

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)056

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

Question Serial No.

Programme : Buildings and Building Works

1644

Controlling Officer : Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question :

As the Buildings Department assists the Home Affairs Department in the clearance of additional environmental hygiene blackspots, what is the target of such work during 2004-05? What is the estimated expenditure?

Asked by : Hon. TAM Yiu-chung

Reply:

In 2004-05, the Buildings Department (BD) will continue to collaborate with relevant departments, including the Home Affairs Department, to tackle the environmental hygiene problems in the six pilot projects and Phases I and II of the blackspots clearance operations targeting 75 and 90 hygiene blackspots respectively. Follow-up actions will be taken on some 350 outstanding statutory orders issued to remove unauthorized building works or rectify defective drainage in the pilot projects and clearance operations.

In 2004-05, BD will be provided with additional resource of about \$15.2 million to employ contract staff to assist the 365 existing staff in BD and the 38 staff from the Housing Authority (HA) in completing the above tasks. As the existing staff in BD and the staff from the HA are responsible for other enforcement actions in addition to the clearance of environmental hygiene blackspots, there is no breakdown on the departmental staff resources deployed for the clearance operations in these blackspots.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Marco WU
Post Title	Director of Buildings
Date	26.3.2004