

Examination of Estimates of Expenditure 2008-09

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

Reply Serial No.

AUD010

Question Serial No.

2610

Head: 24 - Audit Commission

Subhead (No. & title):

Programme: (1) Regularity Audit
(2) Value for Money Audit

Controlling Officer: Director of Audit

Director of Bureau:

Question :

At present, the accountancy sector is facing a shortage of manpower. Will the Audit Commission consider allocating more resources and making additional provision to attract and retain accounting staff? If yes, what will be the staffing requirements and the expenses involved?

Asked by: Hon. TAM Heung-man

Reply:

To ensure that civil service pay stays broadly comparable with that in the private sector, the Civil Service Bureau has an established mechanism to adjust civil service pay having regard to the outcome of pay trend, pay level and starting salaries surveys conducted at regular intervals. Following the 2007-08 Civil Service Pay Adjustment and implementation of the 2006 Starting Salaries Survey findings, the salaries of serving staff and the starting salaries of new recruits appointed by the Audit Commission have been revised in 2007. The necessary provision arising from the above adjustments has been included in the 2008-09 draft Estimates.

Name in block letters

BENJAMIN TANG

Post Title

Director of Audit

Date

25.3.2008