

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)083

Question Serial No.

1204

Head: 91 Lands Department

Subhead(No. & title):

Programme: (1) Land Administration

Controlling Officer: Director of Lands

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question: The number of small house cases approved was only slightly above 2 100 in the past two years. Will the Administration please inform this Council whether there is any review mechanism to ensure that the processing of pending cases will not be delayed unreasonably, and whether there are plans to reduce the amount of backlog?

Asked by: Hon. LAU Ping-cheung

Reply:

The Lands Department has reviewed the situation and will implement new procedures for processing small house applications with effect from 1 April 2004. These will shorten the waiting time and speed up the processing of straightforward cases. Our pledge is to process 2 500 cases each year.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters PATRICK L C LAU

Post Title Director of Lands

Date 26 March 2004