

## Head 53 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: HOME AND YOUTH AFFAIRS BUREAU

**Controlling officer:** the Permanent Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs will account for expenditure under this Head.

**Estimate 2025–26** ..... **\$1,280.1m**

**Establishment ceiling 2025–26** (notional annual mid-point salary value) representing an estimated 185 non-directorate posts as at 31 March 2025 rising by one post to 186 posts as at 31 March 2026 ... **\$134.6m**

In addition, there will be an estimated eight directorate posts as at 31 March 2025 and as at 31 March 2026.

**Commitment balance**..... **\$1,866.8m**

### Controlling Officer's Report

#### Programmes

<b>Programme (1) Director of Bureau's Office</b>	This programme contributes to Policy Area 27: Intra-Governmental Services (Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs).
<b>Programme (2) Youth Development, Social Harmony and Civic Education</b>	This programme contributes to Policy Area 19: District and Community Relations (Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs).
<b>Programme (3) District, Community and Public Relations</b>	This programme contributes to Policy Area 18: Recreation, Culture, Amenities and Entertainment Licensing (Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs) and Policy Area 19: District and Community Relations (Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs).

#### Detail

##### Programme (1): Director of Bureau's Office

	2023–24 (Actual)	2024–25 (Original)	2024–25 (Revised)	2025–26 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	14.9	15.2	16.1 (+5.9%)	16.1 (—)
				(or +5.9% on 2024–25 Original)

#### Aim

2 The aim is to ensure the smooth operation of the Office of the Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs.

#### Brief Description

3 The Office of the Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs is responsible for providing support to the Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs in undertaking political work. This includes the support provided by the Under Secretary and the Political Assistant. The Office is also responsible for providing administrative support to the Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs in carrying out her duties. The work includes the planning, co-ordination and implementation of all arrangements for the Secretary's public, media and community functions.

##### Programme (2): Youth Development, Social Harmony and Civic Education

	2023–24 (Actual)	2024–25 (Original)	2024–25 (Revised)	2025–26 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	818.1	1,088.0	977.9 (–10.1%)	1,128.6 (+15.4%)
				(or +3.7% on 2024–25 Original)

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### *Aim*

4 The aims are to promote youth development, social harmony, civic education including national education outside schools, participation of young people in policy discussion, the development of social enterprises (SEs), and the empowerment of women in Hong Kong.

### *Brief Description*

- 5 The responsibilities of the Bureau under this programme are to:
- review and monitor the implementation progress of the Youth Development Blueprint;
  - co-ordinate various youth development measures through collaboration with relevant bureaux/departments, youth uniformed groups and other non-governmental organisations;
  - support the work of the Youth Development Commission (YDC);
  - provide support for implementation of the Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth (MSSY) under the Youth Participation Initiative;
  - promote civic education including national education outside schools by working closely with the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education;
  - promote the development of SEs, including fostering partnership among the community, the business sector and the Government in support of SEs;
  - provide secretariat support to the Family Council;
  - develop policies relating to the enforcement of maintenance orders;
  - provide secretariat support to the Women’s Commission which has the mission to enable women to fully realise their due status, rights and opportunities in all aspects of life; and
  - facilitate the incorporation of women’s needs and perspectives into the process of policy making where appropriate.
- 6 The key performance measures in respect of youth development, social harmony and civic education are:

### *Indicators*

	2023 (Actual)	2024 (Actual)	2025 (Estimate)
civic education projects sponsored under the Community Participation Scheme .....	64	62	<b>64</b>
participants under the international youth exchange programmes .....	800 <sup>^</sup>	2 100	<b>2 200</b>
participants under the Funding Scheme for Youth Exchange in the Mainland .....	20 000 <sup>^</sup>	28 000	<b>29 000</b>
participants under the Funding Scheme for Youth Internship in the Mainland .....	2 600 <sup>^</sup>	4 400	<b>4 400</b>
youth members of uniformed groups subvented by the Bureau .....	105 598	106 216 <sup>#</sup>	<b>108 300<sup>#</sup></b>
no. of SEs in Hong Kong <sup>¶</sup> .....	713	551	<b>560</b>

<sup>^</sup> The lower numbers of participants under the international youth exchange programmes, Funding Scheme for Youth Exchange in the Mainland and Funding Scheme for Youth Internship in the Mainland in 2023 were due to progressive resumption of programmes/schemes from early 2023 following the society’s full return to normalcy in Hong Kong after the COVID-19 epidemic.

<sup>#</sup> The Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps (HKACC) has become a youth uniformed group subvented by the Government Flying Service starting from 1 April 2024. The figures in 2024 (actual) and 2025 (estimate) did/do not include youth members from HKACC.

<sup>¶</sup> This is based on the number of SEs listed in the SE Directory maintained by the Hong Kong Council of Social Service. The net decrease in the total number of SEs in 2024 was attributable to an array of factors, such as change in SEs’ business model, and no longer meeting the listing criteria of SE Directory, etc. The figure in 2025 is projected to remain at a similar level as in 2024.

### *Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2025–26*

- 7 During 2025–26, the Bureau will:
- continue to work closely with YDC to facilitate cross-bureau and cross-sector collaboration in youth development work and monitor the implementation of initiatives set out in the Youth Development Blueprint;
  - continue to work together with YDC to implement international and Mainland youth internship and exchange programmes;

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- continue to support Hong Kong young people to start their businesses in Hong Kong and other cities of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (Greater Bay Area) through the Alliance of Hong Kong Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurial Bases in the Greater Bay Area and the relevant funding schemes under the Youth Development Fund;
- organise the second Youth Development Summit in the second half of 2025 to promote the development of Hong Kong youth;
- take forward the establishment of the “Youth Post” hostel and spaces for cultural and arts exchanges for youths in the Kai Tak Community Isolation Facility;
- plan and take forward the establishment of a new interactive space and a video studio for young people at the Youth Square;
- continue to cultivate positive thinking amongst young people and promote youth life planning through relevant funding schemes, including implementing the “HYAB JC Scheme for Youth Life Planning” to help secondary school students realise their life planning and seize national development opportunities;
- continue to implement the Youth Financial Education Programme to assist young tenants under the Youth Hostel Scheme (YHS) to develop effective financial management plans;
- continue to implement YHS and the Subsidy Scheme for Using Hotels and Guesthouses as Youth Hostels;
- continue to promote the multi-faceted talents of youth and further strengthen communication with young people;
- continue to engage young people through the Youth Link and offer them opportunities to develop diverse talents and take part in public affairs;
- continue to promote youth volunteerism through various channels, including Service Corps, the HYAB - United Nations Volunteer Internship Programme and Guangdong-Hong Kong Youth Volunteer Service Programme;
- continue to encourage youth’s participation in government advisory and statutory bodies through various channels including implementing MSSY;
- plan and take forward the establishment of a physical platform for interaction in the Nam Cheong District Community Centre for Youth Link members;
- continue to work closely with the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education in promoting civic education including national education outside schools and in the community;
- continue to promote the development of SEs by facilitating cross-sector partnership;
- continue to provide secretariat support to the Family Council in promoting family core values;
- continue to implement the five-year Funding Scheme on the Promotion of Family Education to subsidise non-profit-making community projects in promoting family education;
- organise the Hong Kong Excellent Family Awards to promote good family values;
- continue to provide secretariat support to the Women’s Commission in promoting the empowerment of women, and conduct public education to enhance public awareness of gender-related issues;
- continue to run the Women Empowerment Fund under the Women’s Commission to subsidise community projects that support women in balancing job and family commitments, and unleashing their potential;
- continue to facilitate the incorporation of women’s needs and perspectives into the process of policy making where appropriate and enhance women’s participation in advisory and statutory bodies;
- continue to organise the Family and Women Development Summit;
- continue to enrich the content of the one-stop family and women information portal; and
- launch the “She Inspires” Mentorship Programme to promote women’s workplace development.

### Programme (3): District, Community and Public Relations

	2023–24 (Actual)	2024–25 (Original)	2024–25 (Revised)	2025–26 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	153.8	151.4	140.8 (–7.0%)	135.4 (–3.8%)
				(or –10.6% on 2024–25 Original)

**Aim**

8 The aims are to formulate and oversee the implementation of policies in respect of district governance and community building in Hong Kong, and to provide a business-friendly and effective regulatory regime in respect of various types of public entertainment venues.

**Brief Description**

9 The responsibilities of the Bureau under this programme are to:

- formulate and develop policy in respect of district governance; community building; building management; wills; appointment to advisory and statutory bodies; licensing of hotels, guesthouses, clubs and bedspace apartments; and design of postage stamps;
- oversee policy matters relating to the Chinese Temples Committee, the Board of Management of the Chinese Permanent Cemeteries and administration of trust funds for which the trustee is The Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs Incorporated (SHYAI) and managed by the Bureau; and management of the properties of SHYAI;
- oversee policy matters relating to gambling and implement measures to prevent and alleviate gambling-related problems;
- co-ordinate major celebration activities;
- undertake housekeeping functions for the Home Affairs Department;
- oversee the policy and resources allocation on community development work;
- oversee the policy on dissemination of government information and undertake housekeeping functions for the Information Services Department;
- provide secretariat support to the Community Care Fund;
- promote the development of social capital in Hong Kong by encouraging community involvement and cross-sectoral partnership through the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund (CIIF); and
- formulate and oversee policy on regulation of various types of public entertainment venues such as cinemas, amusement game centres and places with amusement rides.

10 The key performance measures in respect of district, community and public relations are:

**Indicators**

	2023 (Actual)	2024 (Actual)	2025 (Estimate)
data subjects and curriculum vitae in the Central Personality Index .....	44 745	45 941	47 181
statutory and charitable funds income (\$m) $\eta$ .....	107.3	83.7 $\Omega$	110.0 $@$
welfare and education grants from trust funds (\$m).....	29.6	26.0	41.0 $\Delta$
no. of clients who received counselling and treatment services provided by the treatment centres supported by the Ping Wo Fund .....	2 504	2 687	2 500

$\eta$  The actual and estimated income reflects the receipts from dividend, interest income, and the equity disposals made or planned to be made during the respective years.

$\Omega$  The decrease was mainly due to investment loss on disposal of equities, partly offset by the increase in interest income in 2024.

$@$  The estimated income has not taken into account any investment gain/loss on disposal of equities as there is currently no plan of equity disposal in 2025.

$\Delta$  The estimated figure is the maximum amount that could be disbursed in the year. The actual amount of payment would depend on the number of eligible applications received and the progress of individual approved projects.

**Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2025–26**

11 During 2025–26, the Bureau will continue to:

- work with the Betting and Lotteries Commission to ensure proper regulation of horse race betting, football betting and lotteries;
- conduct public education on gambling-related issues and provide counselling and treatment services for gamblers with gambling disorder and those affected by them; and
- oversee the implementation of community support programme for residents of new public rental housing estates through CIIF.

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### ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL PROVISION

	2023–24 (Actual) (\$m)	2024–25 (Original) (\$m)	2024–25 (Revised) (\$m)	2025–26 (Estimate) (\$m)
<b>Programme</b>				
(1) Director of Bureau’s Office .....	14.9	15.2	16.1	16.1
(2) Youth Development, Social Harmony and Civic Education.....	818.1	1,088.0	977.9	1,128.6
(3) District, Community and Public Relations .....	153.8	151.4	140.8	135.4
	986.8	1,254.6	1,134.8 (-9.5%)	1,280.1 (+12.8%)
				(or +2.0% on 2024–25 Original)

#### Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision

##### Programme (1)

Provision for 2025–26 is the same as the revised estimate for 2024–25.

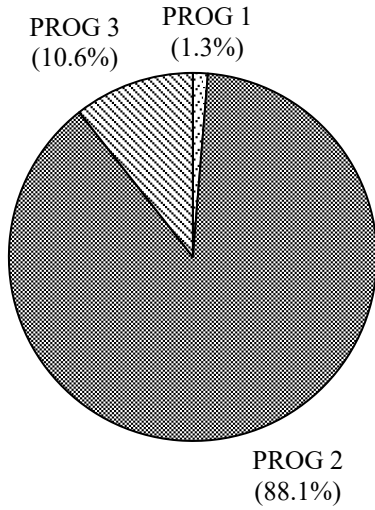
##### Programme (2)

Provision for 2025–26 is \$150.7 million (15.4%) higher than the revised estimate for 2024–25. This is mainly due to the increased provisions for youth development, women and family related initiatives and operating expenses, and the increased cash flow requirements for non-recurrent and capital account items. There will be a net increase of one post in 2025–26.

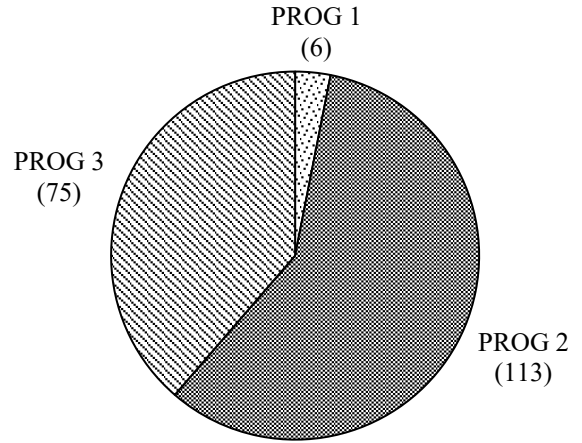
##### Programme (3)

Provision for 2025–26 is \$5.4 million (3.8%) lower than the revised estimate for 2024–25. This is mainly due to the decreased cash flow requirement for CIIF, partly offset by the increased provision for operating expenses.

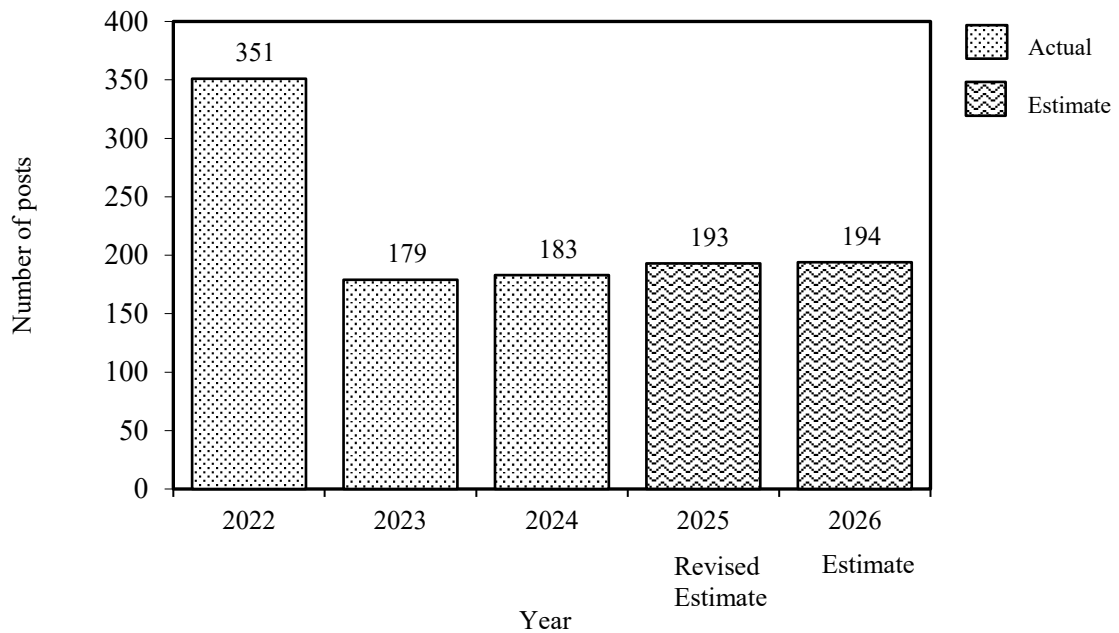
*Allocation of provision to programmes (2025-26)*



*Staff by programme (as at 31 March 2026)*



*Changes in the size of the establishment (as at 31 March)*



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Sub-head (Code)		Actual expenditure 2023–24	Approved estimate 2024–25	Revised estimate 2024–25	Estimate 2025–26
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Operating Account</b>					
Recurrent					
000	Operational expenses .....	769,539	922,587	878,497	<b>924,808</b>
003	Recoverable salaries and allowances (General)..... 10,661				
	<i>Deduct</i> reimbursements ..... <i>Cr. 10,661</i>	—	—	—	—
	Total, Recurrent.....	<u>769,539</u>	<u>922,587</u>	<u>878,497</u>	<u><b>924,808</b></u>
Non-Recurrent					
700	General non-recurrent .....	213,472	322,506	246,891	<b>343,967</b>
	Total, Non-Recurrent.....	<u>213,472</u>	<u>322,506</u>	<u>246,891</u>	<u><b>343,967</b></u>
	Total, Operating Account .....	<u>983,011</u>	<u>1,245,093</u>	<u>1,125,388</u>	<u><b>1,268,775</b></u>
<b>Capital Account</b>					
Plant, Equipment and Works					
661	Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote).....	—	1,968	1,880	<b>2,587</b>
	Total, Plant, Equipment and Works.....	<u>—</u>	<u>1,968</u>	<u>1,880</u>	<u><b>2,587</b></u>
Subventions					
88J	Youth Hostel Scheme (block vote) .....	3,829	7,503	7,493	<b>8,785</b>
	Total, Subventions .....	<u>3,829</u>	<u>7,503</u>	<u>7,493</u>	<u><b>8,785</b></u>
	Total, Capital Account.....	<u>3,829</u>	<u>9,471</u>	<u>9,373</u>	<u><b>11,372</b></u>
	Total Expenditure .....	<u><u>986,840</u></u>	<u><u>1,254,564</u></u>	<u><u>1,134,761</u></u>	<u><u><b>1,280,147</b></u></u>

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### Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2025–26 for the salaries and expenses of the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau is \$1,280,147,000. This represents an increase of \$145,386,000 over the revised estimate for 2024–25 and \$293,307,000 over the actual expenditure in 2023–24.

#### Operating Account

##### Recurrent

**2** Provision of \$924,808,000 under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is for the salaries, allowances and other operating expenses of the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau.

**3** The establishment as at 31 March 2025 will be 193 posts. It is expected that there will be a net increase of one post in 2025–26. Subject to certain conditions, the controlling officer may under delegated power create or delete non-directorate posts during 2025–26, but the notional annual mid-point salary value of all such posts must not exceed \$134,600,000.

**4** An analysis of the financial provision under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is as follows:

	2023–24 (Actual) (\$'000)	2024–25 (Original) (\$'000)	2024–25 (Revised) (\$'000)	2025–26 (Estimate) (\$'000)
Personal Emoluments				
- Salaries.....	115,476	131,522	126,945	137,071
- Allowances.....	4,613	4,930	4,606	4,606
- Job-related allowances.....	14	18	22	26
Personnel Related Expenses				
- Mandatory Provident Fund contribution.....	365	392	294	301
- Civil Service Provident Fund contribution.....	9,248	12,203	11,186	14,742
Departmental Expenses				
- General departmental expenses .....	127,157	176,126	167,448	184,445
Other Charges				
- Women's Commission related programmes .....	27,129	36,338	34,132	35,531
- International Youth Exchange Programme $\phi$ .....	670	—	—	—
- Family Council related programmes.....	15,437	23,375	18,586	26,827
- Promotion of civic education outside schools .....	22,570	23,758	23,758	23,282
- Youth Square .....	105,767	109,657	109,657	112,910
- Youth development activities $\phi$ .....	225,579	291,441	269,036	272,496
Subventions				
- Uniformed groups and other youth organisations $\S$ .....	115,514	112,827	112,827	112,571
	<u>769,539</u>	<u>922,587</u>	<u>878,497</u>	<u>924,808</u>

$\phi$  Provision for “International Youth Exchange Programme” has been subsumed under “Youth development activities” as from 2024–25.

$\S$  The Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps has become a youth uniformed group subvented by the Government Flying Service starting from 1 April 2024. Relevant provision was transferred to Head 166 — Government Flying Service as from 2024–25.

**5** Gross provision of \$10,661,000 under *Subhead 003 Recoverable salaries and allowances (General)* is for the salaries and allowances of the civil servants seconded to the Trust Funds and Temples Joint Secretariat (which serves as the secretarial and executive arms of the Chinese Temples Committee and eight Trust Fund Committees), and civil servants providing secretariat support to the Community Care Fund. The gross provision must not be exceeded without the prior approval of the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury. Expenditure under this subhead is to be reimbursed by the relevant organisations and the Trust Funds.



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### *Capital Account*

#### Plant, Equipment and Works

6 Provision of \$2,587,000 under *Subhead 661 Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)* represents an increase of \$707,000 (37.6%) over the revised estimate for 2024–25. This is mainly due to the increased cash flow requirement for procurement/replacement of plant and equipment.

#### Subventions

7 Provision of \$8,785,000 under *Subhead 88J Youth Hostel Scheme (block vote)* is for procurement of equipment each costing above \$200,000 but not exceeding \$10 million. The increase of \$1,292,000 (17.2%) over the revised estimate for 2024–25 is mainly due to the increased cash flow requirement for procurement of equipment.

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### Commitments

Sub-head (Code)	Item (Code)	Ambit	Approved commitment \$'000	Accumulated expenditure to 31.3.2024 \$'000	Revised estimated expenditure for 2024–25 \$'000	Balance \$'000
<b><i>Operating Account</i></b>						
700		<i>General non-recurrent</i>				
016		Community Investment and Inclusion Fund .....	800,000	608,011	70,000	121,989
808		International Youth Exchange Programme.....	100,000	36,738	24,000	39,262
824		Multi-faceted Excellence Scholarship.....	400,000	255,230	47,000	97,770
832		Youth Hostel Scheme – Subsidy Scheme for Using Hotels and Guesthouses as Youth Hostels.....	1,000,000	21,647	39,440	938,913
894		Youth Development Fund .....	900,000	164,697	66,451	668,852
		Total .....	<u>3,200,000</u>	<u>1,086,323</u>	<u>246,891</u>	<u>1,866,786</u>