

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)104

Question Serial No.

0241

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

Programme : (3) Ordinance Review

Controlling Officer : Director of Planning

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question : The Town Planning (Amendment) Ordinance 2004 is expected to come into operation in 2005, after which the Planning Department will start to work on the "Stage Two" amendments. Could the Government inform this Council of:

- (a) the planned scope and time-table of the "Stage Two" amendments;
and
- (b) the amount of expenditure to be incurred in the "Stage Two" amendments?

Asked by : Hon. LEONG Kah-kit, Alan

Reply :

- (a) In the course of examining the Town Planning (Amendment) Bill 2003 by the LegCo, the Administration presented a Paper on the proposed "Stage Two" amendments to the LegCo Panel on Planning, Lands and Works on 27 Jan 2004. The issues which might be addressed at "Stage Two" include the operation and composition of the Town Planning Board (such as membership of the Board, quorum of meeting and declaration of interest by members) as well as the designation of "Special Design Area" and "Environmentally Sensitive Area" on statutory town plans.

After the commencement of the Town Planning (Amendment) Ordinance 2004 covering the "Stage One" amendments and the submission of the related Fees Regulation to the Legislative Council later this year, we will consult stakeholders on the "Stage Two" amendments, including the time-table for the exercise.

- (b) We expect that the expenses to be incurred in carrying out the “Stage Two” amendment exercise would mainly be staff cost. The work involved would be absorbed by existing staff.

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

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