

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

Reply Serial No.

ETWB(ET)045

Question Serial No.

0465

Head : 44 Environmental Protection      Subhead (No. & title):  
Department

Programme :                      (1) Waste Facilities

Controlling Officer :      Director of Environmental Protection

Director of Bureau :      Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works

Question : The expenditure under Programme 1 for 2004-05 is 7% higher as compared to 2003-04, mainly due to the increase in payments for waste treatment arising from the increase in waste quantity with a likely improvement in the economy of Hong Kong as predicted by the Government. However, from the figures provided by the Government, it indicates that there will only be a slight increase in the quantity of waste treated at landfills and the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre. As such, would the Government explain in detail the reasons for the 7% increase in estimated expenditure?

Asked by : Hon. CHOY So-yuk

Reply : Apart from the projected increase in waste intake due to an expected improved economy in 2004-05, the estimated increase of 7% in the expenditure under Programme 1 is mainly attributable to the inclusion of a contingency fund having regard to the many uncertainties in the estimation of waste quantities.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name in block letters      ROBERT J. S. LAW

Post Title      Director of Environmental Protection

Date      24 March 2004