

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

**Reply Serial No.**

**HPLB(PL)101**

Question Serial No.

0238

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

Programme : (2) District Planning

Controlling Officer : Director of Planning

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question : As regards paragraph 11, please give a detailed account of:

- (a) What actions are being taken against unauthorised developments in the rural New Territories?
- (b) How to monitor the implementation of the Urban Renewal Authority's development schemes and projects?
- (c) What is the work of the Department in the Steering Committee for Development of the West Kowloon Cultural District?

Asked by : Hon. LEE Wing-tat

Reply :

- (a) The Town Planning Ordinance empowers the Planning Authority i.e. the Planning Department to take actions against unauthorized developments (UDs) within areas covered by development permission area plans (DPA plans). In 2004, a total of 1,119 statutory notices and 1,303 warning letters were issued in respect of 319 cases of UD. As a result, 283 UD cases were discontinued or regularized. During the year, a total of 12 cases were prosecuted, in which 19 defendants were convicted with an average fine of about \$30,000.
- (b) The Urban Renewal Authority (URA) is an independent statutory body tasked to undertake urban renewal. The role of the Government is to formulate and co-ordinate the overall urban renewal policy and to monitor the implementation of the urban renewal programme.

Planning Department (PlanD) provides planning inputs and advice to the URA in their preparation of draft 5-Year Corporate Plan (CP) and Annual Business Plan (BP), and in the formulation of planning parameters, open space and government, institution or community facilities requirements. Also, the Department provides support to the Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau in the scrutiny of the URA's development schemes and projects contained in the draft CP and BP prior to the submission to the Financial Secretary for approval.

The URA is required to comply with statutory provisions in its implementation of development schemes and projects. The Town Planning Board will process development schemes submitted by the URA and give consideration to any objections against such scheme plans. URA's development projects will be processed in accordance with the requirements under the Urban Renewal Authority Ordinance. PlanD works closely with the URA and other departments to both facilitate and monitor project implementation.

- (c) The role of the Steering Committee for Development of the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) is to steer the development of the WKCD to a successful conclusion. The Director of Planning is a member of the Steering Committee and contributes planning inputs and advice in relation to the implementation of the WKCD project in various stages including the preparation of the Invitation For Proposal (IFP) for the project, the assessment of the proposals and the tasks to be undertaken in the next stage of the IFP process.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	B C K FUNG
Post Title	Director of Planning
Date	6 April 2005

[TOP](#)