

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)057

Head : 82 Buildings Department Subhead (No. & title) : 000
Operational
expenses

Question Serial No.

1479

Programme : Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer : Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question :

Buildings Department's provisions for 2004-05 is \$68.2 million (9.3%) higher than the revised estimate for 2003-04. Please list out the details. Would the Administration consider employing consultancies or outside organizations to assist? If yes, what is the amount of expenses involved?

Asked by : Hon. TIEN Pei-chun, James

Reply :

The increased financial provision of \$68.2 million (9.3% higher than the revised estimate for 2003-04) will be used for the following work -

- (a) \$11.5 million for accelerating enforcement action on unauthorised building works and building repair;
- (b) \$31.3 million for clearing outstanding removal orders;
- (c) \$25.4 million for stepping up action on drainage defects in private buildings and unauthorised building works in rear lanes and blackspots.

Item (a) and part of the work in items (b) and (c) above will be outsourced. Out of the increased financial provision of \$68.2 million, the provisions for outsourcing amount to \$27.8 million, of which \$11.5 million will be outsourced to private firms and the remaining \$16.3 million outsourced to the Housing Authority.

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