

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

Controlling officers: expenditure under this Head will be accounted for as follows—

Secretary for Economic Services (Subheads 443, 429 and 955)
Secretary for Commerce and Industry (Subhead 444)
Commissioner for Innovation and Technology (Subheads 441, 533, 905 and 930)
Secretary for Education and Manpower (Subheads 520, 537, 871 and 976)
Secretary for Health and Welfare (Subheads 514 and 979)
Secretary for Home Affairs (Subheads 415, 459, 523, 524, 525, 916, 918, 942 and 973)
Director of Administration (Subhead 526)

Estimate 2001–02..... **\$33,263.4m**
Capital Account commitment balance..... **\$415.8m**

These subheads are listed below under their respective policy secretaries/controlling officers to reflect accountability.
Their presentation is in the order as above.

Controlling Officers' Reports and Analysis of Financial Provision

This Head provides for subventions to major public bodies which are supported financially by the Government.

Policy Area 5: Travel, Tourism and Consumer Protection

Secretary for Economic Services

Hong Kong Tourist Association (Subhead 443)

Programme

Subvention: Hong Kong Tourist Association, Consumer Council

Detail

	1999–2000 (Actual)	2000–01 (Approved)	2000–01 (Revised)	2001–02 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	548.7	532.5 (–3.0%)	514.6 (–3.4%)	504.4 (–2.0%)

Aim

2 The aim is to promote inbound tourism and maximise the socio-economic contribution that tourism makes to Hong Kong.

Brief Description

3 The Hong Kong Tourist Association (HKTA) is a statutory body established in 1957 under the Hong Kong Tourist Association Ordinance. The objectives of the HKTA are to:

- increase the number of visitors to Hong Kong;
- further develop Hong Kong as a tourist destination;
- promote the improvement of facilities for visitors;
- secure overseas publicity on tourist attractions of Hong Kong;
- co-ordinate the activities of persons providing services for visitors to Hong Kong; and
- make recommendations to the Government on measures which may further any of the foregoing matters.

4 It is expected that funds invested by the HKTA in promotional activities will help to stimulate the growth in the number of visitors to Hong Kong and maximise their spending.

5 The effectiveness of the performance of the HKTA cannot be assessed entirely in quantifiable terms. However, the statistics below help to illustrate the overall position and forecasts of the Hong Kong tourism industry.

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

Indicators

	1999 (Actual)	2000 (Estimate)	2001 (Estimate)
visitor arrivals (m)	11.3	13.1	14.1
increase on previous year (%)	+11.5#	+15.9	+7.6
tourism receipts (\$b).....	56.2	62.7	68.5
increase on previous year (%)	-3.8#	+11.6	+9.3
expenditure per capita visitor (\$)†	4,791	4,820	4,920
increase on previous year (%)	-13.6	+0.6	+2.1

† Spending by servicemen, aircrew and transit passengers are excluded

The 1998 figures had been revised to include non-Macanese visitors entering Hong Kong via Macau

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2001–02

6 During 2001–02, the HKTA will:

- implement the ‘City of Life : Hong Kong Is It!’ project together with the Tourism Commission, the Home Affairs Department, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and the District Councils;
- build Brand Hong Kong via the ‘City of Life’ campaign by injecting more life into the approach and reinforcing the destination image;
- continue to improve Hong Kong’s tourist friendliness through the ‘Be A Good Host’ campaign and the Quality Tourism Services Scheme;
- step up marketing efforts in the long-haul market to enhance the mystique and charm of Hong Kong’s unique culture and heritage;
- promote Hong Kong as the hottest and trendiest place in the short-haul markets ideal for a ‘recharging’ break;
- enhance awareness of Hong Kong as an incentive travel and corporate meetings destination;
- strengthen marketing partnership with the travel industry and non-trade businesses such as credit card companies to maximise the impacts of marketing efforts;
- use public relations creatively to capitalise on Hong Kong’s different appeals: such as shopping and dining, arts and culture, heritage and events, music and films, natural environment and islands, international business centre and transportation hub;
- continue to work on the theme of heritage tourism through publications of guide books and identification of sites with heritage tourism potential;
- change the icon and name of the HKTA and abolish the membership system; and
- establish new overseas representative offices to develop potential markets.

Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision

7 Provision for 2001–02 is \$10.2 million (2.0%) lower than the revised estimate for 2000–01. This is mainly due to the reduced operating expenditure in 2001–02 under the Enhanced Productivity Programme.

Consumer Council (Subheads 429 and 955)

Programme

Subvention: Hong Kong Tourist Association, Consumer Council

Detail

	1999–2000 (Actual)	2000–01 (Approved)	2000–01 (Revised)	2001–02 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	69.4	67.9 (-2.2%)	68.0 (+0.1%)	67.7 (-0.4%)

Aim

8 The aim is to protect and promote the interests of consumers of goods and services, and purchasers, mortgagors and lessees of immovable property in Hong Kong.

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

Brief Description

9 The Consumer Council is an independent body established by the Consumer Council Ordinance to discharge its functions by:

- collecting, receiving and disseminating information concerning goods, services and immovable property;
- examining complaints by and giving advice to consumers;
- tendering advice to the Government on ways to enhance consumer protection;
- conducting product tests and research; and
- encouraging business and professional associations to establish codes of practice to regulate the activities of their members.

10 The above activities are largely financed by government subvention on a discretionary basis.

11 In 2000, the targets were generally met.

12 The key performance measures in respect of protection and promotion of consumer interests are:

Targets

	Target time	1999 (Actual)	2000 (Actual)	2001 (Plan)
handling consumer enquiries				
telephone calls	immediate	immediate	immediate	immediate
in person.....	10 mins	10 mins	immediate to 10 mins	immediate to 10 mins
in writing				
issued reply (simple case).....	7 working days	7 working days	7 working days	7 working days
issued preliminary reply (complex case).....	5 working days	5 working days	5 working days	5 working days
issued reply (complex case).....	1–3 weeks	1–3 weeks	1–3 weeks	1–3 weeks
handling consumer complaints				
telephone calls	immediate	immediate	immediate	immediate
in writing				
issued acknowledgement.....	2 working days	2 working days	2 working days	2 working days
issued preliminary reply	7 working days	7 working days	7 working days	7 working days
notified complainants of results/progress.....	24 working days	24 working days	24 working days	24 working days
publication of 'CHOICE' and release of product testing, research and survey results	monthly	monthly	monthly	monthly

Indicators

	1999 (Actual)	2000 (Actual)	2001 (Estimate)
consumer complaints	16 470	18 932	18 000
consumer enquiries	127 777	111 317	120 000
product tests	37	38	38
consumer surveys	16	16	16
in-depth studies	53	52	52
response to consultation from the Government and other public bodies	15	22	18
consumer education programmes	150	150	170
press interviews and enquiries.....	5 000	5 100	5 200
circulation of publications	320 000	350 000	365 000
distribution of pamphlets	130 000	50 900#	60 000#

Fewer pamphlets are distributed because more information is made available at the website of the Council.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2001–02

13 During 2001–02, the Council will:

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

- strengthen consumer safeguards in the real and virtual marketplace, particularly in the area of electronic commerce;
- examine the feasibility of enhancing statutory consumer protection against trade malpractice and misleading advertisements;
- explore the feasibility of a proposal to empower the Council to institute legal proceedings, on behalf of consumers, on matters of crucial consumer interests;
- conduct researches and educate consumers on sustainable consumption and environmental protection;
- help to strengthen the growth of global consumer movements by stepping up exchanges with consumer organisations in other territories;
- work closely with the Legislative Council, the Government and other organisations on consumer policy matters, e.g. safety of consumer products, genetically modified food;
- work closely with the relevant government bureaux in promoting a competitive marketplace; and
- enhance the quality of consumer education programmes.

Analysis of Financial Provision

14 Provision for 2001–02 is \$0.3 million (0.4%) lower than the revised estimate for 2000–01. This is due to reduced operating expenses under the Enhanced Productivity Programme and a lower cashflow requirement for some capital projects, partly offset by salary increments for existing staff.

Policy Area 6: Commerce and Industry

Secretary for Commerce and Industry

Hong Kong Trade Development Council (Subhead 444)

Programme

Subvention: Hong Kong Trade Development Council

Detail

	1999–2000 (Actual)	2000–01 (Approved)	2000–01 (Revised)	2001–02 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	394.7	317.7 (–19.5%)	324.1 (+2.0%)	359.3 (+10.9%)

Aim

15 The aim is to promote Hong Kong's external trade, particularly exports.

Brief Description

16 The Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) is the statutory organisation promoting Hong Kong's external trade. With a global network of 47 offices in 30 countries and regions, HKTDC:

- creates business opportunities by helping international buyers and importers in the host countries to do business with Hong Kong traders and exporters as well as helping Hong Kong companies to penetrate markets in the host countries, through participation in trade events around the world and staging of international trade fairs in Hong Kong;
- facilitates trade through market intelligence, trade matching and e-commerce applications. HKTDC's self-developed Internet portal (tdctrade.com) provides a wide range of services facilitating the growth of e-commerce between Hong Kong and its global trading partners;
- promotes a positive image of Hong Kong as an international business hub and gateway to Mainland China through organisation of high-level business seminars and networking events overseas, supporting bilateral business committees and Hong Kong business associations in key markets, running international advertising campaigns and publishing an Internet-based business newspaper targeting corporate decision-makers around the world; and
- operates a Design Gallery to encourage design excellence and promote innovative Hong Kong products.

17 The key performance measures in respect of promoting Hong Kong's external trade are:

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

Indicators

	1999 (Actual)	2000 (Actual)	2001 (Estimate)
trade and services promotion			
events	342	329	311
companies participating	14 005	16 300	17 000
local fairs			
no. of overseas buyers	90 000	108 500	115 500
no. of fairs	22	19	19
trade enquiries			
no. of enquiries worldwide.....	705 768#	949 000	898 000
average no. of trade enquiries processed per minute.....	6.5	8.7	8.3
trade publications			
worldwide circulation (m).....	2.1	1.95	1.95
no. of advertisements	33 600	39 328	43 000
no. of issues	86	81	81

Full-year figure became available after the preparation of the 2000–01 Estimates.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2001–02

18 During 2001–02, HKTDC will:

- further promote the use of Internet technology and e-commerce applications by Hong Kong's small and medium enterprises (SMEs). HKTDC will provide leadership through Internet-based services on its portal site, in particular, the vertical portals tailor-made for different industries;
- enhance customer service through its dedicated customer service hotline and tailor-made services provided by the one-stop Customer Service Centre. HKTDC will offer an expanded business training programme for SMEs and a customised trade-matching service; and
- launch a full programme of activities to assist Hong Kong companies grasp the business opportunities and meet the challenges that come with China's imminent accession to the World Trade Organisation. Apart from promotions that aim to tap new business opportunities, establish business contacts and form strategic alliances, there will be practical seminars and workshops to familiarise SMEs with the implications of the accession.

Analysis of Financial Provision

19 According to the funding arrangement agreed between the Administration and the HKTDC, government subvention will be calculated by making reference to the net yields of declaration charge on domestic exports and imports collected in the preceding financial year.

20 Provision for 2001–02 is \$35.2 million (10.9%) higher than the revised estimate for 2000–01. This is due to the estimated increase in receivables from trade declaration charge on domestic exports and imports in 2000–01 and the estimated reduction in the collection cost as a result of improved efficiency in the collection process.

Commissioner for Innovation and Technology

Hong Kong Productivity Council (Subheads 441 and 905)

Programme

Subvention: Hong Kong Productivity Council, Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute

Detail

	1999–2000 (Actual)	2000–01 (Approved)	2000–01 (Revised)	2001–02 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	213.8	213.5 (–0.1%)	208.4 (–2.4%)	212.6 (+2.0%)

Aim

21 The aim is to increase efficiency and competitiveness by promoting productivity excellence through the provision of professional services to achieve a more effective utilisation of available resources and to enhance the value-added content of products and services.

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

Brief Description

22 The Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC) is the statutory organisation that encourages and facilitates the use of new technology and promotes better management and more effective operating practices. The work involves:

- providing information technology (IT) related consultancies and services, information services, and textile and apparel services;
- providing assistance to manufacturers and businesses in product design and development, and automation;
- providing manufacturing process improvement and technical support, as well as providing environmental management, chemistry and metallurgy, and manufacturing engineering support; and
- developing productivity systems and business strategies to assist the service industry with the trading sector as the initial focus and providing quality management, IT application and human resources consultancy services to all business sectors.

23 The subsidiaries of the HKPC, namely, the Design Innovation (HK) Limited and the Clothing Technology Demonstration Centre Company Limited, operate along commercial lines and endeavour to increase efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the sectors involved to meet market needs.

24 Provision of \$187.0 million under *Subhead 441* is to meet the cost of the delivery of a programme of support and services aimed at promoting and enhancing productivity of the industrial and service sectors under the Hong Kong Productivity Council Ordinance. It includes expenses for support services which are either inadequate or non-existent in the private sector and which are initially financially unrewarding.

25 Provision of \$25.6 million under *Subhead 905* is to cover the annual repayment to the Loan Fund for an interest-bearing loan obtained for the construction and fitting out of the HKPC Building in accordance with a schedule starting from 1991–92.

26 In 2000–01, the HKPC was successful in meeting the new and emerging needs of industry. An overall increase in demand for HKPC services will result in a 8.1% increase in fee income in 2001–02. Being a market driven organisation, the HKPC adopts the strategy of running down activities where there is little or no demand, redeploying resources to demand-led areas and privatising mature services.

27 The key performance measures are:

Indicators

	1999–2000 (Actual)	2000–01 (Estimate)	2001–02 (Estimate)
overall income/expenditure ratio (%).....	63.4	62.6	64.3
income from consultancy/technical assistance (\$m).....	152.5	185.3	188.3
income from training courses (\$m).....	50.9	45.7	57.2
income from exhibitions/study missions/conferences (\$m)	10.4	9.5	16.6
income from manufacturing support/process control (\$m)	16.8	15.5	24.8
no. of people who attended HKPC training courses	22 083	26 050	24 000
no. of people who attended HKPC exhibitions	200 000	240 000	240 000
no. of people who participated in HKPC study missions/conferences	4 200	2 435	4 500

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2001–02

28 During 2001–02, the HKPC will:

- promote total innovation by providing assistance to local industries through the introduction, transfer and development of effective material and process-related technologies, systems and standards;
- promote digitalisation and E-Enterprise by providing IT application services, advanced IT business solutions and training;
- promote continuous improvement in enterprises through the application of best management practices and continuous benchmarking;
- continue to support the small and medium enterprises by providing affordable customised business solutions and practical value-added business enhancement services, with a focus on 16 major sectors and the nurturing of new enterprises;
- strengthen services offered to Hong Kong enterprises with operations in the Mainland through collaboration with key Mainland academic and research institutes, government departments and leading technology companies; and
- conduct a review on its role, mission and activities in the light of the changing economic landscape of Hong Kong.

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

Analysis of Financial Provision

29 Provision for 2001–02 is \$4.2 million (2.0%) higher than the revised estimate for 2000–01. This is mainly due to the additional requirements to implement the Hong Kong Awards for Industry and the Hong Kong Awards for Services and the increase in training activities, partly offset by reduced staff cost and operating expenses under the Enhanced Productivity Programme.

Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute (Subheads 533 and 930)

Programme

Subvention: Hong Kong Productivity Council, Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute

Detail

	1999–2000 (Actual)	2000–01 (Approved)	2000–01 (Revised)	2001–02 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	—	65.2	15.2 (–76.7%)	94.2 (+519.7%)

Aim

30 The aim is to provide the midstream research capability for Hong Kong’s technological development.

Brief Description

31 The establishment of the Applied Science and Technology Research Institute (ASTRI) is one of the key recommendations of the Chief Executive’s Commission on Innovation and Technology headed by Professor Tien Chang-lin. ASTRI will be established as a statutory body. Pending enactment of the necessary legislation, a Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company Limited (ASTRI Co. Ltd.) was incorporated on 3 January 2000 under the Companies Ordinance to take forward the detailed planning for the development of ASTRI. ASTRI Co. Ltd. will dissolve on the day ASTRI is established by statute.

32 The missions of the ASTRI are to:

- perform relevant and high quality midstream research and development for transfer to industry;
- enhance Hong Kong’s technological human resources development;
- be a focal point for attracting outside research and development personnel to work in Hong Kong;
- act as a spawning ground for technology entrepreneurs;
- promote greater application of technology in industry; and
- provide a focal point for industry-university collaboration.

33 ASTRI will initially play a project management and co-ordination role by leveraging on the existing capabilities of research institutes and universities inside and outside Hong Kong. When its permanent building and facilities are available, ASTRI will assume a “full-fledged” role of both project management and performance of midstream research.

34 ASTRI Co. Ltd. has just commenced a consultancy study on the detailed planning for the establishment and development of ASTRI. The consultant will make recommendations on, inter alia, the research agenda of ASTRI as well as qualitative and quantitative indicators to measure the performance of ASTRI.

35 An institute of Chinese medicine named the “Hong Kong Jockey Club Institute of Chinese Medicine Limited” (HKJCICM Ltd.) will be set up as a subsidiary of ASTRI. The HKJCICM Ltd. will be a visible focal point for action and co-ordination in the pursuit of the vision for Hong Kong to become “a world centre for the development of health food and pharmaceuticals based on Chinese medicine”. The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust has pledged to donate \$500 million to fund the activities of the HKJCICM Ltd. ASTRI Co. Ltd. will provide premises and facilities to the HKJCICM Ltd. and fund its recurrent operating costs.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2001–02

36 During 2001–02, ASTRI Co. Ltd. will:

- recruit its key staff;
- finalise the detailed aspects on the development of ASTRI;
- determine ASTRI’s research programmes; and
- commence operation of ASTRI’s research programmes.

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

Analysis of Financial Provision

37 Provision for 2001–02 is \$79.0 million (519.7%) higher than the revised estimate for 2000–01. As ASTRI Co. Ltd. was still at its initial start-up stage throughout 2000–01, its operating expenditure for the year was at a low level. A provision of \$94.2 million is for full-year operational expenditure of ASTRI Co. Ltd. in 2001–02 when ASTRI's operation will be in full swing and the HKJCICM Ltd. will start its operation.

Policy Area 8: Employment

Secretary for Education and Manpower

Employees Retraining Board (Subhead 537)

Programme

Subvention: Employees Retraining Board

Detail

	1999–2000 (Actual)	2000–01 (Approved)	2000–01 (Revised)	2001–02 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	—	—	—	400.0

Aim

38 The aim is to provide retraining to eligible persons, enabling them to acquire new or enhanced vocational skills and adjust to changes in the employment market.

Brief Description

39 The Employees Retraining Board (ERB) is a statutory body established under the Employees Retraining Ordinance. The ERB is composed of 16 representatives from employers, employees, manpower and training/retraining professionals as well as government officials. The target trainees of ERB's full-time courses are primarily the unemployed who are aged 30 or above with no more than lower secondary education. With an Executive Office of some 50 staff, the ERB administers retraining programmes through a network of over 60 training bodies.

40 The ERB receives, from 2001–02 onwards, recurrent funding from the Government to allow it to have a stable source of funding to provide quality retraining. The new funding arrangement will be subject to a Memorandum of Understanding agreed with ERB, which sets out, among other things, key output and outcome performance indicators.

41 The key targets and indicators of this programme are:

	1999–2000 (Actual)	2000–01 (Estimate)	2001–02 (Plan)
Targets			
no. of retraining places			
regular full-time courses (other than tailor-made programmes organised for specific employers/trade associations).....	39 132	46 200	44 660
regular full-time tailor-made programmes	1 578	1 500	1 700
part-time courses	50 534	49 300	50 700
special programmes [^]	2 800	3 000	2 940
total.....	94 044	100 000	100 000
Indicators			
capacity utilisation rate (%).....	93	80	85
completion rate (%).....	90	80	80
placement rate of regular full-time placement-tied retraining courses (%)	75	75	70
placement rate of regular full-time placement-tied retraining courses in jobs relevant to training (%)@	N.A.#	N.A.#	60
placement rate of tailor-made retraining courses (%)	88	82	80
job retention rate after 6 months for all placements (%)†	N.A.#	N.A.#	70

[^] Special programmes include full-time pilot courses designed to test market demand, programmes specially designed for the elderly and people with disabilities, programmes for self-employment and those organised for employers under the Supplementary Labour Scheme.

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

- + This refers to the number of retrainees enrolled in courses as a percentage of the total number of training places offered.
- @ This refers to the number of placements in jobs related to the training courses as a percentage of the total number of placements.
- † Job retention rate refers to the number of retrainees still in employment (including those with the same employer as well as those who have changed jobs), as a percentage of the total number of retrainees placed in employment after completion of training.
- # Not applicable

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2001–02

42 During 2001–02, the ERB will:

- continue to enhance the quality of retraining through standardised courses and provision of multi-skills training;
- strengthen practical skills training with the introduction of common assessment and certification for retrainees;
- develop self-employment programmes and explore the possibility of setting up a self-employment business start-up fund;
- strengthen the monitoring of training bodies and the Employees Retraining Scheme as a whole; and
- conduct surveys on the job retention rates of retrainees for all tailor-made programmes and also for other placement-tied retraining courses on a sampling basis.

Analysis of Financial Provision

43 Provision of \$400.0 million is for the full-year recurrent grant to ERB in 2001–02.

Policy Area 8: Employment

Policy Area 16: Education

Secretary for Education and Manpower

Vocational Training Council (Subheads 520, 871 and 976)

Programmes

Programme (1) Subvention: Vocational Training Council—part

This programme contributes to Policy Area 8: Employment (Secretary for Education and Manpower).

Programme (2) Subvention: Vocational Training Council—part

This programme contributes to Policy Area 16: Education (Secretary for Education and Manpower).

Detail

Programme (1): Subvention : Vocational Training Council—part (Policy Area 8: Employment)

	1999–2000 (Actual)	2000–01 (Approved)	2000–01 (Revised)	2001–02 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	558.4	555.6 (–0.5%)	581.6 (+4.7%)	580.2 (–0.2%)

Aim

44 The aims are to:

- provide and operate a comprehensive system of vocational training to meet the needs of industry and commerce for trained manpower at operative, craft, technician and technologist levels; and
- promote and regulate the employment and training of apprentices and to administer the Apprenticeship Ordinance.

Brief Description

45 The Vocational Training Council (VTC) is responsible for this programme area. In discharging its statutory duties under the Vocational Training Council Ordinance, the Council is assisted by a complex of 19 training boards and five general committees. The training boards deal with training matters in the respective sectors while the general committees are responsible for training and development areas common to more than one economic sector.

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

46 In respect of industrial training activities which are conducted largely in the Council's training and development centres, the 23 training and development centres achieved their training hour target in the 1999/2000 academic year. The Council will continue to encourage employers, workers and young people to make use of the training opportunities available. As an on-going effort, the Council monitors closely the operation of the training and development centres, adjusts their training programmes as necessary to meet the changing needs of the economy and ensures that they are run most cost-effectively. In meeting the rising demand for information technology (IT) training and development services, the Council has initiated new activities in response to the market requirement. These initiatives include the setting up of e-learning portals to provide an online framework for course delivery and the establishment of the Hong Kong IT Skills Assessment Centre. The Council has revamped the basic craft courses since the 1999/2000 academic year for Secondary 3 school leavers to better meet the needs of industry and the aspiration of young people.

47 In the 1999/2000 academic year, a total of 1 578 basic craft course trainees completed training against an enrolment of 1 896 trainees, representing a completion rate of 83%. Of those completed training in the 1998/99 academic year, about 90% of those economically active obtained employment. In addition, 25% of those who completed training pursued further full-time study. Of those in employment, 87% were in jobs related to their training at the training centres.

48 The new Chinese Cuisine Training Institute was officially opened in December 2000. The Institute aims to provide systematic training and trade testing in the preparation of Chinese cuisine, and thereby help raise the standards of the local Chinese cuisine industry. The Institute has started to enrol trainees for its courses.

49 The Office of the Director of Apprenticeship is responsible for the legislative control of the employment of young persons under the age of 19 in trades specified as designated trades under the Apprenticeship Ordinance. The Office also advises on matters concerning the employment and training of apprentices registered under the Ordinance. Its major work involves:

- ensuring that persons under the age of 19 employed in designated trades are so employed in accordance with the Ordinance;
- advising and assisting employers in the employment and training of registered apprentices;
- ensuring that the training of registered apprentices is properly carried out;
- investigating complaints relating to breaches of registered contracts of apprenticeship and contraventions of the Ordinance;
- providing apprenticeship placement service to employers and job seekers; and
- co-operating with technical education institutions to ensure that registered apprentices receive the necessary complementary technical education.

50 During the 1999/2000 academic year, the Office of the Director of Apprenticeship achieved its overall performance targets in terms of the number of inspections of establishments employing registered apprentices and the number of inspections for each Inspector in carrying out the purposes of the Apprenticeship Ordinance, including detecting illegal employment of young persons in designated trades to ensure compliance with the Ordinance and ensuring that the training received by registered apprentices was properly carried out. The Office also provided free apprentice placement service to employers and job seekers. The apprenticeship system has been reviewed by a consultancy to ensure that it is meeting the needs of the economy. The Council is drawing up an implementation plan taking into account views of the training boards and other stakeholders.

51 The key targets and indicators of this programme are:

Targets and Indicators

	<i>Academic Year</i>		
	1999/2000 (Actual)	2000/01 (Revised Estimate)	2001/02 (Plan)
Industrial Training			
<i>Targets</i>			
no. of training places provided.....	64 636	70 125	71 989
no. of training hours provided.....	5 797 939	6 738 963	6 762 802
no. of graduate training places offered under Engineering Graduates Training Scheme (EGTS).....	284	270	270
no. of members joining VTC's Management Development Centre	517	545	580
no. of craft trades for which public trade testing is available from the VTC.....	32	17	18
job placement rate of full-time pre-employment courses (%).....	90#	90	90
<i>Indicators</i>			
completion rate for pre-employment courses (%).....	84	70	70
completion rate for in-service training courses (%).....	92	90	90

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

	<i>Academic Year</i>		
	1999/2000 (Actual)	2000/01 (Revised Estimate)	2001/02 (Plan)
no. of jobs for which information is collected in manpower surveys	1 236	1 250	1 250
no. of training schemes approved for EGTS	255	270	280
no. of firms participating in EGTS	140	145	150
Apprentice Training			
<i>Targets</i>			
no. of designated trades	43	45	45
no. of inspections of establishments employing registered apprentices	39 609	30 000	30 000
no. of inspections per inspector	1 317	1 100	1 100
<i>Indicators</i>			
no. of times advice given to employers on how to improve apprenticeship training	9 371	4 500	4 500
no. of apprentice training vacancies	1 827	3 000	3 000
no. of newly registered apprentices	2 474	2 800	2 800

Planned target. The actual rate for the 1998/99 academic year was 96% .

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2001–02

52 During 2001–02, the Council will:

- further develop its manpower assessment methodology based on enhanced labour market analysis so as to ensure the provision of adequate training to meet the changing needs of the economy;
- modernise the equipment in training and development centres to keep them abreast of the rapidly advancing technologies ;
- implement the agreed recommendations in the review on the apprenticeship system;
- complete the consultancy review of the trade testing and certification system to better satisfy the needs of industry;
- strengthen efforts in trade testing for certification of workers including those in the commerce and service sectors ;
- develop the newly-established Chinese Cuisine Training Institute into a regional centre of excellence in the provision of Chinese cuisine training and trade testing;
- set up a Vocational English Centre in conjunction with the Hong Kong Vocational English Programme during 2001 to improve the language skills of Hong Kong's workforce;
- further explore new requirement for training, especially in areas of e-business and e-learning;
- seek more collaborations with renowned vendors and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in development of advanced IT projects;
- continue efforts in participating in the Government's effort to enhance the employability and competitiveness of our workforce through participation in Youth Pre-employment Training Programme and Project Springboard, and provision of additional IT training places;
- set up and run an online framework for e-learning portals as alternative mode for delivering IT courses through the Internet;
- set up the Hong Kong IT Skills Assessment Centre to provide recognised skills assessments for IT users in Hong Kong including SMEs employees and IT practitioners;
- continue to dedicate resources in the area of research and development, training and promotion of management development with the guiding principles of speed to market, acceptability in the market place and best value to our customers; and
- to seek more collaborations with external consultants and management organisations to develop management development programmes for SME entrepreneurs.

Programme (2): Subvention: Vocational Training Council—part (Policy Area 16: Education)

	1999–2000 (Actual)	2000–01 (Approved)	2000–01 (Revised)	2001–02 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	1,579.8	1,631.1 (+3.2%)	1,528.8 (–6.3%)	1,546.9 (+1.2%)

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

Aim

53 The aim is to promote a comprehensive system of technical education in order to provide adequately prepared manpower at craft, technician and higher technician levels to meet the demands of a dynamic and highly competitive economy.

Brief Description

54 Technical education is provided in the nine campuses of the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (IVE). The IVE is responsible for the provision of full-time, part-time day and part-time evening courses at higher diploma, diploma, higher certificate, certificate and craft certificate levels to meet the needs of commerce and industry. It helps promote the image of vocational education and training as an attractive and viable alternative to traditional academic education.

55 Most new IVE Higher Diploma (HD) and Diploma (D) courses are classified into subject groups. Courses of the same subject group have a common year-1 curriculum. In the 1999/2000 academic year, full-time students following a common year-1 curriculum were registered in a subject group and were not associated with any particular course. However, in order to cater for students' preference for enrolment on discrete HD and D courses in the first year, full-time students except those on design HD and D courses have been admitted to distinct HD and D courses starting from the 2000/01 academic year. To cope with the expected increase in the use of the Internet in e-business, HD and D courses in Web-based Technology for Business, e-Enterprise and Management, and Global and Electronic Business Operation will be introduced in the 2000/01 and 2001/02 academic years. The planned places for the one-year full-time Foundation Diploma Course have been increased from 2 000 in the 1999/2000 academic year to 3 000 starting from the 2000/01 academic year to provide students who do not have sufficient Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination attainment with a progression ladder to apply for a HD or D course. At the post Secondary 3 level, starting from the 2000/01 academic year, two 2-year Certificate in Vocational Studies courses have been introduced, one in services stream and another in engineering stream providing 1 220 year-1 places for Secondary 3 school leavers.

56 The key performance measures in respect of this programme for IVE are enrolment, progression and placement rates:

Targets and Indicators

Achievements in the 1999/2000 academic year:

- IVE provided 105%, 83% and 96% of the planned training places for full-time, part-time day and part-time evening courses respectively;
- the average progression rates for final year students in full-time, part-time day and part-time evening courses were 86%, 76% and 91% respectively. For all students (in final year or not), the corresponding average progression rates were 84%, 69% and 73%; and
- the placement rates for economically active full-time course graduates were 96% for Higher Diploma courses, 88% for Diploma/Certificate courses and 60% for Craft Certificate courses.

Statistical indicators:

	<i>Academic Year</i>		
	1999/2000 (Actual)	2000/01 (Revised Estimate)	2001/02 (Plan)
All campuses of IVE			
full-time students	19 760	21 779	22 676
part-time day students	12 226	10 337	10 739
part-time evening students	24 568	24 658	24 632
	56 554	56 774	58 047
First year training places			
full-time higher technician level.....	2 310	2 604	2 721
full-time technician level.....	8 165	8 565	8 485
full-time craft level.....	1 640	1 420	1 380
part-time day.....	7 133	5 825#	5 725
part-time evening	11 851	11 514	13 409
	31 099	29 928	31 720
Job placement rate of graduates of IVE (%)			
full-time Higher Diploma course.....	96	97	97
full-time Diploma / Certificate course.....	88	90	90
full-time Craft Certificate course.....	60	75	75
Student-Teacher Ratio (STR)	19.1	19.0	19.3

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

The decrease is mainly due to the transfer of basic craft courses to the training and development centres (under programme 1 of the subvention to VTC) with effect from the 2000/01 academic year.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2001–02

57 During 2001–02, the Council will:

- make use of the new wing to the Shatin Campus to increase its capacity to offer Higher Diploma courses;
- continue to upgrade IVE's IT infrastructure in phases over three years to enable IVE to enhance its course delivery both in form and accessibility through on-line teaching and learning packages;
- promote the image of the IVE as a provider of quality vocational education in the region;
- set up a Centre for Traditional Chinese Medicine Manufacturing to support the implementation of a new Higher Diploma course commencing in 2000; and
- have a Quality Assurance and Audit Unit in place to strengthen the internal monitoring of the performance of VTC.

Analysis of Financial Provision

Programme	1999–2000 (Actual) (\$m)	2000–01 (Approved) (\$m)	2000–01 (Revised) (\$m)	2001–02 (Estimate) (\$m)
(1) Subvention: Vocational Training Council—part (Policy Area 8: Employment).....	558.4	555.6	581.6	580.2
(2) Subvention: Vocational Training Council—part (Policy Area 16: Education).....	1,579.8	1,631.1	1,528.8	1,546.9
	<u>2,138.2</u>	<u>2,186.7</u> (+2.3%)	<u>2,110.4</u> (–3.5%)	<u>2,127.1</u> (+0.8%)

Programme (1)

58 Provision for 2001–02 is \$1.4 million (0.2%) lower than the revised estimate for 2000–01. The decrease is mainly attributable to the downsizing of the apprentice inspectorate.

Programme (2)

59 Provision for 2001–02 is \$18.1 million (1.2%) higher than the revised estimate for 2000–01. The increase is mainly due to the provision of additional training places in the disciplines of computing, applied science and child care.

Policy Area 15: Health

Secretary for Health and Welfare

Hospital Authority (Subheads 514 and 979)

Programme

Subvention: Hospital Authority

Detail

Detail	1999–2000 (Actual) (\$m)	2000–01 (Approved) (\$m)	2000–01 (Revised) (\$m)	2001–02 (Estimate) (\$m)
<i>Subhead 514</i>				
Operating cost				
Personal emoluments	15,988.1	16,357.4	16,357.4	16,587.8
Staff on-costs	6,864.1	6,991.4	6,991.4	7,340.5
Other charges	5,407.6	5,612.3	5,612.3	5,533.8
Income	(912.7)	(931.5)	(973.7)	(951.7)
	<u>27,347.1</u>	<u>28,029.6</u>	<u>27,987.4</u>	<u>28,510.4</u>

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

	1999-2000 (Actual) (\$m)	2000-01 (Approved) (\$m)	2000-01 (Revised) (\$m)	2001-02 (Estimate) (\$m)
<i>Subhead 977</i> †				
Plant, vehicles and equipment.....	284.2	285.0	285.0	—
<i>Subhead 978</i> †				
Information systems	100.8	80.4	80.4	—
<i>Subhead 979</i> †				
Equipment and information systems	—	—	—	380.0
Financial provision.....	27,732.1	28,395.0 (+2.4%)	28,352.8 (-0.1%)	28,890.4 (+1.9%)

† Subheads 977 and 978 to be merged to form a new Subhead 979 in 2001-02.

Aim

60 The main aims of the Hospital Authority are to advise Government on the needs of the public for hospital services and resources required to meet those needs as well as to provide adequate, efficient and effective public hospital services of the highest standard recognised internationally within the resources available.

Brief Description

61 The Hospital Authority is a statutory body established on 1 December 1990 under the Hospital Authority Ordinance to manage all public hospitals in Hong Kong. The Authority, with about 50 000 staff (as at 31 December 2000), manages 44 public hospitals and institutions as well as 49 specialist out-patient clinics.

62 The Hospital Authority manages and develops the public hospital system in ways which are conducive to achieving the following objectives:

- to use hospital beds, staff, equipment and other resources efficiently to provide hospital services of the highest possible standard within the resources available;
- to improve the efficiency of hospital services by developing appropriate management structure, systems and performance measures;
- to encourage public participation in the operation of the public hospital system; and
- to ensure accountability to the public for the management and control of the public hospital system.

63 Since its establishment, the Hospital Authority has made the following progress in working towards the objectives:

- implementation of management reforms to establish clear lines of responsibility and accountability, and to provide individual hospitals with greater flexibility in setting their priorities to respond to local needs;
- development of hospital clustering and service networking to improve service quality and optimise utilisation of resources;
- implementation of quality improvement programmes, risk management systems and systematic clinical audit to enhance the quality of care; and
- introduction of an annual planning process to translate organisational mission into operational plans, and to demonstrate public accountability.

64 The Hospital Authority generally achieved its targets in 2000-01.

65 The key performance measures in respect of the Hospital Authority are:

Targets

	Target	As at 31 March 2000 (Actual)	As at 31 March 2001 (Estimate)	As at 31 March 2002 (Plan)
no. of hospital beds				
general.....	20 475	19 890	20 248	20 475§
infirmary.....	2 851	2 487#	2 555	2 851
mentally ill.....	4 896	5 340	5 274Ω	4 896§
mentally handicapped.....	800	800	800	800
total.....	29 022	28 517	28 877	29 022

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

	Target	As at 31 March 2000 (Actual)	As at 31 March 2001 (Estimate)	As at 31 March 2002 (Plan)
no. of psychiatric day places	679	639 ^β	639	679
no. of geriatric day places	527	527 [@]	527	527
average waiting time for first appointment at all specialist clinics [†]	5 weeks	9.6 weeks	5 weeks	5 weeks
average queuing time for consultation at specialist clinics	<60 mins.	<60 mins.	<60 mins.	<60 mins.
average waiting time for major elective surgery in General Surgery, Orthopaedics and Obstetrics and Gynaecology.....	<4 months	<5 months	<4 months	<4 months
accident & emergency % of cases within the target waiting time:				
Triage I (resuscitation cases - 0 minute).....	100%	100%	100%	100%
Triage II (emergency cases - <15 minutes).....	95%	94%	95%	95%
Triage III (urgent cases - <30 minutes).....	90%	87%	90%	90%
Triage IV (semi-urgent cases - <90 minutes).....	90%	90%	90%	90%
Triage V (non-urgent cases - <180 minutes).....	90%	98%	90%	90%

Including 120 infirmary beds funded from the Hospital Authority's productivity savings.

β Including 24 psychiatric day places funded from the Hospital Authority's productivity savings.

@ Including 32 geriatric day places funded from the Hospital Authority's productivity savings.

† Figure for 1999–2000 represents the estimated waiting time for clearing the waiting list for first appointment as at 31 March 2000. With information system available to capture the actual waiting time of attendances at specialist clinics, with effect from 2000–01 the actual median waiting time is used for the purpose of measuring compliance with the target.

§ Excluding 12 general beds and 412 psychiatric beds which will be closed upon conversion of Lai Chi Kok Hospital to provide long stay care services.

Ω 100 psychiatric beds have been deleted to rationalise the provision of psychiatric services.

Indicators

	1999–2000 (Actual)	2000–01 (Estimate)	2001–02 (Estimate)
total attendances at accident and emergency departments	2 407 118	2 410 000	2 434 000
general in-patient services			
no. of patient days [@]	6 560 035	6 686 200	6 838 900
no. of in-patients discharged	841 086	862 400	887 500
no. of day patients discharged.....	250 368	275 000	288 900
average bed occupancy rate (%) [@]	86.5	86.3	86.3
average length of stay (days) §	7.3	7.1	7.1
unplanned readmission rate for general inpatient services (%) [@]	7.0	7.2	7.2
mentally-ill in-patient services			
no. of patient days [@]	1 630 722	1 615 700	1 493 700
no. of patients discharged [@]	12 620	13 400	14 240
average bed occupancy rate (%) [@]	86.1	83.4	83.4
average length of stay (days)§	150.3	135.2	135.2
mentally-handicapped in-patient services			
no. of patient days [@]	257 089	257 800	257 800
no. of patients discharged [@]	536	520	520
average bed occupancy rate (%) [@]	87.8	88.3	88.3
average length of stay (days)§	347.1	298.6	298.6
out-patient services			
attendances at specialist out-patient clinics (including allied health attendances).....	7 982 514	8 046 000	8 140 200
attendances at general out-patient clinics	776 578	820 400	902 820
community services			
no. of community nurses.....	325	330	360
no. of home visits by community nurses.....	554 269	560 270	605 270

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

	1999–2000 (Actual)	2000–01 (Estimate)	2001–02 (Estimate)
attendances at psychiatric day hospitals	146 729	160 000	174 400
attendances at geriatric day hospitals	118 758	122 800	124 900
no. of community psychiatric nurses	79	85	90
no. of home visits by community psychiatric nurses	42 756	45 750	50 500
Community psychiatric team			
no. of outreach services attendances	6 607	8 420	15 310
Psychogeriatric team			
no. of outreach services attendances	30 408	29 900	30 200
Community geriatric assessment team			
no. of outreach services attendances	169 010	252 800	274 600
manpower (no. of staff as at 1st March)			
medical			
doctor	3 540	3 678	3 742
family medicine trainee	121	210	316
intern	314	334	334
dentist	4	4	4
medical total	3 979	4 226	4 396
nursing			
qualified staff	17 342	18 178	19 028
trainee	2 538	1 519	323
nursing total	19 880	19 697	19 351
allied health	4 379	4 434	4 492
others	21 970	21 606	21 097
total	50 208	49 963	49 336
unit cost†			
in-patient and day patient services per patient			
discharged (\$)	18,613	18,462	18,320
specialist out-patient services per attendance (\$)	638	636	645
community nursing services per visit (\$)	385	392	399
community psychiatric nursing services per visit (\$)	1,145	1,153	1,173
psychiatric day services per attendance (\$)	854	855	865
geriatric day services per attendance (\$)	1,463	1,439	1,451
cost per A&E attendance (\$)	588	598	613
provision of service per capita #			
overall discharges and deaths per 1 000 population	162	167	170
specialist out-patient attendances per 1 000 population			
(including allied health out-patient attendances)	1 171	1 165	1 164
accident and emergency attendances per 1 000 population	353	349	348

@ Including in-patients and day patients.

§ The sum of length of stay of in-patients divided by the corresponding number of in-patients discharged.

† Include administration overheads, depreciation and services provided by government departments.

Population includes usual, mobile residents, and visitors.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2001–02

66 During 2001–02, the Hospital Authority will:

- open 569 new beds and 40 day places;
- achieve 2% savings under the Enhanced Productivity Programme by deploying existing staff to open new hospital beds in Tai Po Hospital, United Christian Hospital, Kowloon Hospital Rehabilitation Building, Lai King Hospital and Tseung Kwan O Hospital, and enhancing community psychiatric services;
- employ additional personal care and ward supporting staff to assist the doctors, nurses, and other health care professionals in patient care;
- increase the number of family medicine trainees from 210 to 316;
- introduce family medicine practice in general out-patient services by implementing a pilot scheme in five general out-patient clinics;
- strengthen community psychiatric service, including increasing the number of community psychiatric teams from five to eight;
- assess 1 400 persons aged under 25 to identify for early treatment those suffering from psychotic problems;
- provide to an additional 2 500 patients new psychiatric drugs which improve the quality of life of the mentally ill;

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

- extend the existing coverage of the Community Geriatric Assessment Teams in the provision of geriatric care to older persons in private residential care homes to about 70%;
- implement a pilot scheme on Patient Transport Service to facilitate frail elderly patients living in the community to receive out-patient services;
- increase visits to and contacts with discharged patients through additional outreach community workers;
- facilitate 200 nurses to take up conversion courses in tertiary education institutions; and
- implement a special two-year minor works programme to enhance the repairs and maintenance of public hospitals.

Analysis of Financial Provision

67 To facilitate the Hospital Authority to better plan its service provision on a long-term basis in response to changing circumstances and patient needs and in line with the international trends of delivering health care through ambulatory and community care, the existing facility-based funding mechanism of the Hospital Authority will be replaced by a population-based funding mechanism. The new funding mechanism takes into account population increase and demographic changes, age-specific hospitalisation rates and age-specific average cost of treating each patient.

68 The provision for 2001–02 of \$28,890.4 million includes funding for salary increments for existing staff; maintenance of public hospitals transferred from Head 25 *Subhead 218* with effect from 2001–02; and additional funds for extended out-patient and outreach support for discharged mental patients, enhancing outreach support for discharged older patients, introduction of family medicine practice in general out-patient services, and creation of jobs to improve the quality of domestic services in hospitals and to enhance the care available to elders and the mentally ill in the community. The provision has also factored in general price decreases, reduced operating expenditure achieved under the Enhanced Productivity Programme, reduced remuneration upon implementation of the new civil service starting salaries with effect from 1 April 2000, and reduced provision for staff on-costs for new recruits under the revised funding arrangements put in place to ensure overall cost comparability between the Hospital Authority's remuneration package and that of the civil service as previously agreed between the Authority and the Government with effect from 1 April 1998.

Policy Area 18: Recreation, Culture, Amenities and Entertainment Licensing

Secretary for Home Affairs

Hong Kong Sports Development Board (Subhead 415)

Programme

Subvention: Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, Hong Kong Arts Development Council, Hong Kong Sports Development Board

Detail

	1999–2000 (Actual)	2000–01 (Approved)	2000–01 (Revised)	2001–02 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	200.0	195.2 (–2.4%)	195.2 (0.0%)	190.5 (–2.4%)

Aim

69 The aim is to enable the Hong Kong Sports Development Board (HKSDB) to promote and develop sport and physical recreation in Hong Kong in accordance with its mandate under the Hong Kong Sports Development Board Ordinance.

Brief Description

70 The objectives of the Board are to draw up and implement a clear and coherent plan for the development of sport and physical recreation; to advance the knowledge and practice of sport and physical recreation at all levels; to provide greater support for high performance sport; to conduct and support research and studies; and to enhance Hong Kong's position in the international sporting community.

71 The Board has successfully implemented its strategic plan for 1996–2000. A new five-year plan is being drawn up.

72 In 2000, the objectives were generally met.

73 The key performance measures are:

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

Targets

	Target	1999 (Actual)	2000 (Actual)	2001 (Plan)
no. of sports programmes organised	143†	458	424	143
no. of participants in sports programmes.....	9 375†	286 605	70 401	9 375

† Starting from 2001–02, the HKSDB will re-deploy resources previously provided for general sport and recreation activities which stimulate wider interest and participation to programmes aimed at the grooming of athletes, coaches, sports administrators and other professionals.

Indicators

	1999 (Actual)	2000 (Actual)	2001 (Estimate)
no. of National Sports Associations' staff and officials participating in coach and administration training programmes	1 715	1 555	1 600
no. of liaison meetings with National Sports Associations and major sports counterparts	751	770	800
no. of athletes participating in major Championships and Games	661	891	910
no. of subvented major international sports events held locally and international sports conferences.....	7	8#	9
income generated from donations and sponsorship (\$m)	10.03	10.92	10.80
no. of athletes under the elite training programme at the Hong Kong Sports Institute	247	244	251

Four of the events were partly funded by the Arts and Sport Development Fund.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2001–02

74 During 2001–02, the HKSDB will be involved in developing a strategic plan for sports development for the next five years. It will also continue to support the elite training programme at the Hong Kong Sports Institute, with emphasis on preparation for the 3rd East Asian Games and the 9th National Games of the PRC. Apart from the recurrent subvention to the HKSDB, grants from the Arts and Sport Development Fund will be used to support the Board's one-off initiatives.

Analysis of Financial Provision

75 Provision for 2001–02 is \$4.7 million (2.4%) lower than the revised estimate for 2000–01. This is due to reduced operating expenses under the Enhanced Productivity Programme and general price decreases.

Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (Subheads 459, 942 and 973)

Programme

Subvention: Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, Hong Kong Arts Development Council, Hong Kong Sports Development Board

Detail

	1999–2000 (Actual)	2000–01 (Approved)	2000–01 (Revised)	2001–02 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	195.0	190.4 (–2.4%)	190.4 (0.0%)	190.7 (+0.2%)

Aim

76 The aim is to enable the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (the Academy) to develop and promote professional artistic standards through the education and training of students for careers as professionals in performing arts.

Brief Description

77 Under the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts Ordinance, the objectives of the Academy are to foster and provide for training, education and research in the performing arts and related technical arts. Five different disciplines, namely Dance, Drama, Music, Technical Arts, and Film and Television, are taught. The core of the Academy's teaching programme is its full-time degree, diploma and certificate courses.

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

78 The revalidation of two programmes, Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) Degree in Film and Television and BFA Degree in Drama, as well as the institutional review scheduled for early 2001 will be conducted by the Hong Kong Council for Academic Accreditation (HKCAA).

79 The key performance measures are:

Indicators

	<i>Academic Year</i>		
	1999/2000 (Actual)	2000/01 (Estimate)	2001/02 (Estimate)
no. of Full-Time Equivalent students †	841	855	878
unit cost per Full-Time Equivalent student (\$).....	214,403	209,777	201,732
no. of graduates	344	311	354

† Six part-time students are equated to one full-time student.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2001–02

80 The bureau will continue to work closely with the Academy, the University Grants Committee and the HKCAA in setting the course for the Academy's future development by taking into account the recommendations of the 1996 consultancy study and that offered by the HKCAA on the validation/revalidation of its degree courses.

81 The HKCAA will carry out revalidation on the Academy's BFA Degree programme in Theatre Technical Arts in 2001–02.

Analysis of Financial Provision

82 Provision for 2001–02 is \$0.3 million (0.2%) higher than the revised estimate for 2000–01. This is mainly due to increased provision for the procurement of equipment, partly offset by general price decreases and reduced operating expenses under the Enhanced Productivity Programme.

Hong Kong Arts Development Council (Subhead 525)

Programme

Subvention: Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, Hong Kong Arts Development Council, Hong Kong Sports Development Board

Detail

	1999–2000 (Actual)	2000–01 (Approved)	2000–01 (Revised)	2001–02 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	113.4	104.6 (–7.8%)	104.6 (0.0%)	102.8 (–1.7%)

Aim

83 The aim is to enable the Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC) to promote and develop arts and culture in Hong Kong in accordance with the parameters of the Hong Kong Arts Development Council Ordinance.

Brief Description

84 The HKADC was established as an independent statutory body on 1 June 1995. The mission of the HKADC is to plan, promote and support the broad development of the arts in Hong Kong, including the literary, performing, visual and film arts, with a view to improving the quality of life of the whole community.

85 To enhance the effectiveness and efficiency in achieving its objectives, the HKADC has adopted a new two-tier structure since February 2000. The new structure enables the HKADC to undertake its work in a more focused and effective manner, bringing in a clear division of responsibilities between the different committees in proposing, decision-making and the monitoring of projects. Under the new structure, the HKADC will strive to expand its policy horizon, map out marketing strategies and spearhead more proactive projects that promote the arts.

86 On 1 July 2000, new Council Members of the HKADC assumed their responsibilities. With an increase in membership from 22 to 27, the new Council has brought in more expertise from different sectors in the community.

87 The key performance measures are:

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

Targets

- to achieve the key tasks and action steps set out in the new Three-Year Plan which will take effect from early 2001.

Indicators

	1999–2000 (Actual)	2000–01 (Estimate)	2001–02 (Estimate)
<i>General Support Grant/Three-Year Grant (GSG/3YG)†</i>			
no. of arts organisations receiving GSG/3YG.....	7	6	6
no. of audience outreached.....	747 827	497 900	497 900
<i>Project Grant@</i>			
total no. of applications processed.....	1 071	1 030	824
successful rate in applying (%).....	68.81	30.68	30.50
no. of arts audience outreached.....	1 630 550	700 000	556 000
<i>One-Year Grant</i>			
no. of audience outreached.....	667 989	723 950	730 000
<i>Overall Figures</i>			
no. of promotion programmes for arts education.....	691	600	700
no. of international cultural exchange activities.....	282	298	300
no. of pro-active projects#.....	46	47	48
no. of audience outreached through pro-active projects.....	1 219 801	900 000	1 000 000
<i>Information Centre (IC)§</i>			
no. of users in various ranges of IC services.....	8 308	9 200	7 200
no. of browsers of the HKADC Website.....	18 200	20 000	22 000
ratio between GSG/3YG, pro-active project and Project Grant.....	1.57:1.18:1.00	1.31:1.20:1.00	1.31:1.20:1.00

† From 2000–01 onwards, the figures exclude the Hong Kong Arts Festival Society as the funding responsibility has been transferred from the HKADC to the Home Affairs Bureau.

@ With the introduction of new types of grants under pro-active projects, the demand for Project Grant will continue to decrease. In addition, the successful rate drops as the HKADC adopts the policy to support projects that attain high artistic standards based on resources available.

Some of the pro-active projects have been merged to enhance effectiveness.

§ Includes inquiries/requests made by phone, mail, fax and e-mail.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2001–02

88 With the current Five-Year Strategic Plan to be completed in 2001, a new Three-Year Plan of HKADC is being drafted. During 2001–02, the HKADC will continue to:

- implement the broad range of action steps outlined in its Three-Year Plan for 2001–02 to 2003–04;
- vigorously pursue alternative, non-government sources of funding for the arts; and
- build a close partnership relationship with both the Government and non-government bodies.

89 In addition to recurrent subvention to the HKADC, a sum of up to \$40.0 million will continue to be provided from the Arts and Sport Development Fund to help the Council implement some of the initiatives in its strategic plan.

90 The HKADC will conduct an evaluation exercise on the performance of recipients of the existing Three-Year Grants which are going to expire in March 2002.

Analysis of Financial Provision

91 Provision for 2001–02 is \$1.8 million (1.7%) lower than the revised estimate for 2000–01. This is mainly due to general price decreases and restructuring of arts funding practices under the Enhanced Productivity Programme. The recurrent subvention is in addition to the \$30.0 million granted by the Government to the Arts Development Fund in 1993–94, of which \$13.7 million is expected to remain as at 31 March 2001, and the seed money of \$100.0 million granted by the Government to HKADC in 1994–95, of which \$44.6 million is expected to remain as at 31 March 2001.

Policy Area 19: District and Community Relations

Secretary for Home Affairs

Equal Opportunities Commission (Subheads 523 and 916)

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

Programme

Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission, Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Detail

	1999–2000 (Actual)	2000–01 (Approved)	2000–01 (Revised)	2001–02 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	96.8	83.4 (–13.8%)	83.6 (+0.2%)	80.5 (–3.7%)

Aim

92 The aim is to oversee the implementation of the Sex Discrimination Ordinance (SDO), the Disability Discrimination Ordinance (DDO) and the Family Status Discrimination Ordinance (FSDO) which prohibit discrimination on the grounds of sex, marital status, pregnancy, disability and family status.

Brief Description

93 The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) is an independent statutory body established in 1996 under the SDO to oversee the implementation of the SDO, the DDO and the FSDO. The main functions of the EOC are to:

- work towards the elimination of discrimination on the grounds of sex, marital status, pregnancy, disability and family status;
- promote equality of opportunities between men and women, between persons with a disability and persons without a disability, and irrespective of family status;
- work towards the elimination of sexual harassment, and harassment and vilification on the grounds of disability;
- conduct investigation into complaints lodged under the SDO, the DDO and the FSDO and encourage conciliation between the parties in dispute;
- take action on other complaints including discriminatory advertisements and cases outside Section 84 of the SDO, Section 80 of the DDO and Section 62 of the FSDO;
- develop and issue codes of practice under the SDO, the DDO and the FSDO;
- keep under review the workings of the SDO, the DDO and the FSDO and when necessary, draw up proposals for amendments; and
- conduct research on issues relevant to discrimination and equal opportunities.

94 The EOC commenced full operation on 20 September 1996. The performance targets and indicators are as follows:

Targets

	Target (% of cases)	1999 (Actual)	2000 (Actual)	2001 (Plan)
interview a walk-in enquirer within 30 minutes	95	100	100	95
reply to written enquiries on simple issues within 5 working days	95	100	100	95
reply to written enquiries on complex issues within 14 working days	95	98	96	95
conclude a complaint case within 6 months	75	72	78	75

Indicators

	1999 (Actual)	2000 (Actual)	2001 (Estimate)
enquiries	7 111	187 059 [⊙]	196 410
complaints for investigation/conciliation [†]			
complaints received			
under SDO	213	323	420
DDO	192	339	441
FSDO	28	24	24
complaints handled			
under SDO	271	427	603
DDO	307	451	644

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

	1999 (Actual)	2000 (Actual)	2001 (Estimate)
FSDO.....	35	37	44
complaints under investigation/conciliation			
under SDO.....	103	183	238
DDO.....	111	203	264
FSDO.....	13	20	20
complaints where legal assistance was granted			
under SDO.....	4	13	N.A.§
DDO.....	6	5	N.A.§
FSDO.....	—	1	N.A.§
complaints taken to court			
under SDO.....	2	2	N.A.§
DDO.....	4	1	N.A.§
FSDO.....	—	—	N.A.§
complaints for follow-up action‡			
no. of cases processed.....	136	74	74
no. of cases resolved.....	93	40	40
no. of cases taken to court.....	—	—	N.A.§
promotional activities			
talks/workshops/seminars (audience).....	340(38 000)	407(54 400)@	407(54 400)@
public consultation meetings on codes of practice.....	—	7	8
copies of codes of practice issued.....	75 000	12 000¶	105 000

© Starting from 2000, this figure includes visits to the EOC's website and calls to Interactive Voice Response System in addition to enquiries from hotline.

‡ Complaints lodged under Section 84, Section 80 and Section 62 of SDO, DDO and FSDO respectively.

§ Not applicable

‡ This refers to investigations and actions on complaints other than those referred to under ‡.

@ This included drama performances in schools.

¶ The number of copies issued was less than the estimate made for 2000, as the new Code of Practice on Education under the DDO was not yet ready in 2000.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2001–02

95 During 2001–02, the Commission will pay special attention to:

- combating systemic discrimination by looking at established practices in different fields;
- issuing and promoting a Code of Practice on Education under the Disability Discrimination Ordinance;
- looking into how new technologies impact on the livelihood and integration of persons with disabilities and other disadvantaged groups in society;
- promoting understanding and acceptance of persons with mental illnesses;
- promoting the mainstreaming of equal opportunities into the policy-making procedures;
- looking into how the principle of equal pay for work of equal value can be implemented in Hong Kong; and
- building a closer partnership with business to promote a positive culture of equal opportunities.

Analysis of Financial Provision

96 Provision for 2001–02 is \$3.1 million (3.7%) lower than the revised estimate for 2000–01. This is mainly due to the reduced operating expenses under the Enhanced Productivity Programme and reduced cashflow requirements for capital projects.

Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (Subheads 524 and 918)

Programme

Subvention: Equal Opportunities Commission, Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data

Detail

	1999–2000 (Actual)	2000–01 (Approved)	2000–01 (Revised)	2001–02 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	41.2	38.9 (–5.6%)	39.3 (+1.0%)	37.9 (–3.6%)

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

Aim

97 The aim is to protect the individual's privacy with respect to personal data.

Brief Description

98 The Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data (the Privacy Commissioner) is an independent statutory authority established in 1996 under the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance. The Privacy Commissioner has the following key functions and powers to:

- monitor and supervise compliance with the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance;
- approve and issue codes of practice giving practical guidance for compliance with the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance;
- promote awareness and understanding of the provisions of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance;
- carry out inspections of personal data systems, including those of government departments and statutory corporations; and
- investigate, upon complaints from data subjects or on the Commissioner's own initiative, suspected breaches of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance.

99 The Privacy Commissioner's Office commenced operation on 20 December 1996. The performance targets and indicators of the Privacy Commissioner's Office are as follows:

Targets

	Target (% of cases)	1999 (Actual)	2000 (Actual)	2001 (Plan)
handling public complaints				
acknowledgement of a complaint				
within 2 working days of receipt...	95	97	97	95
closing a complaint within 180 days				
of receipt	85	94	93	85
handling public enquiries				
callback to a telephone enquiry				
within 2 working days of receipt...	95	99	99	95
acknowledgement of a written				
enquiry within 2 working days of				
receipt	95	98	99	95
substantive reply to a written				
enquiry within 28 working days				
of receipt	85	90	89	85

Indicators

	1999 (Actual)	2000 (Actual)	2001 (Estimate)
public enquiries received.....	15 243	19 332	20 000
complaints received.....	541	692	720
complaints brought forward	52	112	128
cases of complaints for disposal (a)	593	804	848
investigations completed (b).....	481	676	700
investigations in process (a)-(b).....	112	128	148
matching procedure consent applications	24	13	10

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2001-02

100 During 2001-02, the Privacy Commissioner will:

- carry out a public opinion survey on attitudes towards the protection of personal data privacy among individuals and organisations;
- organise 100 public and in-house seminars to promote understanding of and compliance with the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance;
- conduct a major overhaul of the Privacy Commissioner's Office website;
- revise existing guidance materials on the protection of personal data on the Internet to include matters related to electronic commerce;
- develop and publish an "Aid to the Interpretation of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance"; and

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

- prepare a draft Code of Practice on Surveillance in the Workplace.

Analysis of Financial Provision

101 Provision for 2001–02 is \$1.4 million (3.6%) lower than the revised estimate for 2000–01. This is mainly due to the decrease in provision required for staff gratuity payment and reduced operating expenses under the Enhanced Productivity Programme.

Policy Area 20: Legal Aid

Director of Administration

Legal Aid Services Council (Subhead 526)

Programme

Subvention: Legal Aid Services Council

Detail

	1999–2000 (Actual)	2000–01 (Approved)	2000–01 (Revised)	2001–02 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	5.3	5.5 (+3.8%)	5.5 (0.0%)	5.4 (–1.8%)

Aim

102 The aim is to enable the Legal Aid Services Council (LASC) to carry out its statutory duties of overseeing the provision of legal aid services by the Legal Aid Department (LAD) and advising the Chief Executive on legal aid policy.

Brief Description

103 The LASC Ordinance, enacted in May 1996, provides for the establishment of an independent LASC. The LASC, formally established in September 1996, comprises a chairman and eight other members, with the Director of Legal Aid as an *ex-officio* member. The main functions of the LASC are to oversee the provision of legal aid services by the LAD, and to advise the Chief Executive on legal aid policy. In discharging its statutory duties, the LASC may:

- formulate policies governing the provision of services by the LAD and give advice on its policy direction;
- review the work of the LAD and make arrangements for the efficient and economical discharge of its functions and its provision of legal aid services;
- keep under review the services provided by the LAD and its plans for development;
- consider and advise on the estimates of expenditure of the LAD;
- advise on the eligibility criteria, scope of services, mode of service delivery, future plans for improvements, funding requirements and future development of legal aid policy;
- advise on the feasibility and desirability of the establishment of an independent legal aid authority; and
- advise on any other aspect of legal aid which the Chief Executive may refer to the LASC.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2001–02

104 During 2001–02, the LASC will:

- continue reviewing the various components of legal aid services provided by the LAD; and
- help increase public awareness of legal aid and obtain customers' feedback on legal aid.

Analysis of Financial Provision

105 Provision for 2001–02 is \$0.1 million (1.8%) lower than the revised estimate for 2000–01. This is mainly due to savings in operating expenses under the Enhanced Productivity Programme, partly offset by salary increments for existing staff.

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

Sub-head (Code)	Actual expenditure 1999–2000	Approved estimate 2000–01	Revised estimate 2000–01	Estimate 2001–02	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Recurrent Account					
V — Subventions					
415	Hong Kong Sports Development Board	200,000	195,190	195,190	190,487
429	Consumer Council.....	68,113	67,055	67,055	66,995
441	Hong Kong Productivity Council.....	186,781	188,081	182,315	186,955
443	Hong Kong Tourist Association.....	536,795	532,547	514,575	504,361
444	Hong Kong Trade Development Council	394,712	317,695	324,061	359,347
459	Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts	180,313	179,359	179,359	177,121
514	Hospital Authority	27,347,127	28,029,554	27,987,410	28,510,431
520	Vocational Training Council.....	2,115,677	2,154,845	2,039,145	2,014,159
523	Equal Opportunities Commission.....	94,137	82,220	82,220	79,440
524	Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data.....	39,970	36,209	36,209	34,901
525	Hong Kong Arts Development Council.....	113,427	104,558	104,558	102,755
526	Legal Aid Services Council.....	5,262	5,514	5,514	5,410
533	Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute	—	65,217	9,196	93,210
537	Employees Retraining Board	—	—	—	400,000
	Total, Subventions	31,282,314	31,958,044	31,726,807	32,725,572
	Total, Recurrent Account	31,282,314	31,958,044	31,726,807	32,725,572
Capital Account					
III — Subventions					
871	Vocational Training Council.....	3,563	12,892	52,210	83,978
905	Hong Kong Productivity Council.....	26,991	25,459	26,129	25,648
916	Equal Opportunities Commission.....	2,688	1,217	1,379	1,054
918	Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data.....	1,200	2,718	3,100	2,968
930	Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute	—	—	6,000	1,000
942	Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts	2,194	221	221	3,000
955	Consumer Council.....	1,295	877	963	662
973	Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts— minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote).....	12,447	10,857	10,857	10,559
976	Vocational Training Council (block vote).....	19,000	19,000	19,000	29,000
979	Hospital Authority—equipment and information systems (block vote).....	—	—	—	380,000
	Hong Kong Tourist Association.....	11,922	—	—	—
	Hospital Authority—plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote).....	284,199	285,000	285,000	—
	Hospital Authority—information systems (block vote).....	100,801	80,424	80,424	—
	Total, Subventions	466,300	438,665	485,283	537,869
	Total, Capital Account.....	466,300	438,665	485,283	537,869
	Total Expenditure	31,748,614	32,396,709	32,212,090	33,263,441

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2001–02 for subventing various major public bodies in Hong Kong which are supported financially by the Government is \$33,263,441,000 comprising both recurrent and capital subventions. This represents an increase of \$1,051,351,000 over the revised estimate for 2000–01 and of \$1,514,827,000 over actual expenditure in 1999–2000. Details of expenditure in respect of subheads where there are significant increases or decreases in provision are described hereunder.

Recurrent Account

Subventions

2 Provision of \$359,347,000 under *Subhead 444 Hong Kong Trade Development Council* is for the recurrent grant to the Council. It represents an increase of \$35,286,000 (10.9%) over the revised estimate for 2000–01. This is due to the estimated increase in receivables from trade declaration charge on domestic exports and imports in 2000–01 and the estimated reduction in the collection cost as a result of improved efficiency in the collection process.

3 Provision of \$28,510,431,000 under *Subhead 514 Hospital Authority* is for the recurrent grant to the Hospital Authority. It represents an increase of \$523,021,000 (1.9%) over the revised estimate for 2000–01. This is mainly due to additional provision under a population-based funding mechanism, provision for salary increments for existing staff, extension of outreach support for discharged mental patients, introduction of family medicine practice in general out-patient services, improvement of the quality of domestic service in hospitals and enhancement of the care available to elders and discharged mental patients, and transfer of maintenance provision for public hospitals from Head 25 *Subhead 218*. It is partly offset by general price decreases, reduced operating expenditure achieved under the Enhanced Productivity Programme, reduced remuneration upon implementation of the new civil service starting salaries, and reduced on-costs provision for new recruits under the revised funding arrangements agreed between the Authority and the Government.

4 Provision of \$2,014,159,000 under *Subhead 520 Vocational Training Council* is for the recurrent grant to the Council. The provision includes an estimated sum of \$39,156,000 for the salaries and allowances of civil servants working for the Council which will be credited to Head 40—Education Department *Subhead 003 Recoverable salaries and allowances (Vocational Training Council)* and General Revenue; \$19,461,000 for on-costs for civil servants working in VTC which will be paid into General Revenue and \$8,512,000 for pension for staff on mixed service pension terms; and \$1,947,030,000 for the salaries and allowances of staff employed by the Council and other expenses.

5 Provision of \$79,440,000 under *Subhead 523 Equal Opportunities Commission* is for the recurrent grant to the Commission. It represents a decrease of \$2,780,000 (3.4%) against the revised estimate for 2000–01 and is mainly due to the reduced operating expenses under the Enhanced Productivity Programme.

6 Provision of \$34,901,000 under *Subhead 524 Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data* is for the recurrent grant to the Privacy Commissioner's Office. It represents a decrease of \$1,308,000 (3.6%) against the revised estimate for 2000–01 and is mainly due to the decrease in provision required for staff gratuity payment and reduced operating expenses under the Enhanced Productivity Programme.

7 Provision of \$93,210,000 under *Subhead 533 Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute* is for the recurrent grant to the ASTRI Co. Ltd. It represents an increase of \$84,014,000 (913.6%) over the revised estimate for 2000–01. As ASTRI Co. Ltd. was still at its initial start-up stage throughout 2000–01, its operating expenditure for the year was at a low level. A provision of \$93,210,000 is for full-year operational expenditure of ASTRI Co. Ltd. in 2001–02 when ASTRI's operation will be in full swing and the HKJCICM Ltd. will start its operation.

Capital Account

Subventions

8 Provision of \$10,559,000 under *Subhead 973 Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts—minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)* is for new equipment and minor modification/renovation works costing above \$100,000 but not exceeding \$2,000,000 for each item.

9 Provision of \$29,000,000 under *Subhead 976 Vocational Training Council (block vote)* is for replacement and additional furniture and equipment for existing teaching and training venues requiring a subsidy of not more than \$2,000,000 each. The increase of \$10,000,000 (52.6%) over the revised estimate for 2000–01 is mainly due to increase in requirement for modernising the training equipment in VTC's training and development centres to ensure that the training provided can keep abreast of technological advancement.

10 Provision of \$380,000,000 under *Subhead 979 Hospital Authority—equipment and information systems (block vote)* is to cover expenditure on all equipment items and computerisation projects costing over \$100,000 each. This new block vote is created by merging *Subhead 977 Hospital Authority—plant, vehicles and equipment* and *Subhead 978 Hospital Authority—information systems* to provide greater flexibility to the Hospital Authority in its acquisition of equipment and information systems development.

Head 177 — SUBVENTIONS: NON-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC BODIES

Capital Account

Commitments

Sub-head (Code)	Item (Code)	Ambit	Approved commitment	Accumulated expenditure to 31.3.2000	Revised estimated expenditure for 2000-01	Balance
			\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
871		<i>Vocational Training Council</i>				
	118	Improving information technology infrastructure in the Vocational Training Council.....	31,967	30,026	1,887	54
	134	Modernisation of training equipment in VTC's training centres	10,000	—	5,000	5,000
	137	Pilot IT training for school leavers and the unemployed.....	5,000	758	2,518	1,724
	138	Enhancement of information technology infrastructure and services.....	176,900	—	36,800	140,100
	144	Establishment of a Centre for Traditional Chinese Medicine Manufacturing.....	5,500	—	—	5,500
			<u>229,367</u>	<u>30,784</u>	<u>46,205</u>	<u>152,378</u>
905		<i>Hong Kong Productivity Council</i>				
	047	Repayment of loan to the Loan Fund.....	548,690	268,634	26,129	253,927
916		<i>Equal Opportunities Commission</i>				
	145	Research and educational projects on equal pay for work of equal value.....	2,000	—	92	1,908
918		<i>Office of the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data</i>				
	113	Consultancy for development of a methodology for inspection of personal data systems	3,800	1,682	—	2,118
	143	Development and publishing of official legal reference to the interpretation of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance.....	850	—	—	850
			<u>4,650</u>	<u>1,682</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>2,968</u>
930		<i>Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute</i>				
	139	Consultancy study for the detailed planning for ASTRI.....	7,000	—	6,000	1,000
942		<i>Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts</i>				
	140	Provision of a computer server storage system.....	3,000	—	—	3,000
955		<i>Consumer Council</i>				
	091	Rental for office accommodation.....	1,986	1,671	253	62
	127	Equipment and Networking System for the Consumer Education Information Centre	810	—	210	600
			<u>2,796</u>	<u>1,671</u>	<u>463</u>	<u>662</u>
		Total.....	<u>797,503</u>	<u>302,771</u>	<u>78,889</u>	<u>415,843</u>