

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)022

Question Serial No.

0267

Head : 82 Buildings Department Subhead(No. & title) : 000 Operational expenses

Programme : Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer : Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question : What is the reason for the sharp decrease in the expenditure on job-related allowances from \$15,000 in 2002-03 to \$2,000 in 2003-04?

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply :

Job-related allowances are payable to eligible staff for undertaking supplementary duties such as additional responsibilities or on call duties.

In 2002-03, the Buildings Department needed additional manpower resources at supervisory rank to carry out a number of time-limited building safety and development initiatives. Given the urgency and short-term nature of some of the initiatives and the requirement of experienced and qualified professionals, some existing staff in the department were tasked to take up additional responsibilities of a higher level to lead teams of temporary staff. These supervisory staff were granted a job-related allowance in accordance with the Civil Service Regulations.

In 2003-04, the requirement for job-related allowances is adjusted downward because similar deployment of existing staff for this purpose is no longer required.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

Marco WU

Director of Buildings

21.03.2003