

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)111

Question Serial No.

0177

Head : 118 - Planning Department

Subhead (No. & title) : 700 – General non-recurrent

Programme : (1) – Territorial and Sub-regional Planning

Controlling Officer : Director of Planning

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question : Under this subhead, the approved commitment for Item 560 ‘Study on Rural Planning and Land Management in the New Territories’ is \$7,000,000, but there is still no accumulated expenditure or estimated expenditure up to now. What is the reason?

Asked by : Hon. LAU Ping-cheung

Reply : The requested information is provided as below :

The Study on Rural Planning and Land Management in the New Territories is being conducted in two phases.

Phase One covers the identification of problems and possible redress measures to better manage the rural environment. It is being carried out with in-house resources and is now nearing completion.

Depending on the outcome of the Phase One Study, we may proceed to Phase Two, which will include the examination of possible pilot projects. The provision of \$7 million is intended for engaging consultants to provide specialist inputs in Phase Two.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

B C K FUNG

Director of Planning

25 March 2004