

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)143

Question Serial No.

1931

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

Programme : (1) Territorial Planning

Controlling Officer : Director of Planning

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question : In 2006-07, there will be an increase of \$16.3 million (23%) allocated for Territorial Planning. Please explain why with such an increase, the estimated numbers of “surveys, reports, papers and studies conducted and produced for territorial planning strategies and special areas” as well as “forecasts, reports and papers produced relating to supply and demand of land for major uses” for 2006 are lower than the actual numbers in the previous two years?

Asked by : Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply :

The increase in provision of about 23% is mainly due to an increase in the number of planning studies. These include the “Hong Kong 2030 : Planning Vision and Strategy” (HK2030 Study), Area Improvement Study for Tsim Sha Tsim, Area Improvement Plan for the Shopping Areas of Mong Kok, Cross-boundary Travel Survey as well as new planning studies on the Land Use Planning for the Frontier Closed Area and a possible new Eastern Boundary Crossing.

The reason for a drop in the number of surveys, reports, papers and studies conducted and produced for territorial planning strategies and special areas is that the current planning studies such as the HK2030 Study and the Area Improvement Study for Tsim Sha Tsui are at the final stages of the study process when fewer number of discussion papers, working papers and survey reports will need to be produced. For the new studies mentioned above and the Cross-boundary Travel Survey to be launched in 2006, the majority of the papers and reports are expected to be produced beyond 2006.

Signature

Name in block letters

Post Title

Date

B C K FUNG

Director of Planning

11 March 2006