## Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04

## CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN/SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

Reply Serial No.
HPLB(PL)012
Question Serial No.
1202

Head: 138 Government Secretariat:

Subhead(No. &

Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau

title):

(Planning and Lands Branch)

<u>Programme</u>: (2) Buildings, Lands and Planning

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands (Planning and

Lands)

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question: Concerning Programme (2) Buildings, Lands and Planning, the Planning and Lands Branch has put in place a financial support package for the Urban Renewal Authority (URA), with an approved commitment of \$10 billion for injection of equity into URA in five phases to facilitate the implementation of the urban renewal programme. In this connection,

- in 2002-03, how much was needed for expenditure on urban renewal and how much had already been injected into URA?
- (b) in 2003-04, what is the specific work plan in relation to the urban renewal programme and what is the estimated expenditure?

Asked by: Hon. Chan Yuen-han

Reply: (a) The expenditure of the Urban Renewal Unit of the Planning and Lands Branch in 2002/03 was \$6.6 million.

The government provided a \$2 billion equity injection into the URA in July 2002.

(b) In 2003/04, the Urban Renewal Unit will continue to carry out its various functions, including the provision of policy steer to facilitate the operation of the URA, performing regulatory functions vis-à-vis the URA under the Urban Renewal Authority Ordinance, processing the draft five-year corporate plan and draft annual business plan of the URA, co-ordination with relevant government bureaux and departments to provide the necessary support to the URA in the implementation of the urban renewal programme, as well as monitoring the progress of the urban renewal programme. The expenditure of the Urban Renewal Unit in 2003/04 is estimated to be \$6.5 million.

Signature	
Name in block letters	Thomas Tso
Post Title	Acting Permanent Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands (Planning and Lands)
Date	21 March 2003