Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2006-07

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.
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Head: 138 Government Secretariat:

Housing, Planning and Lands Bureau

(Planning and Lands Branch)

Subhead (No. & title): 000 Operational expenses

<u>Programme</u>: (2) Buildings, Lands and Planning

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Permanent Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

(Planning and Lands)

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

Question: Regarding the scheme undertaken with the Hong Kong Housing Society to assist owners of old buildings in the areas of management and maintenance, how many buildings are expected to have maintenance works completed in 2006-07 and what are the expenditure for the whole scheme and the timetable for its completion?

Asked by: Hon. HO Chung-tai Raymond

Reply: The Hong Kong Housing Society (HKHS) launched a \$3 billion "Building Management and Maintenance Scheme" on 1 February 2005 to provide "one-stop" technical support, financial incentives and interest-free loans to owners of old buildings to undertake building maintenance and management works in order to improve their living environment. Through this 10-year Scheme, the HKHS aims to provide assistance to about 800 buildings annually. As at the end of February 2006, the HKHS has provided assistance to over 850 buildings through its various forms of services. Since the time taken to complete maintenance works of each building varies and will depend on a number of factors including the building condition, the HKHS is not in a position to provide the estimated number of buildings that will have maintenance works completed in 2006/07.

Signature	
Name in block letters	Mrs Rita Lau
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands (Planning and Lands)
Date	11 March 2006