

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)122

Question Serial No.

1587

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 : The Planning Department estimated that prosecutions/reviews in magistracy and appeals handled in 2006 would increase by 40% when compared with that in 2005. Please give a detailed account of these cases. What is the impact of such increase on Government expenses and staff resources?

Asked by : Hon. CHEUNG Hok-ming

Reply :

In 2005, the Planning Authority handled 27 prosecutions in magistracy and one appeal in High Court in relation to unauthorized developments (UDs) in the rural New Territories (NT).

In 2006, we expect prosecution cases brought to the court will increase as we step up our enforcement work against UD in the NT. It is not possible to provide a detailed account of these future cases.

To cope with the anticipated increase in prosecution cases, we have streamlined and re-engineered our enforcement practices and procedures, which would help maintain the effectiveness of our enforcement work within the allocated resources.

Signature _____

Name in block letters

B C K FUNG

Post Title

Director of Planning

Date

9 March 2006