

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2007-08

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

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(PL)101

Question Serial No.

0821

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

Programme: (5) Technical Services

Controlling Officer: Director of Planning

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question :

Under the "Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2007-08", it is stated that the Planning Department will manage the Feasibility Study on Urban Climatic Map and Standards for Wind Environment. Please advise on the following:

- (a) the future applications, the present progress and the expected completion date of the study;
- (b) the expected progress of and the estimated expenditure involved in the study in 2007-08; and
- (c) whether the results of the study will be adopted as planning guidelines for the development of new buildings in future, similar to the incorporation of the guidelines on air ventilation assessment in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines. If yes, will the Administration require the developers, when launching construction projects, to comply with the guidelines set out in the study to avoid the "screen" effect?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Yuen-han

Reply :

- (a) The "Urban Climatic Map and Standards for Wind Environment – Feasibility Study" (the Study) aims to prepare an urban climatic map for Hong Kong in which climatically sensitive areas are identified from a wind environment perspective. The Study would provide a scientific and objective basis for the formulation of air ventilation standards for plan making and the assessment of the impact of major developments and planning proposals on the local wind environment. The Study is now at the data collection and analysis stage, and is expected to be completed by end 2009.

- (b) The consultants are developing the methodology for drawing up an urban climatic map for Hong Kong. The draft Urban Climatic Map would be ready around late 2007 for public consultation. The feasibility of formulating a set of air ventilation benchmarking standards will be examined towards the end of 2007-08. The estimated expenditure of the Study in 2007-08 is \$2.97 million.
- (c) We will consider the application of the findings of the Study upon the completion of the Study. We believe that the Study would provide input to future refinement of the air ventilation assessment (AVA) system and the Urban Design Guidelines under the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Mrs Ava S. Y. NG
Post Title	Director of Planning
Date	15 March 2007

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