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## Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development Session No: 18

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## Replies to supplementary questions raised by Finance Committee Members in examining the Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09

### Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development Session No: 18

Reply Serial No.	Question Serial No.	Name of Member	Head	Programme
S-DEVB(W)01	S092	Hon. LAM Wai-Keung, Daniel	159	Heritage Conservation
S-DEVB(W)02	S093	Hon. LAM Wai-Keung, Daniel	159	Intra-Governmental Services
S-DEVB(W)03	S094	Hon. LAM Wai-Keung, Daniel	159	Intra-Governmental Services
S-DEVB(W)04	S095	Hon. LAM Wai-Keung, Daniel	159	Intra-Governmental Services

# Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09 CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

Reply Serial No.
S-DEVB(W)01

Question Serial No.

S092

Head: 159 – Government Subhead:

Secretariat: Development Bureau

(Works Branch)

<u>Programme</u>: (2) Heritage Conservation

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Development

#### Question:

The estimate for 2008-09 is 1020% higher than the original estimate for 2007-08. How much of the provision comes from Head 53 – Government Secretariat: Home Affairs Bureau and the former Head 145 – Government Secretariat: Economic Development and Labour Bureau respectively? By basing on this analysis, how much is the estimate for 2008-09 actually higher than the original estimate for 2007-08?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Wai-keung, Daniel

#### Reply:

The original estimate of \$3 million in 2007-08 in this programme comprises transfer of \$1.6 million from Head 53 - Government Secretariat: Home Affairs Bureau and \$1.4 million from the former Head 145 - Government Secretariat: Economic Development and Labour Bureau (Economic Development Branch).

The increase of \$30.6 million in 2008-09 as compared to the 2007-08 original estimate reflected the significant importance attached by the Government to heritage conservation as announced by the Chief Executive in the 2007 Policy Address. The increase can be explained by reference to the following areas of expenditure –

- (a) personal emoluments for staff involved in discharging duties related to heritage conservation, including the establishment of the Commissioner for Heritage's Office with effect from April 2008;
- (b) departmental expenses expenditure in regard to salaries of non-civil service contract staff, consultancy studies, creation of a dedicated website for heritage conservation, procurement of computer facilities, etc.; and
- (c) general non-recurrent expenditure for implementation of the new Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme.

## Signature

Name in block letters	C K Mak	
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)	
Date	11 April 2008	

#### Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09

Reply Serial No.

S-DEVB(W)02

## CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

Question Serial No.

S093

<u>Head</u>: 159 – Government <u>Subhead</u> (No. & title): Secretariat: Development

Bureau (Works Branch)

<u>Programme</u>: (3) Intra-Governmental Services

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

#### Question:

Regarding "continue to monitor the drainage upgrading works to reduce flooding risk in these areas", has the provision for works items in last year been fully spent? As for the increased estimate for this year, is it related to increased resources to expedite processing of some rural flood protection works in the pipeline?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Wai-keung, Daniel

#### Reply:

The provision for flood protection works under Head 704 (for which the Director of Drainage Services is the Controlling Officer) in the year 2007-08 has been fully spent. We have also increased the estimated provision under Head 704 for 2008-09, and earmarked about \$60 million for two new flood protection projects in Tai Po and Northern New Territories to address the existing flooding problems in these areas.

Signature	
Name in block letters	C K MAK
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)
Date	11 April 2008

#### Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09

#### Reply Serial No.

### CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

Head: 159 Government Subhead (No. & title):

Secretariat: Development Bureau (Works Branch)

Question Serial No.

S094

Programme: (3) Intra-Governmental Services

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

#### Question:

Regarding "supervise the development and implementation of Greening Master Plans", have any resources been allocated to carry out greening in new towns of the New Territories, in particular the outlying islands, not only to improve the local environment but also to attract more visitors?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Wai-keung, Daniel

#### Reply:

Upon completion of the development of Greening Master Plans (GMPs) in urban area, GMPs studies in the New Territories (including outlying islands) will commence in mid-2009 for completion in 2012. Before that, we shall also implement greening enhancement proposals at focal points in the New Territories as interim measures. Implementation of these will be met by existing resources.

Signature _	
Name in block letters	C K Mak
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)
Date	11 April 2008

#### Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09

## CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION

Reply Serial No.
S-DEVB(W)04

Question Serial No S095

<u>Head</u>:159 - Government Secretariat:

Development Bureau (Works

Branch)

Programme: (3) Intra-Governmental Services

<u>Controlling Officer</u>: Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Development

#### **Question**:

In the analysis of the financial provision under Subhead 000 Operational Expenses, the estimates for temporary staff and general departmental expenses in 2008-09 have substantially increased as compared with the revised estimate for 2007-08. Please tell us the work of those temporary staff. As the general departmental expenses will increase by 50%, on what work will the expenses be spent?

Asked by: Hon. LAM Wai-keung, Daniel

#### Reply:

Temporary staff includes graduate/undergraduate trainees under the Graduate Training Scheme and Undergraduate Training Scheme as well as non-civil service contract staff to carry out computer-related and other support services.

The general departmental expenses for 2008-09 is about 50% higher than the revised estimate for 2007-08. This is mainly due to increased provision for minor consultancy studies, maintenance and enhancement of computer systems, computer services and publicity programme for implementation of Construction Workers Registration Ordinance, etc.

Signature:	
Name in block letters:	C K MAK
Post Title:	Permanent Secretary for Development (Works)
Date:	11 April 2008

Subhead: 000 Operational Expenses