Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2005-06 CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)026

Question Serial No.

1	1	06

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

Programme: Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer: Director of Buildings

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Ouestion:

By commencing the operation of the Buildings (Amendment) Ordinance 2004, provision of emergency vehicular access in new buildings is mandatory. Does this provision include exempted small houses in the New Territories? If so, is the scope of work of the Buildings Department overlapped in the area of resources with those of the Fire Services Department or the Lands Department?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply:

The requirements on the provision of emergency vehicular access (EVA) are set out in regulation 41D of the Building (Planning) Regulations enacted under the Buildings (Amendment) Ordinance 2004. In respect of small houses in the New Territories issued with a certificate of exemption by the Director of Lands under the Buildings Ordinance (Application to the New Territories) Ordinance, the requirements on the provision of EVA are not applicable. Therefore, overlapping of work or resources among the Buildings Department, Fire Services Department and Lands Department does not arise.

Signature	
Name in block letters	Marco WU
Post Title	Director of Buildings
Date	6 April 2005