

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO  
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)069

Question Serial No.

0234

Head : 118 - Planning Department      Subhead (No. & title) : 838 – Minor consultancy studies  
(block vote)

Programme : (1) – Territorial and Sub-regional Planning

Controlling Officer : Director of Planning

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question : Under this Programme, the Planning Department will manage various planning studies during 2003-04, which include the Review on Shopping Habits. On this regard, would the Government inform the Council of the contents of the study and the staff establishment required in managing it?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Ping-cheung

Reply :

The last “Study of Shopping Habits” was conducted in 1996 and information on shopping habits obtained from that study has been used as one of the references in the planning of retail facilities. Since then, there have been significant changes in shopping patterns due to increasing cross-boundary shopping (both ways), the emergence of chain superstores and the increasingly popular practice of e-trade and internet/tele-shopping, etc. The Review on Shopping Habits is a new round of survey on shopping habits/shoppers’ expenditure patterns to provide new information for the future planning and provision of retail facilities. The information should be useful to both the public and private sectors.

Two existing staff members will be tasked, in addition to other duties, to manage the study which will be undertaken by consultants.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ B C K FUNG

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_ Director of Planning

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 19 March 2003