

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)003

Question Serial No.

0311

Head : 138 Government Secretariat :
Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau
(Planning and Lands Branch)

Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (2) Buildings, Lands and Planning

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

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question : Under Programme (2) Buildings, Lands and Planning, the provision for 2003-04 is 18.3% higher than the revised estimate for 2002-03. What are the reasons and details regarding the increased expenditure of the Planning and Lands Branch under Programme 2 in the coming year?

Asked by : Hon. *CHAN Yuen-han*

Reply : The increase of \$12.2 million (18.3%) in the 2003-04 Estimates under Programme (2) is mainly due to funds transferred from the former Head 56 Government Secretariat : Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau (Planning and Lands) and Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (Transport and Works) and the former Head 150 – Government Secretariat: Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau (Housing) to Head 138, following the re-organisation of the Bureaux. Provision includes the following –

Nature of expenses	Amount (\$m)
(a) Operational expenses for the private office of the Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands (SHPL)	0.6
(b) Personal emoluments for nine non-directorate posts transferred from the former Housing Bureau to provide central administrative support	4.1
(c) Operational expenses for central support transferred from the former Housing Bureau	1.6
(d) Hire of professional services	3.0
(e) IT network communication equipment and related expenses	2.0

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ Thomas Tso _____

Post Title _____ Acting Permanent Secretary for Housing,
Planning and Lands (Planning and Lands) _____

Date _____ 20 March 2003 _____