

**Number of occasions when Principal Officials (POs)
under the accountability system acted or covered for
other POs for the period 1 July 2002 to 30 April 2004**

Principal Officials	Number of occasions
Chief Secretary for Administration	Not applicable ¹
Financial Secretary	Not applicable ¹
Secretary for Justice	Not applicable ¹
Secretary for the Civil Service	7
Secretary for Commerce, Industry and Technology	6
Secretary for Constitutional Affairs	3
Secretary for Economic Development and Labour	25 ²
Secretary for Education and Manpower	1
Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works	3
Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury	6
Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food	0
Secretary for Home Affairs	1
Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands	15 ²
Secretary for Security	1

¹ Under the accountability system, no arrangement will be made for the Chief Secretary for Administration (CS), the Financial Secretary (FS) or the Secretary for Justice to act or cover for other POs.

² The number of occasions for the Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands (SHPL) and the Secretary for Economic Development and Labour (SEDL) to act or cover for other POs is the highest amongst POs. This is due to the existing arrangement that SHPL and SEDL normally stand in as CS and FS respectively during the latter two's temporary absence.