

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

HPBL(PL)053

Question Serial No.

0685

Head : 82 Buildings Department Subhead (No. & title) : 700 – General non-recurrent

Programme : Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer : Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question :

There are 12 items under Subhead 700 (item code : 003, 007, 011, 012, 013, 014, 015, 016, 019, 020, 021 and 022).

Please provide information on their respective :

- (a) content;
- (b) estimated completion date;
- (c) current progress;
- (d) mission; and
- (e) whether the Department has planned to outsource the items to the private sector. If it did, what is the name of the respective companies?

Asked by : Hon. SHEK Lai-him, Abraham

Reply :

The information about the 12 items under subhead 700 is provided below:

Item	Description / Content	Mission	Estimated completion date	Current Progress (planning/ in progress/ nearing completion completed)	Outsourcing situation (in-house / planned to outsource / outsourced)	Outsourced Consultant / Contractor (where appropriate)
003	Contracting out microfilming of building records	Microfilming of approved plans, structural calculation sheets and related documents of buildings built in 1970-1990.	End 2005	In progress	Partially outsourced	Sing Tao Limited

007	Translation and production of codes of practice and design manuals in Chinese	Translation of all codes of practice and design manual published by the Buildings Department into Chinese	End 2005	In progress	Partially outsourced	Huazhong University of Science and Technology/ Greg Wong & Associates Ltd.
011	Consultancy to compile a full list of existing private buildings in Hong Kong	The scope originally proposed for the consultancy includes the production of a computer database of all existing private buildings comprising their addresses, lot numbers, building names, dates of occupation permit, building types, number of storeys etc. Since mid-2002, the Buildings Department has developed and put into use a computer system, the Buildings Condition Information System, to facilitate control of existing private buildings. To avoid duplication, Buildings Department is revising the coverage of the proposed study.	To be determined	Being planned	To be outsourced	Not yet known
012	Consultancy to review the code of practice for fire safety in buildings and for renovation works	To carry out a detailed study on fire safety standards in buildings, and the use of fire engineering approach in the design of buildings. To produce the relevant codes of practice and handbooks for use by building professionals in Hong Kong .	Mid 2005	In progress	Outsourced	Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Ltd.

013	Consultancy to review Building Regulations on lighting and ventilation of buildings	To review the standards of lighting and ventilation for buildings, and to establish a new set of standards which would adequately protect the health of occupants and ensure satisfactory quality of the indoor environment for residential buildings in Hong Kong	Early 2005	In progress	Outsourced	Anthony Ng Architects Ltd.
014	In-situ tests on cantilevered slab canopies	To examine the structural integrity and to assess the structural stability of cantilevered slab canopies in buildings.	Early 2006	In progress	Outsourced	Quality Control Consultants Ltd.
015	Consultancy to review Building Regulations on drainage of buildings	To identify any deficiencies or areas for improvement in the existing legislation, and to establish a new set of standards on the design, construction and maintenance of sanitary fitments, plumbing and drainage provisions for buildings.	Early 2005	In progress	Outsourced	Hyder Consulting Ltd.
016	Consultancy for water seepage and drain leakage investigation	To carry out research on all technical matters relating to water seepage investigation in order to explore effective non-destructive tests for identifying the cause and source of water seepage in buildings.	Mid 2004	Nearing Completion	Outsourced	Samson Wong & Associates Property Consultancy Limited
019	Consultancy on the seismic effects on buildings in Hong Kong	To assess seismic effect on Hong Kong buildings and to consider the need for seismic design requirements for buildings in Hong Kong.	End 2004	In progress	Outsourced	Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Ltd.

020	Consultancy on a comprehensive environmental performance assessment scheme for buildings	To compile a user-friendly, comprehensive environmental performance assessment scheme (CEPAS) for buildings in Hong Kong.	End 2004	In progress	Outsourced	Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Ltd.
021	Consultancy to draft a design manual on barrier free access and facilities for persons with a disability and the elderly	To review the Buildings Ordinance and its subsidiary regulations and the design manual on the design requirements for provision of access and facilities for persons with a disability as well as for the elderly.	End 2004	In progress	Outsourced	Samson Wong & Associates Property Consultancy Limited
022	Consultancy to draft a limit-state code for structural use of steel in Hong Kong	To prepare a code of practice to cope with the advent in design, analysis and fabrication technologies of steel construction to achieve safe and cost-effective use of steel in structural design.	Mid 2004	In progress	Outsourced	Ove Arup & Partners Hong Kong Ltd/ PolyU Technology & Consultancy Co. Ltd.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

Marco WU

Post Title _____

Director of Buildings

Date _____

26.3.2004