

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)016

Question Serial No.

0912

Head: 138 Government Secretariat: Subhead (No. & title):  
Housing, Planning and Lands  
Bureau (Planning and Lands  
Branch)

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 : Regarding policy research projects and the expenditure involved, please provide detailed information on the policy research projects commenced or being conducted by the Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau itself or with the funding of the Bureau in 2003-04, including

- 1) project title, objective and subject matter;
- 2) expenses;
- 3) latest progress;
- 4) whether the Administration has followed up on the research results.

Also, is there any provision earmarked for policy research in 2004-05? If yes, what is the amount? What are the objectives and subject matters of the respective projects?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Chu-ming, Martin

Reply : Our major task is to formulate and co-ordinate policies in respect of areas under our purview. To achieve this we carry out extensive and intensive research into these areas using as far as possible information available and with in-house resources. In view of the wide range and the large amount of such research work it is impossible to list each and every task. If consultants are used, we have prepared a breakdown in response to a separate question on that particular subject.

Details of the more important items for ongoing work and new initiatives are listed in the Policy Agenda accompanying the CE's policy addresses and highlighted in the Controlling Officer's report. It is impossible to give a breakdown on expenditure for each of these items as we have not conducted detailed costing work for each of them. However, we have provided an indication of the expenditure involved in each of our programmes in the Controlling Officer's report. If after research, consultation and deliberation, a new policy should be introduced, we shall consult the relevant panel of the Legislative Council.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters \_\_\_\_\_ Mrs Carrie LAM

Post Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Permanent Secretary for Housing,  
Planning and Lands (Planning and Lands)

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 22 March 2004