

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)120

Question Serial No.

1533

Head : 118 - Planning Department Subhead (No. & title) : --

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

Controlling Officer : Director of Planning

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question : Please list out the details and progress of 'Study on Rural Planning and Land Management in the New Territories'. When will the study commence? When will it complete? Has there been a delay in conducting the study and, if so, what is the reason? Does it cause an increase in the estimated expenditure?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Yung-kan

Reply : The Study on Rural Planning and Land Management aims at devising a land planning and management strategy to better manage the rural environment. The Study is divided into two phases. Phase One covers an in-depth analysis of the key land use and land management problems and will propose improvement measures. Phase Two covers possible pilot schemes to confirm the feasibility and assess the effectiveness of the rural improvement measures and the implementation framework proposed in Phase One. Consultancy services will be required in Phase Two to provide specialist inputs in the civil and transport engineering, environmental, economic and land valuation aspects.

The Phase One Study commenced in March 2002 and is now nearing completion. Phase Two of the Study is dependent on the outcome of Phase One i.e. the acceptance of the proposed improvement measures by the Government and the general community. If it is decided that Phase Two should go ahead, it would possibly be launched towards end 2004. The financial provision for the Phase Two Study remains at \$7 million as originally estimated.

Signature _____

Name in block letters

_____ B C K FUNG _____

Post Title

_____ Director of Planning _____

Date

_____ 24 March 2004 _____