Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2006-07

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)074

Question Serial No.

0977

Head: 33 Civil Engineering an Development Subhead:

Department

<u>Programme</u>: (3) Provision of Land and Infrastructure

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Director of Civil Engineering and Development

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

Question: "Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2006-07" mentions "continue to provide technical input to the planning framework and engineering review of Wan Chai Development Phase II with a view to further minimising the extent of reclamation works". What are the details of the support?

Asked by: Hon. HO Chun-yan, Albert

Reply:

In the light of the judgment of the Court of Final Appeal on harbour reclamation, the planning framework and engineering review of Wan Chai Development Phase II is being conducted under the auspices of the Harbour-front Enhancement Committee (HEC). In conjunction with other concerned departments, we are providing engineering and technical advice to the HEC including the related public participation currently being undertaken.

Technical support is being provided by a team of four professionals and one technical staff. In tendering our advice and technical assessment, we will have full regard to the Protection of the Harbour Ordinance (PHO) and the Court of Final Appeal (CFA) judgment and ensure that any reclamation proposal can comply fully with the PHO provisions and the "overriding public need test" stipulated by the CFA.

John S V CHAI
Director of Civil Engineering and Development
11.3.2006