

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2006-07
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)088

Question Serial No.

2005

Head: 91 Lands Department

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Land Administration

Controlling Officer: Director of Lands

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question : Regarding the measures which will continue to be explored for speeding up the processing of small house applications, please advise this Council: (a) whether the Administration anticipates that a special allocation of funding and establishment of a task force are necessary for carrying out the work concerned; and (b) whether the Administration has drawn up any phased progress targets for the work concerned. If yes, what are the details; if not, why?

Asked by: Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply:

- (a) The measures currently being considered to expedite processing of small house applications include the formulation of a mechanism for resolving local objections and the review of requirements relating to emergency vehicular access etc. We expect the improvements in these areas and early resolution of other issues under discussion with the Heung Yee Kuk will enhance the productivity of the existing resources currently dedicated to the processing of small house applications and speed up the process. We do not see a need for having a special allocation of funds and establishing a task force for the purpose at this stage.
- (b) We will continue to review our work processes and work with the HYK to examine the ways and means to speed up the processing of small house applications. As each small house application is unique involving different degree of complexity, setting a phased progress target covering all cases is inappropriate.

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____ PATRICK L C LAU

Post Title _____ Director of Lands

Date _____ 11 March 2006