is on the rise i.e. 2.98 million in 2002, 3.07 million in 2003, 3.16 million in 2004. We aim to plant 3.16 million trees, shrubs and annuals in 2005.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 9 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB097

Question Serial No.

1646

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 will convert under-utilised sports facilities to other uses in 2005-06. What are the details of the plan and the sports facilities involved? Will it involve reduction in manpower and expenditure if the plan is implemented? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply :

We have identified 13 less popular squash courts for conversion into other uses such as basketball court, activity room and landscaped open spaces in 2005-06. These squash courts are located in Java Road Sports Centre, Po Kong Village Road Sports Centre, Victoria Park, Morse Park and Fanling New Town Squash Courts Buildings respectively. Details of the proposed conversion works and estimated cost are at **Annex**. In addition, we will explore conversion of under-utilised tennis courts to mini-soccer pitch or basketball court to meet the local need.

After conversion, the facilities concerned will continue to be managed by the existing staff. However, we anticipate that there will be a total annual savings in the order of \$1.3 million due to reduction in cost for support services and electricity charges after the demolition of the squash courts buildings at Victoria Park, Morse Park and Fanling New Town.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 8 April 2005

Annex**Plans to Convert Under-utilised Squash Courts into Other Uses**

<u>District</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Squash Courts to be converted</u>	<u>Plans</u>
Eastern	Java Road Sports Centre <i>(Total No. of Squash Courts : 7)</i>	2	To convert two squash courts into an activity room by taking down the partition wall at an estimated cost of about \$0.8 million
	* Victoria Park Squash Courts Building	4	To demolish the squash courts building and convert the site into an outdoor basketball court at an estimated cost of about \$4 million.
Wong Tai Sin	Po Kong Village Road Sports Centre <i>(Total No. of Squash Courts : 6)</i>	2	To convert two squash courts into an activity room by taking down the partition wall at an estimated cost of about \$0.8 million.
	* Morse Park Squash Courts Building	3	To demolish the squash courts building and convert the site into landscaped open space at an estimated cost of about \$3 million.
North	* Fanling New Town Squash Courts Building	2	To demolish the squash courts building and convert the site into landscaped open space at an estimated cost of about \$0.8 million.

* Free standing squash courts building

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB098

Question Serial No.

0627

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), has the Administration employed any contract staff through personnel management agencies? If yes,

- (a) please list by year the details of the personnel management service contracts awarded from 2002-03 to 2004-05, including the value and length of the respective contracts;
- (b) is the “Employment Contract for Non-skilled Workers of Contractors of Government Service Contracts” also applicable to the respective contracts? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?
- (c) will the Government stipulate a mandatory requirement on wage rates, as contained in other government service contracts, for assessment of tenders submitted by personnel management agencies? If yes, what are the details? If no, what are the reasons?

Asked by : Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply :

Service agencies are engaged to provide Computer Technician and Library Assistant services under this Programme.

- (a) Four agency services contracts were awarded in the years 2002-03 and 2004-05 respectively (Details in Annex).
- (b) The “Employment Contract for Non-skilled workers of Contractors of Government Services Contract” is not applicable to these contracts since the staff employed are not non-skilled workers.
- (c) In these contracts, there is no mandatory requirement on wage rates for the reason stated in (b) above.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 8 April 2005

Annex

Contracts Awarded For Service Agencies

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Contract Value</u> (\$ million)	<u>Contract Period</u>
<i>(In 2002-03)</i>			
1.	Provision of Computer Technician Services	10.2	1.8.2002 – 31.3.2005
2.	Provision of Computer Technician Services	10.4	1.8.2002 – 31.3.2005
3.	Provision of Library Assistant Services	25.7	1.3.2003 – 28.2.2005
4.	Provision of Library Assistant Services	21.3	1.3.2003 – 28.2.2005
<i>(In 2003-04)</i>			
	NIL		
<i>(In 2004-05)</i>			
1.	Provision of Computer Technician Services	10.1	1.4.2005 – 31.3.2008
2.	Provision of Computer Technician Services	14.6	1.4.2005 – 31.3.2008
3.	Provision of Library Assistant Services	30.0	1.3.2005 – 28.2.2007
4.	Provision of Library Assistant Services	23.7	1.3.2005 – 28.2.2007

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB099

Question Serial No.

0974

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 :

1. Under Programme (3), the provision for Heritage and Museums for 2005-06 is \$41.5 million (7.5%) higher than that for 2004-05. In this connection, please provide details of the use of the increased provision; and
2. the expenditure to be saved by the deletion of four posts under this Programme.

Asked by : Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply :

1. The increase in provision of \$41.5 million in 2005-06 is mainly due to the following -
 - (i) opening and operation of the Heritage Resource Centre;
 - (ii) exhibition fabrication for the display of the Fireboat Alexander Grantham at the Quarry Bay Park;
 - (iii) replacement of the Planetarium Star Projector and seating at the Space Theatre of the Hong Kong Space Museum;
 - (iv) increase in provision for maintenance and restoration of historical buildings; and
 - (v) increase in provision for electrical and mechanical services and procurement of equipment for upgrading/replacement of existing facilities.
2. The deletion of four posts, which includes the transferring of one Chief Curator, one Chief Executive Officer and one Senior Executive Officer posts to HAB and the deletion of one Artisan post, will lead to a decrease of \$2.6 million in LCSD's expenditure under Head 95.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Date 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB100

Question Serial No.

1389

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 2004-05, the Administration has rendered assistance to 12 non-government organisations (NGOs) to enhance the utilisation rate of their facilities. In this connection, please provide the following information:

- (a) a list of those facilities;
- (b) details of the assistance measures;
- (c) the resources involved; and
- (d) the effectiveness of the measures.

Asked by : Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply :

- (a) The facilities managed by the 12 subvented non-government organisations (NGOs) include 22 holiday camps and three water sports centres, a list of which is at Annex.
- (b) Leisure and Cultural Services Department provides subvention to the 12 NGOs for meeting their operating expenses including administration costs, rents and rates, repairs and maintenance, as well as expenditure incurred in improvement works to the holiday camps and water sports centres concerned. The Department also offers advice to these NGOs to improve their camping services to the community.
- (c) The resources involved, mainly subvention by the Department to the NGOs, amounted to about \$32.3 million in 2004-05.
- (d) The effectiveness of the measures can be gauged by the patronage at the holiday camps and water sports centres concerned which rose from 663 000 in 2003 to 783 000 in 2004, representing an increase of 18%. We will continue to monitor the operation of these outdoor pursuit venues to maintain and further improve their utilisation as far as possible.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 8 April 2005

Annex

List of Subvented Non-Government Organization (NGO) Camps/Centres
(資助非政府機構營舍/中心)

Serial No.	Subvented NGO (資助非政府機構)	Name of Camp/Centre (營舍/中心)
1.	Hong Kong PHAB Association (香港傷健協會)	Pokfulam PHAB Camp (薄扶林傷健營)
2.	Boys' & Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong (香港女童群益會)	Bradbury Camp (白普理營)
3.	Caritas – Hong Kong (香港明愛)	Caritas Oi Fai Camp (明愛愛暉營)
		Caritas Ming Fai Camp (明愛明暉營)
		Caritas Siu Tong Youth Camp (明愛小塘營)
4.	Hong Kong Young Women's Christian Association (香港基督教女青年會)	YWCA Youth Camp (香港基督教女青年會青年營)
5.	Salvation Army (救世軍)	Bradbury Camp (救世軍白普理營)
		Ma Wan Youth Camp (救世軍馬灣青年營)
6.	Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong (香港中華基督教青年會)	Lion's - YMCA Junk Bay Youth Camp (獅子會 - 青年會將軍澳青年營)
		Wu Kwai Sha Youth Village (烏溪沙青年新村)
		Y's Men – YMCA Wong Yi Chau Youth Camp (黃宜洲青年營)
7.	Hong Kong Award for Young People (香港青年獎勵計劃)	Duke of Edinburgh Training Camp (愛丁堡公爵訓練營)
8.	Hong Kong Playground Association (香港遊樂場協會)	Silvermine Bay Outdoor Recreation Camp (銀礦灣戶外康樂營)

Serial No.	Subvented NGO (資助非政府機構)	Name of Camp/Centre (營舍/中心)
9.	Hong Kong Red Cross (香港紅十字會)	Shek Pik Camp (石壁營)
10.	Hong Kong Girl Guides Association (香港女童軍總會)	Jockey Club Beas River Lodge (賽馬會碧溪莊) Yuen Long Recreation Centre (元朗康樂中心) New Sandilands Training Centre (新德倫山莊) Leung Sing Tak Sea Activities Centre (梁省德海上活動中心)
11.	Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups (香港青年協會)	Lamma Youth Camp (南丫青年營) Jockey Club Sai Kung Outdoor Training Camp (賽馬會西貢戶外訓練營) Tai Mei Tuk Outdoor Activities Centre (大美篤戶外活動中心) Stanley Outdoor Activities Centre (赤柱戶外活動中心)
12.	Scout Association of Hong Kong (香港童軍總會)	Tai Tam Scout Centre (大潭童軍中心) Tung Tsz Scout Centre (洞梓童軍中心) Pak Sha Wan Tam Wah Ching Sea Activities Centre (白沙灣譚華正海上活動中心)

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB101

Question Serial No.

1390

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 will convert under-utilised sports facilities to other uses in 2005-06. In this connection, will the Administration provide the following information:

- (a) a list of the sports facilities to be converted to other uses in 2005-06;
- (b) the amount of public money to be involved in the conversion of each sports facility on the list;
and
- (c) their uses after the conversion.

Asked by : Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply :

We have identified 13 less popular squash courts for conversion into other uses such as basketball court, activity room and landscaped open spaces in 2005-06. These squash courts are located in Java Road Sports Centre, Po Kong Village Road Sports Centre, Victoria Park, Morse Park and Fanling New Town Squash Courts respectively. Details of the proposed conversion works and estimated cost are at **Annex**. In addition, we will explore conversion of under-utilised tennis courts to mini-soccer pitch or basketball court to meet local need.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 8 April 2005

Annex**Plans to Convert Under-utilised Squash Courts into Other Uses**

<u>District</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Squash Courts to be converted</u>	<u>Plans</u>
Eastern	Java Road Sports Centre <i>(Total No. of Squash Courts : 7)</i>	2	To convert two squash courts into an activity room by taking down the partition wall at an estimated cost of about \$0.8 million.
	*Victoria Park Squash Courts Building	4	To demolish the squash courts building and convert the site into an outdoor basketball court at an estimated cost of about \$4 million.
Wong Tai Po Sin	Kong Village Road Sports Centre <i>(Total No. of Squash Courts : 6)</i>	2	To convert two squash courts into an activity room by taking down the partition wall at an estimated cost of about \$0.8 million.
	*Morse Park Squash Courts Building	3	To demolish the squash courts building and convert the site into landscaped open space at an estimated cost of about \$3 million.
North	*Fanling New Town Squash Courts Building	2	To demolish the squash courts building and convert the site into landscaped open space at an estimated cost of about \$0.8 million.

* Free standing squash courts building

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB102

Question Serial No.

1013

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 :

An efficient and effective one-stop subvention service to sports organisations will be administered in 2005-06 to foster sports development in Hong Kong. What items will be included in this one-stop subvention service? What are the conditions that an organisation has to meet when applying for this service? And how much resources are estimated to be allocated for this one-stop subvention service?

Asked by : Hon. FOK Chun-ting, Timothy

Reply :

The Administration started to provide one-stop subvention services to 57 National Sports Associations (NSAs) and 28 other sports bodies since taking over the subvention work from the former Hong Kong Sports Development Board in 2004-05. Subvention to NSAs is based on annual plans submitted by NSAs which cover general administration and staff costs as well as programme expenses. Funding to other sports bodies is on project basis and confined to expenditure items necessary for implementing the subvented programmes. To be eligible for funding, the organisation must be national governing bodies of respective sports in Hong Kong or other sports bodies recognised by the Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China. The provision for the subvention scheme in 2005-06 amounts to \$116 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 9 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB103

Question Serial No.

1014

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 will convert under-utilised sports facilities to other uses in the year 2005-06. What are the uses referred to as other uses? Will the Administration list out what these under-utilised sports facilities are?

Asked by : Hon. FOK Tsun-ting, Timothy

Reply :

We have identified 13 less popular squash courts for conversion into other uses such as basketball court, activity room and landscaped open spaces in 2005-06. These squash courts are located in Java Road Sports Centre, Po Kong Village Road Sports Centre, Victoria Park, Morse Park and Fanling New Town Squash Courts respectively. Details of the proposed conversion works and estimated cost are at **Annex**. In addition, we will explore conversion of under-utilised tennis courts to mini-soccer pitch or basketball court to meet local need.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 8 April 2005

Annex**Plans to Convert Under-utilised Squash Courts into Other Uses**

<u>District</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Squash Courts to be converted</u>	<u>Plans</u>
Eastern	Java Road Sports Centre <i>(Total No. of Squash Courts : 7)</i>	2	To convert two squash courts into an activity room by taking down the partition wall.
	*Victoria Park Squash Courts Building	4	To demolish the squash courts building and convert the site into an outdoor basketball court.
Wong Tai Po Sin	Kong Village Road Sports Centre <i>(Total No. of Squash Courts : 6)</i>	2	To convert two squash courts into an activity room by taking down the partition wall.
	*Morse Park Squash Courts Building	3	To demolish the squash courts building and convert the site into landscaped open space.
North	*Fanling New Town Squash Courts Building	2	To demolish the squash courts building and convert the site into landscaped open space.

* Free standing squash courts building

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB104

Question Serial No.

1084

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 :

Has the Administration considered outsourcing the daily operation of the museums under the LCSD so as to enhance efficiency and reduce expenditure?

Asked by : Hon. CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, Selina

Reply :

The daily operation of museums involves a wide range of work areas including acquisition of artifacts, preservation, research, planning and organisation of exhibitions, education and general venue management. These services require professional curatorial expertise and adherence to international museum standards. On the other hand, there are various supportive functions including customer services, security, cleansing, catering and sale of publications, souvenirs and other merchandise. These supportive services are being provided through outsourcing. The Government will from time to time review the need and feasibility of further outsourcing other services currently provided by the museums. In the process, the advice of the Committee on Museums, recently established by the Government with one of its aims to advise on the future development of museums in Hong Kong including the enhancement of their services, will be sought.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB105

Question Serial No.

1136

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural
Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): 000
Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

In May 2004, the Government has required that the wages of low-skilled workers offered by government service contractors should not be lower than the average market rates and the number of working hours should not exceed the average market level. Has the Administration assessed the impact of implementing the above measure on the operational expenses of the Department? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply :

For the requirement that non-skilled workers to be offered with wage rates not lower than the average market rates, the estimated increase in expenditure for the service contracts that rely heavily on the deployment of non-skilled workers (i.e. cleansing, security guard, horticultural maintenance and sports centre management) is about \$6 million in 2005-06. Upon the full implementation of the requirement for these service contracts, the estimated increase in annual expenditure is about \$24 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB106

Question Serial No.

1137

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural
Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): 000
Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

- (a) Have any contracts for the provision of services by front-line staff been awarded in 2004-05? If yes, how many contracts have been awarded in total? Please list out the contractor's name, nature of service, term and value of the contract and contractual working hours of the respective contract(s).
- (b) Are there any plans to award contracts for the provision of services by front-line staff in 2005-06? If yes, what are the details?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Cheuk-yan

Reply :

- (a) In 2004-05, 41 contracts with value exceeding \$1.3 million were awarded for the provision of services by front-line staff. Details are at Annex A.
- (b) A list of service contracts with value exceeding \$1.3 million for the provision of services by front-line staff that are to be awarded in 2005-06 is at Annex B.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 9 April 2005

Annex A

No	Description	Contractor	Nature of service	Value (HK\$ million)	Term	Maximum allowable working hours
1.	Security Guard Services for Tseung Kwan O Public Library, Tin Shui Wai Public Library, Ma On Shan and Tung Chung Public Library	Professional Security Services Ltd.	Security guard	2.4	1.8.2004 – 31.7.2007	8
2.	Security Guard Services for Special Exhibition at Hong Kong Museum of Art	Security Centre Ltd.	Security guard	2.4	26.1.2005 – 25.4.2005	12
3.	Security Guard Services for Tsing Yi Municipal Services Building	Uniformity Security Co. Ltd.	Security guard	1.5	1.11.2004 – 31.10.2006	8
4.	Security Services for Hong Kong Stadium	Security Centre Ltd.	Security guard	12.1	1.5.2004 – 30.4.2007	10
5.	Security Services for Islands and Tuen Mun Districts	Kuokon Security Ltd.	Security guard	6.6	1.5.2004 – 30.4.2007	8
6.	Security Services for Kwai Tsing District	Security Cares Consultancy Ltd.	Security guard	5.5	1.5.2004 – 30.4.2007	8
7.	Security Services for Tsuen Wan, Northern, Tai Po and Sha Tin Districts	Kuo Chiau Security Co. Ltd.	Security guard	20.0	1.5.2004 – 30.4.2007	12
8.	Security Services for Yuen Long and Sai Kung Districts	Security Centre Ltd.	Security guard	12.7	1.5.2004 – 30.4.2007	8
9.	Security Services for Eastern District	Hong Nin Security Co Ltd.	Security guard	16.3	1.5.2004 – 30.4.2007	8

No	Description	Contractor	Nature of service	Value (HK\$ million)	Term	Maximum allowable working hours
10.	Security Services for Wan Chai and Southern Districts	Kuokon Security Ltd.	Security guard	6.3	1.5.2004 – 30.4.2007	8
11.	Security Services for Central & Western, and Wong Tai Sin Districts	Security Cares Consultancy Ltd.	Security guard	19.4	1.5.2004 – 30.4.2007	8
12.	Security Services for Sham Shui Po, Yau Tsim Mong and Kwun Tong Districts	Guard Able Ltd.	Security guard	31.5	1.5.2004 – 30.4.2007	8
13.	Security Services for Kowloon City District	Uniformity Security Co. Ltd.	Security guard	9.7	1.5.2004 – 30.4.2007	8
14.	Security Guard Services for Hong Kong Central Library	Professional Security Services Ltd.	Security guard	8.5	1.6.2004 – 31.5.2006	11
15.	Admission and Crowd Control Services for HK Coliseum & Queen Elizabeth Stadium	Securicor Guarding Services (HK) Ltd.	Security guard	6.7	1.7.2004 – 30.6.2007	8
16.	Security Guard Services for Hong Kong Cultural Centre	Kuo Chiau Security Co. Ltd.	Security guard	7.2	16.7.2004–15.7.2006	12
17.	Security Guard Services for Hong Kong City Hall	P. Dussmann Hong Kong Ltd.	Security guard	2.8	16.7.2004–15.7.2006	7.5
18.	Management Services for Ap Lei Chau Sports Centre & North Kwai Chung T.S.K. Sports Centre	Hong Yip Service Co. Ltd.	Sports centre management	22.8	1.5.2004 – 30.4.2007	8
19.	Management Services for Choi Hung Road Sports Centre & Wo Hing Sports Centre	Kai Shing Management Services Ltd.	Sports centre management	16.5	1.5.2004 – 30.4.2007	8

No	Description	Contractor	Nature of service	Value (HK\$ million)	Term	Maximum allowable working hours
20.	Management Services for Island East Sports Centre	Hong Yip Service Co. Ltd.	Sports centre management	26.9	1.5.2004 – 30.4.2007	8
21.	Horticultural Maintenance, Cleansing and Supporting Services for Tuen Mun Recreation and Sports Centre	Greenland Gardening Services Co.	Sports centre management	4.9	1.6.2004 – 31.5.2007	8
22.	Management and Supporting Services for Quarry Bay Sports Centre & Chuk Yuen Sports Centre	Kai Shing Management Services Ltd.	Sports centre management	14.3	1.7.2004 – 30.6.2007	8
23.	Management and Supporting Services for Cheung Sha Wan Sports Centre	East Point Property Management Ltd.	Sports centre management	5.7	1.7.2004 – 30.6.2007	8
24.	Management and Supporting Services for Chun Wah Road Sports Centre	Hong Yip Service Co. Ltd.	Sports centre management	5.0	1.7.2004 – 30.6.2007	8
25.	Management Support Services for Jockey Club Tuen Mun Butterfly Beach Indoor Recreational Centre	Kai Shing Management Services Ltd.	Sports centre management	7.4	1.2.2005 – 31.1.2008	9
26.	Swimming Pool Services for Three Holiday Camps in the New Territories	Kai Shing Management Services Ltd.	Venue management	5.3	1.4.2005 – 31.10.2007	8
27.	Cleaning and Supporting Services for Monuments in Hong Kong	Johnson Cleaning Services Co. Ltd.	Cleansing	1.8	1.8.2004 – 31.7.2007	8

No	Description	Contractor	Nature of service	Value (HK\$ million)	Term	Maximum allowable working hours
28.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for HK Museum of Art, HK Space Museum and HK Cultural Centre	Baguio Cleaning Services Co Ltd.	Cleansing	13.0	1.6.2004 – 31.5.2006	8
29.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for Hong Kong City Hall	Johnson Cleaning Services Co Ltd.	Cleansing	4.9	1.6.2004 – 31.5.2006	8
30.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for Various Venues of the Heritage and Museum Division (HK Heritage Museum, Sheung Yiu Folk Museum, HK Railway Museum and Sam Tung Uk Museum)	Baguio Cleaning Services Co Ltd.	Cleansing	5.9	1.8.2004 – 31.7.2007	9
31.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for HK Central Library	Johnson Cleaning Services Co Ltd	Cleansing	8.9	1.9.2004 – 31.8.2006	10
32.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for HK Coliseum	ISS Hong Kong Services Ltd.	Cleansing	3.2	1.9.2004 – 31.8.2006	10
33.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for Queen Elizabeth Stadium	Johnson Cleaning Services Co Ltd.	Cleansing	2.6	1.9.2004 – 31.8.2006	11
34.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for Sha Tin Town Hall, Tai Po Civic Centre & North District Town Hall	Baguio Cleaning Services Co Ltd.	Cleansing	6.5	1.10.2004 – 30.9.2007	9

No	Description	Contractor	Nature of service	Value (HK\$ million)	Term	Maximum allowable working hours
35.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for Tuen Mun Town Hall & Yuen Long Theatre	Tsang Lik Services Ltd.	Cleansing	6.2	1.10.2004 – 30.9.2007	10
36.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for Kwai Tsing Theatre and Tsuen Wan Town Hall	Johnson Cleaning Services Co Ltd.	Cleansing	6.8	1.10.2004 – 30.9.2007	9
37.	Cleansing Services for Ma On Shan Recreation Ground	Salvation Army Heng On Integrated Service for Rehabilitation	Cleansing	1.5	1.2.2005 – 28.2.2007	8
38.	Provision of Library Assistant Services	Adecco Personnel Ltd.	IT project & supporting	30.0	1.3.2005 – 28.2.2007	N.A.
39.	Provision of Library Assistant Services	Manpower Services (HK) Ltd.	IT project & supporting	23.7	1.3.2005 – 28.2.2007	N.A.
40.	Provision of Computer Technician Services	Founder (HK) Ltd.	IT project & supporting	10.1	1.4.2005 – 31.3.2008	N.A.
41.	Provision of Computer Technician Services	Automated Systems (HK) Ltd.	IT project & supporting	14.6	1.4.2005 – 31.3.2008	N.A.

Annex B

No.	Description	Nature of service	Tentative Commencement Date	Proposed Contract Period
1.	Security Guard Services for Fa Yuen Street Municipal Services Buildings	Security guard	1 June 2005	3 years
2.	Security Guard Services for Shek Tong Tsui Municipal Services Buildings	Security guard	1 June 2005	3 years
3.	Security Guard Services for Leisure and Cultural Services Headquarters	Security guard	1 July 2005	3 years
4.	Security Guard Services for Hong Kong Coliseum and Queen Elizabeth Stadium	Security guard	1 December 2005	3 years
5.	Security Guard Services for AMO and Heritage Museum	Security guard	1 June 2005	3 years
6.	Security Guard Services for Museum of History & Science Museum	Security guard	1 June 2005	3 years
7.	Security Guard Services for Art Museums Section	Security guard	1 June 2005	3 years
8.	Security Guard Services for Civic Centres	Security guard	1 June 2005	3 years
9.	Security Guard Services for Shui Wo Street MSB & Lei Yue Mun MSB	Security guard	1 June 2005	3 years
10.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for Shui Wo Street Municipal Services Building	Cleansing	1 May 2005	3 years
11.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for Hong Kong Park	Cleansing	1 May 2005	3 years

No.	Description	Nature of service	Tentative Commencement Date	Proposed Contract Period
12.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for Lady MacLehose Holiday Village and Tso Kung Tam Outdoor Recreation Centre	Cleansing	1 May 2005	3 years
13.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for Sai Kung Outdoor Recreation Centre	Cleansing	1 May 2005	3 years
14.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for Quarry Bay Municipal Services Building	Cleansing	1 June 2005	3 years
15.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for History Museums Section and Science Museums Section	Cleansing	1 July 2005	3 years
16.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for Leisure and Cultural Services Headquarters	Cleansing	1 July 2005	2 years
17.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for Kowloon City Municipal Services Building	Cleansing	1 July 2005	3 years
18.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for Sai Wan Ho Municipal Services Building	Cleansing	1 September 2005	3 years
19.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for Ngau Chi Wan Municipal Services Building	Cleansing	1 September 2005	3 years
20.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for Ap Lei Chau Municipal Services Building	Cleansing	1 September 2005	3 years
21.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for Public Libraries	Cleansing	1 October 2005	3 years
22.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for Fa Yuen Street Municipal Services Building	Cleansing	1 November 2005	3 years

No.	Description	Nature of service	Tentative Commencement Date	Proposed Contract Period
23.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for Sham Shui Po District	Cleansing	1 December 2005	3 years
24.	Cleansing and Supporting Services for Yau Tsim Mong District	Cleansing	1 December 2005	3 years
25.	Horticultural Maintenance and Related Services for Hong Kong Island	Horticultural maintenance	1 July 2005	3 years
26.	Tree Maintenance Services for Hong Kong and Kowloon Regions	Tree maintenance	1 September 2005	3 years
27.	Horticultural Maintenance and Related Services for Sham Shui Po and Yau Tsim Mong District Nurseries	Horticultural maintenance	1 November 2005	3 years
28.	Horticultural Maintenance and Related Services for Shouson Hill & Boundary Nurseries	Horticultural maintenance	1 November 2005	3 years
29.	Services for Cutting, Removal and Disposal of Undergrowth for LCSD	Cutting, removal and disposal of undergrowth	1 March 2006	3 years
30.	Management and Maintenance Services for Hammer Hill Park, Phase 1	Venue Management	1 June 2005	3 years
31.	Management and Support Services for Fa Yuen Street Sport Centre	Sports Centre Management	1 Aug 2005	3 years
32.	Management and Support Services for Wong Chuk Hang Street Sport Centre	Sports Centre Management	1 Dec 2005	3 years
33.	Management and Support Services for Hiu Kwong Street Sport Centre	Sports Centre Management	1 Sept 2005	3 years
34.	Management and Support Services for Tai Kok Tsui Street Sport Centre	Sports Centre Management	1 Oct 2005	3 years

No.	Description	Nature of service	Tentative Commencement Date	Proposed Contract Period
35.	Management and Supporting Services for the Hong Kong Heritage Resources Centre of the Antiquities & Monuments Office	Venue Management Services	1 May 2005	3 years

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB107

Question Serial No.

1415

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 :

With regard to Programme (4), the estimated provision for 2005-06 is 2.5% lower than the revised estimate for 2004-05, which is mainly due to the deletion of 19 posts as a result of rationalisation of staffing requirements in performing venues. Will the Administration inform this Committee:

1. what are the implications on the services of performing venues upon reduction of these staff?
2. what are the areas of work of these 19 posts?
3. what are the ranks of these 19 posts?
4. whether these 19 posts are contract or permanent posts?
5. what are the reasons for deletion of these 19 posts?
6. whether new contract staff will be employed instead after the deletion of posts?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

The information requested are as follow:

1. The deletion of 19 posts will not have any negative impact on the services of performing venues.
2. The work of the 19 posts is mainly related to frontline customer service and supporting service in performing venues.
3. The 19 posts to be deleted are in the ranks of Clerical Assistant, Artisan and Workman II.
4. All the 19 posts are permanent posts.

5.&6. All the posts have existing vacancies arising from natural wastage and are of basic recruitment ranks. The deletion is made possible through redeployment and streamlining of work procedures, and where necessary and appropriate, the Department would supplement the service by the engagement of contract staff. In the process, we have ensured that the service standards are upheld.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB108

Question Serial No.

1416

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 :

The items of library materials borrowed and the number of registered readers have both increased in 2003 and 2004. However, the estimated provision for 2005-06 under Programme (5) is 2.2% lower than the revised estimate for 2004-05, which is mainly due to the deletion of 18 posts as a result of rationalisation of staffing requirements in public libraries. Will the Administration inform this Committee:

1. what are the implications on public library services upon reduction of these staff?
2. what are the areas of work of these 18 posts?
3. what are the ranks of these 18 posts?
4. whether these 18 posts are contract or permanent posts?
5. what are the reasons for deletion of these 18 posts?
6. whether new contract staff will be employed instead after the deletion of posts?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

The information requested are as follow:

1. The deletion of 18 posts will not have any negative impact on public library services.
2. The work of the 18 posts is mainly related to frontline duties in public libraries.
3. The 18 posts to be deleted are in the ranks of Senior Cultural Services Assistant, Cultural Services Assistant I, Clerical Officer and Assistant Clerical Officer.
4. All the 18 posts are permanent posts.

5.&6. All the posts have vacancies arising from natural wastage. The deletion is made possible through redeployment and redistribution of duties. Where necessary and appropriate, the Department would supplement the service by the engagement of multi-skilled contract staff. In the process, we have ensured that the service standards are upheld.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB109

Question Serial No.

1432

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 :

Please provide details on the following:

The Administration has planned to establish conservation corners and theme gardens. What are the details and the estimated expenditure?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

Leisure and Cultural Services Department now manages 26 conservation corners and 34 theme gardens. In 2005-06, the Department will establish another two conservation corners at Yim Tin Pok Temporary Playground and Ma On Shan Park. These corners help to conserve butterflies in the city environment by growing plants to attract butterflies. Seven theme gardens will also be established at Lun Fat Street Sitting-out Area, Victoria Park, Lok Kwan Street Park, Morse Park, Ping Shek Playground, Cha Wan Kok Rest Garden and Sha Tsui Playground respectively. A collection of rhododendron, camellia and other scented flowers will be planted. The expenditure, which is mainly for the purchase of plants, is estimated at about \$40,000 and \$140,000 for the two conservation corners and the seven theme gardens respectively.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB110

Question Serial No.

1433

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 :

Please provide details on the following:

What is the number of trees managed by the computerised Tree Inventory System at present? What is the anticipated target of the Administration in 2005? How much resources are required to be injected into this project?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (a) At present there are about 690 000 trees included in the computerised Tree Inventory System.
- (b) The anticipated target of the Administration in 2005 is to further improve the efficiency by enhancing the computerised system as follows-
- Mapping out the exact locations of Old and Valuable Trees by using the geographic information system;
 - Upgrading the computer hardwares and softwares at workstations to enhance efficiency in data retrieval;
 - Inputting tree data directly on site to the centralised information system by using Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) during site inspection.
- (c) The capital expenditure of the whole Tree Inventory System project is about \$5.202 million which covers the development cost as well as the enhancement to be made in 2005, and the annual recurrent expenditure for operating and maintaining the system is about \$1 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 9 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB111

Question Serial No.

1434

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 :

Please provide details on the following:

What were the effectiveness of the “beautification programmes for footbridges” and “beautification programmes for slopes in parks” and the expenditures incurred in 2004? What are the targets and estimated expenditure for these projects this year?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

In 2004-05, we implemented the beautification programmes at 13 footbridges and 17 slopes in parks. The expenditure incurred was \$400,000 and \$950,000 respectively. On completion of these programmes, noticeable improvements in urban greenery were made. The footbridges were softened with flowering shrubs and creepers and the slopes in parks were upgraded with more flowering plants. The overall objective of enhancing the general appearance and attractiveness of these footbridges and slopes was achieved. We aim to beautify seven footbridges and 15 slopes in parks in 2005-06 and the estimated expenditures are \$220,000 and \$840,000 respectively.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 9 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB112

Question Serial No.

1435

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural
Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): 000
Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department will delete 132 posts in 2005-06. The majority of these posts come under the programmes of “Recreation and Sports” and “Horticulture and Amenities”. What are the reasons? Please list the ranks and nature of employment (e.g. contract staff or temporary staff) of the posts to be deleted as well as the amount to be saved.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

The 132 posts to be deleted are permanent posts in the ranks of Chief Curator, Chief Executive Officer, Senior Executive Officer, Executive Officer II, Senior Leisure Services Manager, Senior Cultural Services Assistant, Cultural Services Assistant I, Clerical Officer, Assistant Clerical Officer, Clerical Assistant, Personal Secretary II, Artisan, Workman I and Workman II. All the posts are existing vacancies.

Out of the 132 posts, 91 come under programmes of “Recreation and Sports” and “Horticulture and Amenities”. These posts will be deleted upon the contracting out of park-keeping, supporting and horticultural maintenance services in various leisure venues. The deletion of the remaining 41 posts, which come under programmes of “Heritage and Museums”, “Performing Arts” and Public Libraries”, is made possible through redeployment of resources and streamlining of work procedures in performing venues and public libraries.

The savings in full year salary cost resulting from the deletion of these 132 posts, after deducting the cost required for outsourcing of the services and engagement of contract staff where necessary, will amount to about \$7.7 million per annum.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 9 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB113

Question Serial No.

1436

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural
Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): 000
Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

How many outsourcing contracts were awarded by the Department in total last year? And how many outsourcing contracts will be awarded this year? What will be the expenditure involved?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

In 2004-05, 56 outsourced contracts with value exceeding \$1.3 million were awarded at a total value of \$555.3 million.

In 2005-06, 43 outsourced contracts with value exceeding \$1.3 million will be awarded at an estimated value of \$380 million.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 9 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB114

Question Serial No.

1437

Head : 95 – Leisure and Cultural
Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): 000
Operational expenses

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

In what ways will the Department monitor the quality of the services in respect of the outsourcing contracts? How will the Administration handle alleged cases of exploitation of staff by contractors if such cases are found? Please provide the figures of warnings and penalties awarded as well as prosecutions instituted against contractors last year.

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

The Department maintains close supervision on contractor's performance to ensure the quality of services of outsourced contracts. For contracts that rely heavily on the deployment of non-skilled workers, stringent monitoring measures are also implemented to ensure the contractors' compliance with the terms of contract relating to employment conditions. These measures include requiring contractors to provide a copy of employment agreement, displaying the information on committed wages and working hours in workplaces, requiring contractors to adopt the method of autopay or issue of cheques for payment of wages, regular checking of payroll and attendance records, interviewing the non-skilled workers to check their wages and working hours and checking contractor's statement on payment of wages and MPF contributions etc.

The Department will conduct thorough investigation into all alleged cases of exploitation of staff by contractors. If they are found to have breached the contractual obligations, the Department will issue Default Notice and/or Warning Letter and demand rectification of the non-compliance. The Department may also consider terminating the contracts where appropriate. Where the Department has grounds to suspect that contractors are in breach of statutory requirements, the alleged cases will be passed to the relevant law enforcement agencies for further investigation.

In 2004-05, two Warnings and 12 Default Notices were issued to contractors for non-compliance with their contractual obligations. One contractor was prosecuted by the Labour Department for 15 breaches of the Employment Ordinance and was convicted with a total fine of \$9,500. Subsequently, the Department terminated the contract with the convicted contractor.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 9 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB115

Question Serial No.

1450

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) It is estimated that there will be an addition of one swimming pool complex and one water sports centre in 2005-06. What will be the resources involved in this plan? Where will the complex and the centre concerned be located? When are they expected to be commissioned?
- (b) There is presently no public swimming pool in Islands District. Has the Administration planned to construct this type of facility in Tung Chung in 2005-06? If yes, what will be the resources involved?
- (c) It is estimated that there will be an addition of four tennis courts in 2005, but the usage rate of tennis courts has all along remained at a relatively low level of 44%. Why did the Administration still plan to build more tennis courts? What will be the construction cost and operating expenses involved? Has the Administration taken any measures to attract more citizens to use tennis courts facilities? What are the resources involved?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

- (a) The new swimming pool facility is located at the Tai Kok Tsui Complex (Phase II), in Fuk Tsun Street, to be commissioned in late 2005. The Complex also comprises a market, a cooked food centre, an indoor leisure centre, a small library, and a multi-purpose sports arena. The total project and annual recurrent costs for all the facilities in the Complex are estimated at \$726.3 million and \$13.5 million respectively. The new water sports centre refers to the Stanley Main Beach Water Sports Centre at Stanley Link Road, to be commissioned in mid 2005. The project and annual recurrent costs are estimated at \$51.4 million and \$6.4 million respectively.
- (b) There is one public swimming pool at Mui Wo in the Islands District. In the 2005 Policy Address, the Chief Executive announced that the Government has identified 25 leisure and cultural services projects for priority treatment, including the development of a swimming pool complex in Area 2, Tung Chung. The project is now at a preliminary planning stage and its rough construction cost is about \$200 million.

- (c) The four additional tennis courts will be provided in the new Cherry Street Park, Yau Tsim Mong (YTM) District which will be completed in 2005. The scope of the Cherry Street Park project was supported by the YTM District Council and approved by the Finance Committee in July 2003. At present, there are only six tennis courts at the King's Park Recreation Ground in the whole Yau Tsim Mong district. There is a demand for tennis facilities: the peak hour utilisation rate is 79% in 2004-05. The four additional tennis courts will help to meet the demand of such facilities in the new reclamation area of Mong Kok West in the district, where there are 53 400 residents and 16 700 students (two secondary schools and 14 primary schools) and where the population is expected to increase further in the years to come. The construction and recurrent costs of the four tennis courts are estimated at \$3.9 million and \$0.2 million respectively. To enhance the usage of tennis courts, the Department will continue to work in partnership with sports organisations to promote the sport and to publicise the facilities. As promotion of utilisation of sports facilities is our on-going work and forms an integral part of venue managers' day-to-day responsibilities, no additional staff or expenditure are involved.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 9 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB116

Question Serial No.

1748

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) It is stated under Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2005-06 that under-utilised sports facilities will be converted to other uses. Please tabulate the details and provision required by district.
- (b) Taken into account the increasing growth in population in the New Territories and new towns, will the Administration correspondingly increase the sports facilities in the districts concerned to meet the needs of the public?

Asked by : Hon. LI Kwok-ying

Reply :

- (a) We have identified 13 less popular squash courts for conversion into other uses such as basketball court, activity room and landscaped open spaces in 2005-06. These squash courts are located in Java Road Sports Centre, Po Kong Village Road Sports Centre, Victoria Park, Morse Park and Fanling New Town Squash Courts Buildings respectively. Details of the proposed conversion works and estimated cost are at Annex. In addition, we will explore conversion of under-utilised tennis courts to mini-soccer pitch or basketball court to meet the local need.
- (b) We have accorded priority in deployment of resources to provide additional sports facilities to meet the needs arising from the growth in population in the New Territories and new towns. Currently, there are one swimming pool complex, one sports centre, one football pitch and two district/local open space projects under construction in these areas. Projects under active planning for implementation in the next five years include two sports centres, one sports ground, one football pitch and six district/local open spaces.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 9 April 2005

Annex

Plans to Convert Under-utilised Squash Courts into Other Uses

<u>District</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Squash Courts to be converted</u>	<u>Plans</u>
Eastern	Java Road Sports Centre <i>(Total No. of Squash Courts : 7)</i>	2	To convert two squash courts into an activity room by taking down the partition wall at an estimated cost of about \$0.8 million.
	*Victoria Park Squash Courts Building	4	To demolish the squash courts building and convert the site into an outdoor basketball court at an estimated cost of about \$4 million.
Wong Tai Po Sin	Kong Village Road Sports Centre <i>(Total No. of Squash Courts : 6)</i>	2	To convert two squash courts into an activity room by taking down the partition wall at an estimated cost of about \$0.8 million.
	*Morse Park Squash Courts Building	3	To demolish the squash courts building and convert the site into landscaped open space at an estimated cost of about \$3 million.
North	*Fanling New Town Squash Courts Building	2	To demolish the squash courts building and convert the site into landscaped open space at an estimated cost of about \$0.8 million.

* Free standing squash courts building

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB117

Question Serial No.

1764

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 “Leisure Link” Self-service Kiosks project, will the Administration inform this Committee:

- a) of the sports and leisure venues that will install “Leisure Link” self-service kiosks and the number of kiosks to be installed in 2005-06? What percentage do they account for among the total numbers of sports and leisure venues in the territory?
- b) of the anticipated timing for installing self-service kiosks in all sports and leisure venues?
- c) of the expenditure involved in the relevant project? Whether the project is expected to enhance the management efficiency of the sports and leisure venues in future or whether savings can be achieved from the relevant expenditure? If yes, what is the approximate amount that can be saved?

Asked by : Hon. SIN Chung-kai

Reply :

- (a) The Administration plans to invite tender for installation of “Leisure Link” self-service kiosks at 50 leisure and sports venues during 2005-06. These account for about 26% of all the leisure and sports venues managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD). A list of these leisure and sports venues is attached at Annex.
- (b) Subject to effective implementation of the “Leisure Link” kiosks, the Administration would install these kiosks to other leisure and sports venues by phases starting from 2008-09.

- (c) It is estimated that the capital cost of installing the 50 kiosks in 2005-06 will be about \$9 million. The installation of self-service kiosks will replace the manual issue of tickets and processing of facility and programme bookings at the leisure and sports venues concerned. As a result, about 40 clerical assistant posts can be saved and redeployed within LCSD and to other Government Departments. Net annual recurrent savings in the order of \$3 million can be achieved.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 9 April 2005

50 Proposed Venues for Self Service Kiosk in 2005-06

Southern

- 1) Yue Kwong Rd Sports Centre
- 2) Wong Chuk Hang Sports Centre

Central & Western

- 3) Shek Tong Tsui Sports Centre
- 4) Western Park Sports Centre

Wanchai

- 5) Bowen Rd Tennis Courts
- 6) Wong Nai Chung Sports Centre

Eastern

- 7) Quarry Bay Park
- 8) Java Road Sports Centre

Sham Shui Po

- 9) Tung Chau Street Park
- 10) Po On Road Sports Centre

Yau Tsim Mong

- 11) Boundary St Sports Centre No. 2
- 12) King's Park Tennis Court

Kowloon City

- 13) Ko Shan Rd Park
- 14) Tin Kwong Rd Tennis Court

Wong Tai Sin

- 15) Ma Chai Hang R/G (Tennis Court)
- 16) Shek Ku Lung Rd Playground (Tennis Court)
- 17) Morse Park Sports Centre
- 18) Kai Tak East Sports Centre

Kwun Tong

- 19) Sin Fat Road Tennis Court
- 20) Kowloon Bay Sports Centre
- 21) Lei Yue Mun Sports Centre

Yuen Long

- 22) Yuen Long Jockey Club Squash Courts
- 23) Tin Shui Wai Park Tennis Courts
- 24) Tai Kiu Market Squash Courts
- 25) Yuen Long Sir Denys Roberts Squash Court
- 26) Sai Ching Street Tennis Court

Tuen Mun

- 27) Tuen Mun Swimming Pool Squash Courts
- 28) Tsing Sin Playground
- 29) Tuen Mun Tang Shiu Kin Sports Ground

Tsuen Wan

- 30) Sha Tsui Road Playground Tennis Courts
- 31) Shing Mun Valley Park
- 32) Tsuen Wan Riviera Park

Kwai Tsing

- 33) The Jockey Club Kwai Shing Public Squash Courts
- 34) Fung Shue Wo Sports Centre
- 35) Lai King Sports Centre
- 36) Kwai Shing Playground

Island

- 37) Praya Street Sports Centre
- 38) Mui Wo Sports Centre
- 39) Cheung Chau Sports Centre
- 40) Man Tung Rd Park

North

- 41) Fanling New Town Squash Courts
- 42) North District Sports Ground
- 43) Tin Ping Sports Centre

Tai Po

- 44) Tai Po Waterfront Park
- 45) Wan Tau Kok Playground

Shatin

- 46) Ma On Shan Recreation Ground
- 47) Sha Tin Jockey Club Public Squash Courts
- 48) Yuen Wo Playground

Sai Kung

- 49) Po Tsui Park
- 50) Po Lam Sports Centre

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB118

Question Serial No.

0150

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 :

It is stated in the financial provision that the 2004-05 revised estimate for the Government sector is \$12.2m, while its 2005-06 estimate is \$3.7m, representing a cut of about 69.7%. In explaining the cut, the Administration says that the provisions for the family support and resource centres (FSRCs) and the family support networking teams (FSNTs) have been excluded. Please set out the financial arrangements for the FSRCs and FSNTs concerned in detail.

Asked by : Hon. HO Chun-yan, Albert

Reply :

The decrease of 69.7% in the 2005-06 estimate as compared with the 2004-05 revised estimate for Programme (6) under the Government sector is mainly due to the lapsing of temporary jobs in 2004-05. Earmarked funding for their extension was approved by the Finance Committee on 4 March 2005 outside the 2005-06 estimate.

In 2004-05, the activities and provision of \$114m for 20 FSRCs and 22 FSNTs were transferred from Programme (6) - Community Development to Programme (1) - Family and Child Welfare to facilitate the formation of Integrated Family Services Centres (IFSC) by phases. The IFSCs provide holistic services in meeting the needs of families, in particular those which are in disadvantaged circumstances.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ PAUL TANG _____

Post Title _____ Director of Social Welfare _____

Date _____ 4 April 2005 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB119

Head : 170 – Social Welfare
Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Question Serial No.

0767

Programme : (6) Community Development

Controlling Officer : Director of Social Welfare

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Under this programme area, the financial provisions allocated to the Government and subvented sectors in 2005-06 have reduced by 69.7% and 5.4% respectively when compared with the figures in the 2004-05 revised estimate. The Administration cited “the lapsing of temporary jobs in 2004-05 pending approval of earmarked funding” as one of the reasons for the reduction in provision. Would the Administration inform this Committee of the following:

- (a) The number of posts involved (please list out their ranks) in the Government and subvented sectors respectively;
- (b) Job duties or nature of the posts involved;
- (c) The amount of funding earmarked for the Government and subvented sectors respectively for that purpose.

Asked by : Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply :

The reduction in provision of Community Development services in 2005-06 estimate as compared with 2004-05 revised estimate in the Government and subvented sectors is mainly due to the effect of civil service pay cut of 3 % effective from 1 January 2005, efficiency savings and the lapsing of temporary jobs (earmarked funding for the extension of these temporary jobs was approved by the Finance Committee on 4 March 2005 outside the 2005-06 estimate), the provision of which is put under the Social Welfare Department for allocation to the community centres operated by the non-governmental organisations.

The temporary jobs involved are 130 Youth Ambassador (YA) posts and 26 Programme Assistant (PA) posts. The provisions for these posts in 2004-05 revised estimate is \$8.3m. Both YAs and PAs are newly created temporary posts and there is no similar rank in the civil service.

The YA is mainly responsible for assisting in the organisation of promotional activities to publicise the concept of civic responsibilities, environmental and personal hygiene whereas the PA is mainly responsible for assisting in the service delivery of the centres.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ **PAUL TANG**

Post Title _____ **Director of Social Welfare**

Date _____ **6 April 2005**

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB120

Question Serial No.

0912

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 :

It is indicated in Programme (6) that the 2005-06 financial provision for community development is 10.9% lower than the revised estimate in 2004-05. Would the Administration inform this Committee how could it ensure that the Government and subvented sectors would still be capable of providing appropriate services in the area of community development in spite of the cut in financial provision?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

The provision for Community Development (CD) services for 2005-06 being lower than the 2004-05 revised estimate is mainly due to the lapsing of temporary jobs in 2004-05, pending approval of earmarked funding as well as the effect of civil service pay cut of 3% effective from 1 January 2005 and efficiency savings. Following the Finance Committee's approval of the necessary provision for extension of temporary jobs for 2005-06 in the meeting held on 4 March 2005, there is actually no real reduction in resources. The Government and the non-governmental organisations will ensure adequate provision of CD services in meeting the needs of the community.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

PAUL TANG

Post Title _____

Director of Social Welfare

Date _____

6 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB121

Question Serial No.

1504

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 :

Would the Administration inform this Committee of the expenditure incurred in 2004-05 for community development in Tin Shui Wai and Tung Chung districts, and the estimated financial provision for that in 2005-06?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

The community development services under the management of the Social Welfare Department comprise group and community work units in district community centres (DCC) and neighbourhood level community development project (NLCDP) operated by the non-governmental organisations. These services are primarily geared towards areas affected by redevelopment or lack of other community building/development facilities. Given the fact that Tin Shui Wai and Tung Chung are new towns, no DCC and NLCDP service are provided there.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ PAUL TANG _____

Post Title _____ Director of Social Welfare _____

Date _____ 7 April 2005 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB122

Question Serial No.

0963

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 :

Please provide a breakdown on the reduction of financial provision on community development regarding:

- (i) The Government sector, from \$3.9m in 2004-05 (Original) to \$3.7m in 2005-06?
- (ii) The subvented sector, from \$129.7m in 2004-05 (Original) to \$122.7m in 2005-06?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Chiu-hung, Fernando

Reply :

Compared to 2004-05 original estimate, the breakdown on the reduction of financial provision on community development under the Government sector and subvented sector are as follows:

(i) Government sector:

The provision under the Government sector for Programme (6) - community development services reflects the administrative support expenses of the Social Welfare Department on community development services. The share of administrative support expenses is adjusted downwards in line with the adjustment in the provision of community development services.

(ii) subvented sector:

The reduction in provision for the subvented sector is mainly due to the effect of civil service pay cut of 3% effective from 1 January 2005, efficiency savings and the pooling of resources of a community centre to form an Integrated Family Service Centre to be managed by the same non-governmental organisation.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ PAUL TANG

Post Title _____ Director of Social Welfare

Date _____ 6 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB123

Question Serial No.

1222

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 :

Please explain why the financial provisions for the Government sector and the subvented sector in the 2005-06 estimate have been greatly reduced by 10.9% as compared with the 2004-05 revised estimate while there is no change in the basic targets and indicators for services in 2005-06.

Asked by : Hon. FUNG Kin-kee, Frederick

Reply :

The decrease of 10.9% in the 2005-06 estimate as compared with the 2004-05 revised estimate for Programme (6) under the Government and subvented sectors is mainly due to the lapsing of temporary jobs in 2004-05 pending approval of earmarked funding as well as the effect of civil service pay cut of 3% effective from 1 January 2005 and efficiency savings. Following the Finance Committee's approval of the necessary provision for extension of temporary jobs for 2005-06 in the meeting held on 4 March 2005, there is actually no real reduction in resources.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ PAUL TANG _____

Post Title _____ Director of Social Welfare _____

Date _____ 6 April 2005 _____

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB124

Question Serial No.

1271

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 :

The Social Welfare Department will see a reduction of 10.9% in the provision for community services in 2005-06 when compared with the revised estimate in 2004-05. Please state separately the items to be reduced and the details concerned.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

The decrease of 10.9% in the 2005-06 estimate as compared with the 2004-05 revised estimate for Programme (6) under the Government and subvented sectors is mainly due to the lapsing of temporary jobs in 2004-05 pending approval of earmarked funding as well as the effect of civil service pay cut of 3% effective from 1 January 2005 and efficiency savings. Following the Finance Committee's approval of the necessary provision for extension of temporary jobs for 2005-06 in the meeting held on 4 March 2005, there is actually no real reduction in resources.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ PAUL TANG

Post Title _____ Director of Social Welfare

Date _____ 6 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB125

Head : 703 – Buildings

Subhead : 3396 RO District Open Space
in Area 2, Tung Ching

Question Serial No.

0636

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question : What is the progress of Project 3396RO – District Open Space in Area 2, Tung Chung ? Which area(s) will the provision for 2005-06 be used ?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

Tender documents are under preparation for the project and tenders will be invited in end April 2005 as a design-and-build contract. It is anticipated that the construction works will be commenced in early 2006 for completion in early 2008. Funding provided for this project in 2005-06 financial year is mainly used for site preparation works, e.g. construction of hoardings.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ C.H. YUE

Post Title _____ Director of Architectural Services

Date _____ 7 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB126

Question Serial No.

1599

Head : 703 – Buildings

Subhead : 3180SC, 3183SC, 3368RO,
3370RO, 3384RO

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Architectural Services

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

What is the progress of the following projects? How was the provision used in 2004-05 and will be used in 2005-06? When are the projects expected to be completed? Will there be any discrepancies with the completion dates scheduled when the projects were approved?

- 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;
- e) 3384RO : Improvement to Lok Wah Playground, Kwun Tong.

Asked by : Hon. LI Wah-ming, Fred

Reply : Item Progress and Use of Provision

- a) 3180SC Housing Department (HD) completed the superstructure works of the community hall in Tsz On Estate Phase 3 in April 2004, a delay of about 24 months due to changes in the master programme of the housing development. Subsequently, Architectural Services Department completed the fitting out works of the community hall by end December 2004.

The provision in 2004-05 was for payment of part of the superstructure works and the fitting out works, while that in 2005-06 is intended for finalising the contract accounts.

- b) 3183SC The superstructure and fitting out works for the community hall in Yau Tong Estate Phase 4 are entrusted to HD which has completed the piling works by end April 2004. The commencement date for the superstructure works of the community hall will be deferred to early 2006 for completion by early 2008 to tie in with the necessary associated road works, drainage works and utilities connections. This has put back the original timetable by about 42 months.

The provision in 2004-05 was for finalising the account of the piling works, while that in 2005-06 is intended for payment of the substructure and part of the superstructure works.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Progress and Use of Provision</u>
c) 3368RO	<p>The project was completed in March 2005 instead of May 2004 as originally planned. There was a delay of about ten months as a result of problems related to underground drainage and water connection works, tree transplanting works as well as minor modification works.</p> <p>The provision in 2004-05 was for construction works while that in 2005-06 is intended for settlement of accounts.</p>
d) 3370RO	<p>The project is under construction and is expected to be completed by mid-2006 as scheduled. Provision in 2004-05 was for construction works while that in 2005-06 is intended for the same type of payment.</p>
e) 3384RO	<p>The project was completed in November 2004 as scheduled.</p> <p>The provision in 2004-05 was for construction works while that in 2005-06 is intended for settlement of accounts.</p>

Signature _____

Name in block letters C.H. YUE

Post Title Director of Architectural Services

Date 8 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB127

Question Serial No.

0401

Head : 707 – New Town
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 :

Regarding the block allocation items under Subhead 7015CX “Urban Minor Works Programme”, please provide a detailed list of the projects in Tsuen Wan, Kwai Tsing and Tuen Mun.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

Subhead 7015CX “Urban Minor Works Programme” caters for districts in the urban areas. Subhead 7014CX “Rural Public Works Programme” caters for districts in the New Territories including Tsuen Wan, Kwai Tsing and Tuen Mun. A list of the minor works projects under Subhead 7014CX for implementation in the three districts concerned in 2005-06 is attached.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ MRS PAMELA TAN

Post Title _____ Director of Home Affairs

Date _____ 8 April 2005

Head 707 Subhead 7014CX Rural Public Works Programme in 2005-06

Projects in Tsuen Wan District

Construction of walkway and rainshelter between Lido Garden and Ma Wan Pier
Construction of footbridge at Chiu Tam Path
Construction of "Pai Lau" at San Tsuen Village expansion area
Construction of drainage channel near House Nos. 53 and 62 at Sheung Kwai Chung Village
Reconstruction of access road at Heung Shek, Chuen Lung
Construction of open channel at Tai Pak Tin Village
Improvement to environmental hygiene conditions in Tsuen Wan District
Construction of footpath and pavilion between Sham Tseng and Tsing Lung Tau
Improvement to access road at Tsing Fai Tong Old Village
Reconstruction of footpath at Wo Yi Hop Lane
Reconstruction of open channel at Sham Tseng San Tsuen near Shu On Terrace
Improvement to village access and paving at Chuen Lung

Projects in Kwai Tsing District

Improvement to nature trail between Cheung Hong Estate and Sam Chi Heung, Tsing Yi
Improvement to sitting-out area at Sheung Yat Tsuen, Kwai Chung
Construction of sitting-out area and container terminal viewpoint at Lai Chi Ling Road, Kwai Chung
Improvement works at Tsing Yi nature trails
Provision of welcome signs and landmarks in Kwai Tsing District
Improvement to environmental hygiene conditions in Kwai Tsing District
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
Construction of rainshelters in Kwai Tsing District
Beautification works in Kwai Tsing District
Grass cutting and desilting works in Kwai Tsing District
Reconstruction of paving at Ha Kwai Chung Village, Kwai Chung
Improvement to access road behind Shek Yam East Estate, Kwai Chung
Kwai Tsing District Revitalization Project
Construction of footpath at Tai Hang Mei Village, Kwai Chung
Construction of footpath and pavilion at Shek Lei Hang, Kwai Chung

Projects in Tuen Mun District

Improvement to So Kwun Wat Tsuen Road
Reconstruction of paving at Wu Uk Tsuen, Tai Lam Chung
Improvement to drainage channel at Nai Wai Tsuen
Construction of open channel at Tseng Tau Tsuen
Construction of landscape area near Tin Hau Temple
Improvement to drainage system at San Hing Tsuen
Improvement to footpath and flap valve at Luen On San Tsuen
Improvement to country trail near Kwun Yam Shan
Reconstruction of footpath and drainage at Kei Lun Wai
Construction of basketball court and children's playground at Fung Tei
Improvement to van track and footpath near DD378 at Siu Lam
Improvement to environmental hygiene conditions in Tuen Mun District
Improvement to van track leading to Tuen King Kok, Tsing Shan Tsuen
Improvement to footpath and drainage channel near Villa Tiara at Tsing Tau Sheung Tsuen
Construction of pavilion and paving at Luen On San Tsuen
Reconstruction of access road at Tsing Tau Sheung Tsuen
Construction of pavilion and paving at San Shek Wan
Improvement to van track at Tsoi Yuen Tsuen
Improvement to stream embankment and box culvert at Tin Fu Tsai
Construction of footbridge at Li Uk Tsuen, So Kwun Wat
Improvement to van track at San Shek Wan San Tsuen Phase II
Improvement to footpath at Tuen Tsz Wai

* * * *

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB128

Question Serial No.

0403

Head : 707 – New Towns
and Urban Area
Development

Subhead (No. & title): 7014CX - Rural
Public Works
Programme

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Home Affairs

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

Please provide a detailed list of the titles, locations and amount of allocations for the projects under Subhead 7014CX “Rural Public Works Programme”.

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

A list of the minor works projects under Subhead 7014CX “Rural Public Works Programme” in 2005-06 showing their titles, locations and estimate is attached for reference.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ MRS PAMELA TAN

Post Title _____ Director of Home Affairs

Date _____ 8 April 2005

Head 707 Subhead 7014CX Rural Public Works Programme in 2005-06

Project Title and Location	Estimate 2005-06
	(\$ million)
Improvement to Chi Ma Wan Road, Lantau, Islands District	2.000
Construction of footpath between Wan Tsai and Shui Tseng Wan, Mui Wo	0.200
Construction of footpath at San Shek Wan, South Lantau	0.200
Construction of promenade from Cheung Chau Beach Road to Bela Vista Villa at Cheung Chau	0.300
Construction of emergency vehicular access at Luk Tei Tong, Mui Wo, Islands District	5.000
Construction of slipway at the back of Lung Tin Estate, Tai O	0.200
Improvement to stream embankment at Tong Fuk, South Lantau	0.400
Construction of country trail from Lo Hon Monastery to Tei Tong Tsai, Tung Chung	0.500
Improvement to footpath near No.1 Pak Kok San Tsuen, North Lamma	0.100
Construction of footbridge at Tei Tong Tsai, Tung Chung	0.500
Improvement to footpath from Lo So Shing to Hung Shing Ye, South Lamma	0.300
Improvement to open space along sea front of new pier at Sok Kwu Wan, South Lamma	0.500
Provision of floral board rack at the junction of Tung Wan Road and Praya Street, Cheung Chau	0.150
Improvement to directional signs in Po Toi, South Lamma	0.050
Improvement to open space at Tsan Tuen Road, Sai Wan, Cheung Chau	0.200
Improvement to open space near Scenic Garden, Cheung Chau	0.200
Improvement to paving beside helipad at Shek Tsai Po, Tai O	0.150
Improvement to drainage channel at Tung Wan Hau, Peng Chau	0.100
Improvement to embankment at Dun Tau Hang, Mui Wo	0.300
Improvement to pier at Mong Tung Wan Village, South Lantau	0.400
Construction of footbridge and footpath at Tung Wan Tau, Mui Wo	0.200
Improvement to open space between House Nos.11 and 15, Nam Wan, Peng Chau	0.100
Improvement to paving near abandoned helipad at Po Toi, South Lamma	0.100
Construction of country trail at Fu Shan, Tai O	0.200
Construction of helipad at Peng Chau	0.300
Construction of helipad at Yung Shue Wan, Lamma Island	0.300
Construction of temporary vehicular bridge at Tung Chung River	0.300
Provision of railings along footpath from Yung Shue Long New Village to Tai Peng, North Lamma	0.100
Improvement to open space at Market Street, Tai O	0.200
Improvement of footpath at Tai Tei Tong, Mui Wo	0.150
Construction of footpath leading to old camphor tree at Sha Lo Wan, Tai O	0.200
Provision of benches at Cheung Chau	0.100
Provision of benches at Peng Chau	0.150
Construction of rainshelter at Po Toi, South Lamma	0.200
Improvement to drainage system near South Bay Court, Cheung Chau	0.200

Improvement to drainage system near No. 97 Nam Wan San Tsuen, Peng Chau	0.200
Reconstruction of footpath at Shui Hau Village, South Lantau	0.100
Reconstruction of footpath at Lo Uk Tsuen, South Lantau	0.250
Improvement to footpath at Tai Shek Che, Sha Lo Wan, Tai O	0.200
Provision of railings along footpath near 24D Peak Road at Nam Tam, Cheung Chau	0.200
Improvement to drainage system at San Wai Village, South Lantau	0.200
Improvement to paving at Sheung Ling Pei, Tung Chung	0.100
Construction of staircase at Yat Tung Estate, Tung Chung	0.250
Improvement to water supply system in Po Toi, South Lamma	0.200
Improvement to drainage system at Wing On Street, Peng Chau	0.200
Improvement to embankment at Luk Tei Tong, Mui Wo	0.200
Improvement to footbridge and footpath at Lo Wai, South Lantau	0.150
Improvement to footpath at Tai Yuen Village, North Lamma	0.200
Reconstruction of pavement at Peng Chau Wing Hing Street, Peng Chau	0.150
Construction of promenade along Silvermine Beach in Mui Wo, Islands District	0.100
Improvement to nature trail between Cheung Hong Estate and Sam Chi Heung, Tsing Yi	0.100
Improvement works at Tsing Yi nature trails	0.350
Provision of welcome signs and landmarks in Kwai Tsing District	0.200
Improvement to environmental hygiene conditions in Kwai Tsing District	0.450
Improvement to three sitting-out areas at Tai Wo Hau	0.100
Improvement to sitting-out area at Ping Fu Path, Kwai Chung	0.200
Improvement to sitting-out area at Sheung Yat Tsuen, Kwai Chung	0.100
Improvement to sitting-out area at Yiu Wing Street, Kwai Chung	0.100
Construction of rainshelters in Kwai Tsing District	0.100
Construction of sitting-out area and container terminal viewpoint at Lai Chi Ling Road, Kwai Chung	0.580
Beautification works in Kwai Tsing District	3.000
Grass cutting and desilting works in Kwai Tsing District	0.200
Reconstruction of paving at Ha Kwai Chung Village, Kwai Chung	0.200
Improvement to access road behind Shek Yam East Estate, Kwai Chung	0.200
Construction of footpath at Tai Hang Mei Village, Kwai Chung	0.150
Construction of footpath and pavilion at Shek Lei Hang, Kwai Chung	0.200
Kwai Tsing District Revitalization Project	3.500
Widening of village access road to Cheung Lek, Sheung Shui	2.000
Improvement to access road at Kwan Tei North, Fanling	2.800
Construction of van track at Siu Hang Tsuen (South), Fanling	0.300
Improvement to van track, paving and footpath at Loi Tung, Sha Tau Kok	0.300
Improvement to footpath and footbridge from Lai Chi Wo to Mui Chi Lam, Sha Tau Kok	0.300
Construction of drainage channel near Wing Ning Wai, Fanling - Phase II	1.409
Construction of footpath near railway at Tong Hang Village, Fanling	0.300
Construction of rainshelter at Ho Sheung Heung Pai Fung Road, Sheung Shui	0.500
Construction of rainshelters and improvement to country trails between Ying Pun and Kei Lak Tsai, Sheung Shui	0.600

Construction of playground at Wah Shan Village, Sheung Shui	0.200
Construction of open space at Liu Pok, Sheung Shui	1.800
Construction of children's playground at Wang Shan Yeuk San Tsuen, Sha Tau Kok	0.200
Construction of pavilion and shelter at Ko Po (North), Fanling	0.200
Improvement to footpath and rainshelter at Chow Tin Village, Ta Kwu Ling	0.200
Improvement to drainage system and footpath at Liu Pok Village, Sheung Shui	0.500
Construction of footpath and improvement to banks along the pond at Kam Tsin, Sheung Shui	0.500
Improvement to van track at Wing Ning Wai, Lung Yeuk Tau, Fanling	1.800
Construction of noise barrier at Shan Tsui Village, Sha Tau Kok, North District	0.500
Improvement to footpath and drainage channel at Ma Tso Lung, San Uk Tsai Tsuen, Sheung Shui	0.200
Improvement to van track and embankment near Shun Yee Church at Kwu Tung, Sheung Shui	1.000
Term contract for minor works items in North, Tuen Mun and Yuen Long Districts	1.000
Construction of footbridge at Ham Tin, Sai Kung	1.000
Improvement to footpath from Tai Mong Tsai to She Tau Village, Sai Kung	0.250
Construction of rainshelter at Pak Shek Terrace, Hang Hau	0.100
Construction of footpath from Sai Wan to Tai Long, Sai Kung	0.550
Construction of paving and benches at Pak Kong, Sai Kung	0.900
Extension of access road at Sha Kok Mei, Sai Kung	1.000
Reconstruction of village notice boards in Sai Kung Area	1.000
Reconstruction of village notice boards in Hang Hau Area	0.550
Construction of access road and car park at Sha Kok Mei Village, Sai Kung	3.100
Improvement to drainage channel at the north of Sha Kok Mei Village, Sai Kung	0.200
Construction of pavilion at Mau Wu Tsai, Hang Hau	0.100
Reconstruction of footpath and drainage channel at Tai Lam Wu, Sai Kung	0.600
Village improvement at Pan Long Wan, Hang Hau	0.600
Reconstruction of footpath from Pak A to Tai She Wan, Sai Kung	0.200
Construction of village square at Pak Wai, Sai Kung	0.300
Construction of storm water channel at Sheung Yeung, Hang Hau	0.300
Improvement to footpath at Tit Kim Hang, Sai Kung	0.200
Construction of village square at Hing Keng Shek, Sai Kung	0.200
Construction of pavilion at Kau Sai Fishermen Village, Kau Sai Chau, Sai Kung	0.400
District Revitalization Scheme in Sai Kung	2.000
Improvement of country trail at the northern hillside of Tseung Kwan O, Hang Hau	0.150
Reconstruction of access road in front of village office, Sheung Sze Wan, Hang Hau	0.200
Reconstruction of access road at Tai Ping Village	0.100
Construction of footpath at Hing Keng Shek, Sai Kung	0.150
Construction of rainshelter at Tso Wo Road, Sai Kung	0.200
Construction of rainshelter at the junction of Clear Water Bay Road to Denon Terrace, Tseng Lan Shue, Hang Hau	0.250
Construction of a new pier in Sai Kung	0.100
Improvement to footpath from Fa Sum Hang to Mui Tze Lam Village, Sha Tin	0.700
Improvement to Wong Chuk Yeung Village Path, Sha Tin	0.200

Improvement to Shatin country trail leading from Wong Chuk Yeung Village, Sha Tin	0.200
Improvement to footpath from Fa Sam Hang Village to Nam Shan Village, Sha Tin	0.320
Construction of sitting-out area at Siu Lek Yuen Village, Sha Tin	0.200
Improvement to country trail at Amah Rock, Sha Tin	0.200
Improvement to So Kwun Wat Tsuen Road, Tuen Mun	2.600
Construction of basketball court and children's playground at Fung Tei, Tuen Mun	1.500
Improvement to drainage channel at Nai Wai Tsuen, Tuen Mun	0.500
Construction of open channel at Tseng Tau Tsuen, Tuen Mun	0.250
Construction of landscape area near Tin Hau Temple, Tuen Mun	0.500
Improvement to drainage system at San Hing Tsuen, Tuen Mun	0.150
Improvement to footpath and flap valve at Luen On San Tsuen, Tuen Mun	0.100
Improvement to country trail near Kwun Yam Shan, Tuen Mun	0.500
Reconstruction of footpath and drainage at Kei Lun Wai, Tuen Mun	0.100
Reconstruction of paving at Wu Uk Tsuen, Tai Lam Chung	0.300
Improvement to van track and footpath near DD378 at Siu Lam, Tuen Mun	0.250
Improvement to environmental hygiene conditions in Tuen Mun District	1.000
Improvement to van track leading to Tuen King Kok, Tsing Shan Tsuen, Tuen Mun	0.300
Improvement to footpath and drainage channel near Villa Tiara at Tsing Tau Sheung Tsuen, Tuen Mun	0.100
Construction of pavilion and paving at Luen On San Tsuen, Tuen Mun	0.200
Reconstruction of access road at Tsing Tau Sheung Tsuen, Tuen Mun	0.200
Construction of pavilion and paving at San Shek Wan, Tuen Mun	0.200
Improvement to van track at Tsoi Yuen Tsuen, Tuen Mun	0.200
Improvement to stream embankment and box culvert at Tin Fu Tsai, Tuen Mun	0.200
Construction of footbridge at Li Uk Tsuen, So Kwun Wat, Tuen Mun	0.100
Improvement to van track at San Shek Wan San Tsuen Phase II, Tuen Mun	0.200
Improvement to footpath at Tuen Tsz Wai, Tuen Mun	0.200
Construction of van track at Yung Shue Tau, Tai Wo, Tai Po	0.500
Construction of access road and car park at Shui Wo and Tai Yeung Che, Tai Po	3.000
Improvement to footbridge and stream embankment at Kau Lung Hang, Tai Po	0.300
Improvement to stream course at Yuen Leng, Tai Po	0.300
Reconstruction of footbridge and footpath at Chuen Pei Lung, Lam Tsuen	0.600
Construction of van track and turning place at Yuen Tun Ha, Tai Po	0.100
Improvement to stream embankment and footpath at Cheung Uk Tei, Tai Po	0.300
Improvement to footpath and stream embankment at Shek Kwu Lung, Tai Po	0.300
Improvement to footpath and embankment at Cheung Shue Tan, Tai Po	0.200
Improvement to access road at Cheung Shue Tan, Tai Po	1.800
Construction of paving at Lam Tsuen San Tsuen, Tai Po	0.200
Improvement to Lam Tsuen River, Tai Po	0.400
Improvement to Shek Lin Road (near Lin Au), Tai Po	1.000
Improvement to water supply system at Ta Tit Yan, Tai Po	0.250
Construction of a covered walkway between KCRC Tai Po Market Station and Tai Po Market	3.000

Construction of van track at Shan Liu, Ting Kok, Tai Po	1.000
Improvement to paving at Luen Yick Fishermen Village, Sam Mun Tsai, Tai Po	0.200
Construction of van track at Sha Lan, Shuen Wan, Tai Po	1.800
Improvement to footpath at Tai Po Kau near Tsung Yuen, Tai Po	0.250
Reconstruction of footpath at Chek Keng, Sai Kung North, Tai Po	0.800
Construction of access road at Ping Long and Tai Om, Lam Tsuen	1.600
Reconstruction of footbridge and footpath at Yung Shue O, Sai Kung North, Tai Po	0.500
Improvement to footpath and drainage channel at Tsz Tong Tsuen, Tai Hang, Tai Po	0.400
Construction of drainage channel at Au Tsai Tsuen, Fui Sha Wai, Tai Hang, Tai Po	0.600
Improvement to footpath leading from Ng Tung Chai to Man Tak Yuen, Lam Tsuen	1.000
Construction of van track leading from Tai Wo to Tai Wo Public School, Tai Po	0.900
Improvement to footbridge and footpath at She Shan, Lam Tsuen	0.100
Improvement to footpath at Kau Lung Hang (near Tong Hang), Tai Po	0.350
Improvement to footpath and drainage channel at Tai Po Tau, Tai Po	0.400
Improvement to paving at Ying Pun Ha, Tai Po	0.400
Improvement to playground at Nam Hang, Tai Po	0.100
Improvement to paving, steps, footpath, drainage channel and railing at Kam Shan, Tai Po	0.200
Improvement to paving, footpath, footbridge and railing at Ma Wo, Tai Po	0.100
Construction of rainshelter in front of Shuen Wan Village Office, Tai Po	0.200
Improvement to footpath near the entrance of Ting Kok Village, Tai Po	0.300
Construction of footpath leading from Sam Mun Tsai New Village to Tong Kai Tseng, Tai Po	0.300
Improvement to van track near Tung Tsz Scout Centre, Tai Po	0.500
Reconstruction of footbridge and footpath at Tung Ping Chau, Sai Kung North, Tai Po	0.500
Construction of van track and drainage channel at Cheung Muk Tau, Sai Kung North, Tai Po	0.700
Construction of pavilion at Sai O, Sai Kung North, Tai Po	0.200
Reconstruction of rainshelter at Nai Chung, Sai Kung North, Tai Po	0.200
Construction of van track from Tsz Tong Tsuen to Tin Hau Temple at Tai Hang, Tai Po	1.000
Construction of water supply system to Sheung Wai, Chung Wai and Ha Wai, Tap Mun, Sai Kung North, Tai Po	0.200
Improvement to footpath at Sheung Wun Yiu, Tai Po	0.100
Construction of van track at Kei Ling Ha, San Wai, Sai Kung North, Tai Po	0.500
Construction of van track from San Wai Tsai to Ying Pun Ha, Tai Po	0.200
Improvement to access road near Cameo Court at Nam Hang, Tai Po	0.300
Reconstruction of van track and construction of channel at Tseng Tau, Sai Kung North, Tai Po	0.200
Construction of channel and footpath at Sheung Wun Yiu, Tai Po	0.120
Construction of paving at She Shan, Lam Tsuen	0.200
Construction of drainage channel at Au Tsai, Tai Hang, Tai Po	0.400
Improvement to channel at Yue Kok, Tai Po	0.150
Improvement to van track at Lai Pek Shan, Tai Po	0.200
Improvement to van track at Sai O, Sai Kung North, Tai Po	0.200
Improvement to open space at Chai Kek Tsuen, Tai Po	0.100
Improvement to van track at Ting Kok, Tai Po	0.100

Improvement access road at Wun Yiu, Tai Po	0.500
Construction of open channel at Tai Pak Tin Village, Tsuen Wan	0.700
Construction of walkway and rainshelter between Lido Garden and Ma Wan Pier	0.257
Construction of footbridge at Chiu Tam Path, Tsuen Wan	0.550
Construction of "Pai Lau" at San Tsuen Village expansion area, Tsuen Wan	0.200
Construction of drainage channel near House Nos. 53 and 62 at Sheung Kwai Chung Village, Tsuen Wan	0.200
Reconstruction of access road at Heung Shek, Chuen Lung, Tsuen Wan	0.800
Improvement to environmental hygiene conditions in Tsuen Wan District	0.400
Construction of footpath and pavilion between Sham Tseng and Tsing Lung Tau	0.100
Improvement to access road at Tsing Fai Tong Old Village, Tsuen Wan	0.100
Reconstruction of footpath at Wo Yi Hop Lane, Tsuen Wan	0.150
Reconstruction of open channel at Sham Tseng San Tsuen near Shu On Terrace, Tsuen Wan	0.250
Improvement to village access and paving at Chuen Lung, Tsuen Wan	0.200
Improvement to Tai Kong Po access road, Pat Heung, Yuen Long	0.300
Reconstruction of van track and construction of drains from Castle Peak Road to San Lung Tsuen and Fan Tin Tsuen, San Tin, Yuen Long	0.500
Reconstruction of footpath at Kong Tau Tsuen, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long	0.200
Reconstruction of vehicular bridge and van track at Shui Tsan Tin Tsuen, Pat Heung, Yuen Long	0.500
Construction of drainage channel connecting to Highways Department's discharge point at Wing Lung Wai, Kam Tin, Yuen Long	1.000
Construction of drainage channel at Sheung Che Tsuen, Pat Heung, Yuen Long	0.300
Improvement works to Cheung Shing Street, Yuen Long Kau Hui, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long	0.800
Improvement to stream courses and drainage channels in Shap Pat Heung Area (2004-05), Yuen Long	0.500
Improvement to footpath and drainage system at Ma Tin Tsuen, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long	0.300
Reconstruction of drainage system and footpath at Sai Pin Wai, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long	0.500
Improvement to lane and drainage channel at Shan Pui Chung Hau Tsuen, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long	0.300
Improvement to stream courses and drainage channels in Ha Tsuen Area (2004-05), Yuen Long	0.300
Improvement to drainage channel, footpath and paving at San Sang Tsuen, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long	0.500
Construction of open channel and access road at Ho Lik Pui, Wang Toi Shan, Pat Heung, Yuen Long	0.800
Improvement to van track, footpath and drainage channels at Chuk Hang Tsuen, Pat Heung, Yuen Long	0.200
Improvement to stream courses and drainage channels in San Tin Area (2004-05), Yuen Long	0.600
Improvement to drainage channel at Chuk Yuen Tsuen, San Tin, Yuen Long	0.400
Construction of footpath and drainage channel at Pok Wai Tsuen, San Tin, Yuen Long	0.400
Village improvement at Wai Tsai Tsuen, San Tin, Yuen Long	0.400
Improvement to footpath at Shui Tau Tsuen, Kam Tin, Yuen Long	0.300
Improvement to footpath and drainage channel at Shui Pin Tsuen, Ping Shan, Yuen Long	0.500
Improvement to paving at Wing Ning Tsuen, Ping Shan, Yuen Long	0.200
Improvement to footpath and drainage channel at Tai Tseng Wai, Ping Shan, Yuen Long	0.700
Construction of drainage channel at Tai Tseng, Ng Uk Tsuen, Ping Shan, Yuen Long	0.200
Improvement to van track near Po Kong Temple, Fung Kat Heung, Kam Tin, Yuen Long	0.500
Improvement to drainage channel and paving at Shue Mo Yuen, Po Tei Road, Kam Tin, Yuen Long	0.150

Reconstruction of access road at Mo Fan Heung, Kam Tin, Yuen Long	0.600
Construction of village square (near main street) at Lau Fau Shan, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long	0.800
Construction of Pai Lau at Lau Fau Shan, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long	0.300
Improvement to stream courses and drainage channels in San Tin Area (2005-06), Yuen Long	0.200
Improvement to stream courses and drainage channels in Pat Heung Area (2005-06), Yuen Long	0.200
Improvement to stream courses and drainage channels in Ping Shan Area (2005-06), Yuen Long	0.300
Improvement to stream courses and drainage channels in Kam Tin Area (2005-06), Yuen Long	0.200
Improvement to stream courses and drainage channels in Ha Tsuen Area (2005-06), Yuen Long	0.500
Improvement to stream courses and drainage channels in Shap Pat Heung Area (2005-06), Yuen Long	0.200
Construction of paving at San Lee Uk Tsuen, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long	0.300
Construction of paving under the West Rail viaduct at Shek Po Lo Mei, Ha Tsuen, Yuen Long	0.100
Improvement to drainage channel and footpath at Shui Mei Tsuen, Kam Tin, Yuen Long	0.200
Construction of drainage channel connecting to Highways Department's discharge point at Tai Hong Wai, Kam Tin, Yuen Long	0.500
Improvement to footpath at Sze Pai Shek, Kat Hing Wai, Kam Tin, Yuen Long	0.100
Improvement to paving (in front of village office) at Tai Tseng Wai, Ping Shan, Yuen Long	0.200
Construction of drainage channel and footpath at Hang Tau Tsuen, Ping Shan, Yuen Long	0.500
Improvement to drainage channels at Tsing Lung Tsuen, On Lung Tsuen, Fan Tin Tsuen and San Lung Tsuen in San Tin, Yuen Long	0.500
Construction of footpath at Yau Tam Mei West, San Tin, Yuen Long	0.200
Reconstruction of van track and drainage channel near Strong Sing Garden, Shek Wu Tong, Pat Heung, Yuen Long	0.200
Improvement to van track at Wang Toi Shan, Wing Ning Lei, Pat Heung, Yuen Long	0.300
Improvement to drainage channel and access road at Shung Ching San Tsuen, Shap Pat Heung, Yuen Long	0.300

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Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB129

Question Serial No.

0975

Head : 710 Computerisation

Subhead (No. & title):

A003VA Library Automation System

A004VA Digital Library System

Programme :

Controlling Officer : Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

The estimated provisions for the Library Automation System and the Digital Library System for 2005-06 are \$23,153,000 and \$5,470,000 respectively, representing a 6.1 times and 2.4 times drastic increase over their respective revised estimates for 2004-05. What are the reasons for and the details of such drastic increases?

Asked by : Hon. CHENG Kar-foo, Andrew

Reply :

The provisions of the Capital Works Reserve Fund for the Library Automation System and the Digital Library System vary from year to year depending on the actual service needs and the costs of items to be acquired and installed in the year.

Library Automation System

The estimated provision of \$23.153 million mentioned is the unspent balance remaining in the project vote created in 1999 – 2000 for the Library Automation System (LAS) which mainly covers the following three items in 2005-06:

- (i) extension of the LAS to two new libraries in Tai Kok Tsui and Stanley;
- (ii) upgrading and enhancing the obsolete hardware and software of the System; and
- (iii) procurement of additional self-service terminals for 26 public libraries in the New Territories region. The terminals are for library readers to borrow or renew library materials by themselves.

Digital Library System

For 2005-06, the estimated provision for the project mainly covers the following two items:

- (i) upgrading of the core system servers and replacement of old workstations in the libraries;
and
- (ii) upgrading of obsolete system software with application enhancement.

Signature _____

Name in block letters MS ANISSA WONG

Post Title Director of Leisure and
Cultural Services

Date 9 April 2005

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HAB130

Question Serial No.

1082

Head : 49 – Food and Environmental
Hygiene Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme : (2) Environmental Hygiene and Related Services

Controlling Officer : Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Home Affairs

Question :

With regard to the licensing of cinema, how long does it take to complete the whole vetting process from submission of application to approval? Have any improvements been made in the past three years? Have any indicators been set in this respect?

Asked by : Hon. CHOW LIANG Shuk-ye, Selina

Reply :

According to the performance pledges of departments concerned, the required time for processing an application for a Places of Public Entertainment Licence (Cinemas/Theatres) (cinema licence) by government departments is 48 working days. As regards the time required for issuing a cinema licence, it depends significantly on the time taken by the applicant to comply with the licensing requirements.

The Administration has adopted a number of improvement measures with regard to cinema licensing, which include –

- (a) issuing a “Guide to Application for Places of Public Entertainment Licences (Cinemas/Theatres)” to provide the trade and potential licensees with information to assist them in their applications for cinema licences;
- (b) improving the case manager system to facilitate applicants. The vast majority of cinemas in Hong Kong have incorporated light refreshment kiosks in the premises. Since 2004, a system has been adopted whereby the same case manager has been assigned to handle applications for both cinema licences and food factory licences if both establishments are situated within the same premises. The arrangement is intended to provide a more business-friendly environment for applicants of cinema licences; and
- (c) conducting a review on the procedures for cinema licensing by the Business Facilitation Division of the Financial Secretary’s Office, with a view to further improving and streamlining the licensing regime of cinemas.

The performance pledges on processing an application for a cinema licence are set out as follows –

- (a) An Application Vetting Panel to be arranged within 20 working days upon the receipt of an acceptable application for a cinema licence;
- (b) Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD) and Fire Services Department (FSD) would conduct verification inspections within 8 and 14 working days respectively upon the receipt of notification of compliance with the licensing requirements from the applicant;
- (c) Following the inspections by FSD, it would issue a Fire Services Certificate/Letter of Compliance (Ventilating System) within 7 working days; and
- (d) FEHD would issue a licence within 7 working days upon confirmation of compliance with all licensing requirements.

Signature _____

Name in block letters GREGORY LEUNG

Post Title Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

Date 6 April 2005