

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2004-05
**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Reply Serial No.

HPLB(H)010

Question Serial No.

1448

Head : 62 Housing Department

Subhead :

Programme : Squatter Clearance and Squatter Control

Controlling Officer : Permanent Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands (Housing)

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question : (1) After the deletion of posts, the operational expenses under the programme of squatter clearance and squatter control still amount to more than \$330,000,000. Please give a breakdown of the expenditure items.

(2) Regarding the offices responsible for squatter clearance and squatter control, please list the grades in service in these offices and their respective numbers of staff and the payroll cost for each of these grades.

Asked by : Hon. TIEN Pei-chun, James

Reply : (1) The estimate is \$333,000,000. It comprises –

(i) \$98,700,000 in salary cost, \$38,300,000 in on-cost and \$45,000,000 in other expenses and share of Head Office expenses for 335 staff deployed under the programme of squatter clearance and squatter control; and

(ii) \$108,800,000 in salary cost and \$42,200,000 in on-cost for 450 surplus staff who are redeployed to other areas of Housing Department's work, mainly in support of Team Clean initiatives, including policing, inspection and repairs of drains and plumbing, minor maintenance, enforcement of "Marking Scheme" (covering offences like littering, spitting, throwing objects from height), enforcement of "Yellowline Scheme" for market stalls in public housing estates, and establishing the Task Force Against Abuses of Public Housing Resources.

(2) A list showing the grades of the staff responsible for squatter clearance and squatter control and the related salary payment is as follows –

Grade	Headcount	Salary Cost
Housing Manager Grade	165	\$68.4 M
General Grades	33	\$ 7.6 M
Other Supporting Staff	137	\$22.7 M
Total	335	\$98.7 M

Signature _____

Name in block letters _____

C.M. LEUNG

Post title _____

Permanent Secretary for Housing
Planning and Lands (Housing)

Date _____

26 March 2004