

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)001

Question Serial No.

1421

Head : 138 Government Secretariat:
Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau
(Planning and Lands Branch)

Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : (2) Buildings, Lands and Planning

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands
(Planning and Lands)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question : In Matters Requiring Special Attention under Programme (2), the Government said it would take forward the additional development parameters and conditions for the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD) subject to response from the screened-in proponents and public views, in conjunction with the Home Affairs Bureau. It is understood that the Government has lately stopped the WKCD projects IFP process. Could the Government advise whether the recent decision of the Chief Secretary for Administration would have an impact on the 2006-07 estimates under Programme (2)?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Wai-yip, Albert

Reply :

For the development of the West Kowloon Cultural District (WKCD), we are consolidating our past efforts with a view to taking forward the project. Our first and foremost task would be to re-examine, on the original planning basis for the facilities, with a view to re-confirming the need for the Core Arts and Cultural Facilities in the WKCD. The new Consultative Committee to be set up will listen to the views of the arts and cultural sector as well as the entertainment and tourism industries. The Consultative Committee, supported by three Advisory Groups, will examine the need for the performance venues and museums in the WKCD and consider the financial implications for developing these core facilities in the WKCD. The findings of the Consultative Committee will provide a good basis for the Government to formulate an appropriate development approach for the WKCD.

The Home Affairs Bureau and the Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau will provide full support to the Consultative Committee and its three Advisory Groups, and provide inputs for the Government's consideration of an appropriate development approach for the WKCD. The original estimated provision in the 2006-07 Estimates for the work of the WKCD will be adjusted accordingly. Details have yet to be worked out at this stage.

Signature

Name in block letters

Mrs Rita Lau

Post Title

Permanent Secretary for Housing,
Planning and Lands (Planning and Lands)

Date

11 March 2006

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