

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)097

Question Serial No.

1876

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: Under the indicators of this Programme, the total area of land granted through private treaty in 2007 is estimated to be 377 hectares (ha), representing an increase of 242.12 ha in 2005 and 55.2 ha in 2006. What are the reasons?

Asked by: Hon. WONG Kwok-hing

Reply:

The substantial increase in the estimate of the area of land to be granted in 2007 by way of private treaty is primarily due to the grant of land occupied by existing public housing estates to facilitate the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HA)'s divestment of commercial properties. About 358 hectares (ha) would be granted in 2007 for this purpose. By comparison, the land granted under HA's divestment exercise totalled about 214 ha in 2005. In 2006, we did not execute any land grant for this purpose.

Signature _____

Name in block letters PATRICK L C LAU

Post Title Director of Lands

Date 15 March 2007

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