

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)071

Question Serial No.

0238

Head : 118 - Planning Department Subhead (No. & title) : --

Programme : (3) – Ordinance Review

Controlling Officer : Director of Planning

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question : Concerning the Government's intention of introducing the Town Planning (Amendment) Bill to the Legislative Council in 2003, the Government revealed that it had given 13 public briefings in the first two quarters of 2002 and was prepared to give 15 briefings in 2003. Could the Government inform this Council of the details of these public briefings, including the dates, venues and numbers of participants, as well as the resources required by the department for giving these briefings?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Ping-cheung

Reply :

From August to December 2002, the Administration had 13 consultation meetings with the following parties on the outline proposals to be included in the Town Planning (Amendment) Bill :

- LegCo Members
- Town Planning Board
- Trade Association and Professional Bodies (Hong Kong Institute of Architects, Hong Kong Institute of Planners, Hong Kong Institute of Engineers, Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors and Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects)
- Land and Building Advisory Committee

About 100 participants from the above parties took part in the meetings.

The expenses incurred in conducting the above consultation meetings were mainly staff cost. As the meetings were conducted by an existing team of officers charged with the task of ordinance review, no additional expenses were involved.

After introducing the Town Planning (Amendment) Bill into LegCo by mid-2003, we would conduct another round of consultation on the detailed provisions in the Bill. It is anticipated that about 15 briefings would be carried out for a range of stakeholders, including the concerned public bodies and interest groups such as Town Planning Board, Heung Yee Kuk, developers association, practitioners in the trade, professional institutes, green groups, District Council members etc. The exact dates and venues of these briefings have not been fixed. Again, as the consultation would be conducted by an existing team of officers charged with the task of ordinance review, no additional

expenses would be involved.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	_____ B C K FUNG _____
Post Title	_____ Director of Planning _____
Date	_____ 20 March 2003 _____