## Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2003-04

## CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(H)-005

**Question Serial** 

0458

Head: 62 Subhead 000 - Clearance and Squatter Control

<u>Programme</u>: 6201 - Squatter and Temporary Housing Clearance

and Squatter Control

Controlling Officer: Permanent Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

(Housing)

<u>Director of Bureau</u>: Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question: What is the Housing Department's estimated expenditure for

rehousing occupants of rooftop structures this year? What are the compensation given to and the rehousing arrangements

made for the occupants concerned?

Asked by: HON. Albert HO Chun-yan

Reply: The expenditure for rehousing occupants of rooftop structures

is provided under Head 62, which covers all clearance activities. The total provision is \$378M. There is no separate

breakdown for clearance of rooftop structures.

Occupants of illegal rooftop structures affected by enforcement action of the Buildings Department are not eligible for compensation or ex-gratia allowance. They are rehoused to public rental housing if they meet the prevailing eligibility criteria on income and assets, length of residence in the structures, property ownership and length of residence in Hong Kong. Families not meeting these criteria are given priority to apply for the Home Assistance Loan Scheme or rehoused to Interim Housing to meet their temporary housing needs. Families with special social or medical needs and elderly households are rehoused to public rental housing on compassionate grounds upon the Social Welfare Department's

recommendation.

Signature	
Name in block letters	C. M. LEUNG
Post Title	Permanent Secretary for Housing Planning and Lands (Housing)
Date	20 March 2003