Controlling officer: the Director of Fire Services will account for expenditure under this Head.

Estimate 2004–05	\$3,078.7m
Establishment ceiling 2004–05 (notional annual mid-point salary value) representing an estimated 9 339 non-directorate posts as at 31 March 2004 reducing by 97 posts to 9 242 posts as at 31 March 2005	\$2,394.5m
In addition there will be an estimated 18 directorate posts as at 31 March 2004 and as at 31 March 2005.	
Commitment balance	\$168.6m

Controlling Officer's Report

Programmes

Programme (1) Fire Service Programme (2) Fire Protection and Prevention Programme (3) Ambulance Service		programmes con (Secretary for Se		y Area 9: Internal
Detail				
Programme (1): Fire Service				
	2002–03 (Actual)	2003–04 (Original)	2003–04 (Revised)	2004–05 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	2,093.2	2,088.1	2,050.4 (-1.8%)	2,027.5 (-1.1%)
				(or -2.9% on 2003-04 Original)

Aim

2 The aim is to extinguish fires, to protect life and property in case of fire or other calamity and to carry out fire hazard abatement action.

Brief Description

3 Through the strategic deployment of properly trained staff, equipment and appliances within each Command area, effective fire fighting and rescue services are maintained to respond to emergency calls expeditiously and efficiently in order to protect lives and properties in these incidents. The department will continue to take action to abate imminent fire hazard and promote public awareness of fire safety. This work involves mainly:

- providing an efficient and effective fire service to the community;
- ensuring that all fire fighting and rescue units are in an immediate state of readiness to respond to emergency calls at all times;
- providing refresher and tactical training to all service staff to ensure that performance is maintained at the highest possible standard;
- ensuring that fire safety regulations are being observed by the public; and
- advising on and responding to fire safety issues in District Councils and District Fire Safety Committees and organising fire safety publicity activities as part of the efforts to strengthen community involvement in the fight against fire.
- **4** The performance targets set for 2003 under this programme were achieved.
- **5** The key performance measures in respect of the provision of fire service are:

Targets

	Target	2002 (Actual)	2003 (Actual)	2004 (Plan)
% of total fire calls in buildings met within graded response time	92.5	93.9	94.2	92.5
response time of six minutes for built-up areas	92.0	93.2	93.6	92.0
risk/isolated developments	94.5	98.5	97.5	95.0
 % of comparison infinite in the initial distribution in the initial distrebution in the initial distrebut	100	100	100	100
and operational visits attended	100	100	100	100
Indicators				
		2002 (Actual)	2003 (Actual)	2004 (Estimate)
all fire calls building fire calls in built-up areas building fire calls in more dispersed risk/ise		41 204 30 421	37 774 27 069	38 000 27 000
developments special service calls total number of emergency vehicles responding to		4 800 20 413	4 475 19 918	4 500 20 000
(emergency turnouts) complaints of imminent fire hazards received Fire Hazard Abatement Notices issued in respect		164 536 4 720	148 450 4 265	150 000 4 300
obstructions to means of escape and locked ex prosecutions instituted	its	779 39	540 49	560 50

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2004–05

- 6 During 2004–05, the department will:
- endeavour to deploy flexibly its resources to achieve at least 92.5% of fire calls in buildings met within graded response time;
- commission new fire stations at Braemar Hill and Penny's Bay;
- continue to monitor the progress of the construction of a new Rescue Training Centre at West Kowloon Reclamation;
- commission a new mobilising system to replace the existing one with a view to enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency in the mobilisation of fire fighting and ambulance resources;
- introduce the First Responder Programme to 64 fire stations with fire fighters specially trained to provide basic life support services for casualties/patients before the arrival of ambulances; and
- commission a replacement major fireboat to enhance fire fighting and rescue capabilities in coastal waters.

Programme (2): Fire Protection and Prevention

	2002–03 (Actual)	2003–04 (Original)	2003–04 (Revised)	2004–05 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	256.4	244.0	240.9 (-1.3%)	234.6 (-2.6%)
				(or -3.9% on 2003–04 Original)

Aim

7 The aim is to reduce fire hazards in the community and to ensure that appropriate fire protection measures are provided in buildings/premises according to their intended use(s).

Brief Description

8 The two Fire Protection Commands are responsible for the control of dangerous goods and timber stores, abatement of fire hazards in general, registration of fire service installation (FSI) contractors, formulation and inspection of fire safety measures in buildings, and upgrading of fire safety standards in prescribed commercial premises, specified commercial buildings and composite buildings. They also advise relevant statutory authorities and the public on fire protection/prevention and promote public awareness of fire safety. This work involves mainly:

- licensing storage/manufacture of Categories 2 (other than liquefied petroleum gas (LPG)) to 10 dangerous goods, storage of timber and vehicles for conveyance of Categories 2 (other than LPG) and 5 dangerous goods;
- investigation of complaints about dangerous goods (other than LPG) and fire hazards and initiating law enforcement action;
- registration of FSI contractors;
- vetting and certification of building plans in respect of provision of FSIs and equipment;
- ensuring the provision and proper maintenance of FSIs and equipment in buildings;
- vetting and approval of portable fire fighting equipment;
- inspection of fire safety in schools, child care centres, food premises, prescribed commercial premises, specified commercial buildings, composite buildings, karaoke establishments, and places of public entertainment;
- inspection of ventilating systems in licensed premises;
- inspection of hospitals and clinics;
- giving lectures and advisory services on fire safety;
- processing of loan applications on fire safety improvement works under the Comprehensive Building Safety Improvement Loan Scheme;
- · upgrading the fire safety measures in prescribed commercial premises and specified commercial buildings; and
- advising the owners/occupiers of old composite buildings and domestic buildings to upgrade the fire safety standard of the buildings and preparing for the implementation of the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance.
- 9 The department achieved its targets under the programme in 2003.

10 The key performance measures in respect of fire protection and prevention are:

Targets

	Target	2002 (Actual)	2003 (Actual)	2004 (Plan)
% of safety requirements issued within 28 days for storage/manufacture of Categories 2 (other than LPG) to 10 dangerous goods and/or for storage of timber following receipt of application				
 and the required details/plans in full % of safety requirements issued within six days for vehicles used for conveyance of Category 2 (other than LPG) or Category 5 dangerous goods following 	100	100	100	100
 % of licences issued within six days for storage/manufacture of Categories 2 (other than LPG) to 10 dangerous goods and/or storage of timber upon confirmation of full compliance with 	100	100	100	100
 safety requirements	100	100	100	100
 confirmation of full compliance with safety requirements	100	100	100	100
investigated within 24 hours	100	100	100	100

Head 45—FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

	Target	2002 (Actual)	2003 (Actual)	2004 (Plan)
% of complaints about fire hazards not				
posing imminent danger investigated within 12 days	100	100	100	100
% of complainants advised within 30 days	100	100	100	100
of outcome of investigation	100	100	100	100
% of applications processed within seven days for registration as FSI contractors	100	100	100	100
% of letters of approval issued within 14	100	100	100	100
days to applicants for registration as				
FSI contractors upon completion of all				
formalities	100	100	100	100
no. of prescribed commercial premises	150	191	190	190
inspected no. of specified commercial buildings	150	191	190	190
inspected	140	152	169	140
no. of composite buildings inspected	900	1 704#	1 031	900
Indicators				
		2002	2003	2004
		(Actual)	(Actual)	(Estimate)
renewal of licences				
timber/dangerous goods stores		4 230	4 4 3 4	4 500
dangerous goods vehicles		1 591	1 560	1 600
Fire Hazard Abatement Notices issued (other than				11.000
obstructions to means of escape and locked exi	ts)	9 810	11 966	11 000
prosecutions instituted dangerous goods and timber stores		364	501	500
fire hazards		43	89†	500 70§
building plans processed		10 374	10 008	10 000
inspection of FSIs and equipment		74 480	74 640	74 650
processing applications for approval of portable fi	ire fighting	74 400	74 040	74 050
equipment		419	514	550
inspection of fire safety in schools, child care cent			011	
premises, places of public entertainment and ka				
establishments		42 074	40 188	40 000
inspection of fire safety in commercial premises		7 735	10 099	10 100
inspection of ventilating systems in licensed prem		6 328	5 664	5 700
inspection of hospitals/clinics		360	362	340
lectures and advisory services given		19 329	19 770	19 700
no. of prescribed commercial premises with fire s	afetv			
directions issued		120	120	120
no. of specified commercial buildings with fire sa	fety			
improvement directions issued	•	141	142	140
no. of composite buildings with advisory letters is		1 704#	1 031	900

Additional resources were temporarily deployed to expedite fire safety restoration work in old private buildings in the year. Advisory letters were served to owners of buildings with a view to widely publicising the newly enacted Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance.

† The upsurge in 2003 was due to 39 prosecutions instituted against a single building with multi-ownership.

§ From 1 January 2004 onwards, the figure includes prosecutions instituted against fire hazard offences under the Fire Services (Fire Hazard Abatement) Regulation.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2004–05

11 During 2004–05, the department will continue to:

- enhance the fire protection measures for prescribed commercial premises with floor area exceeding 230 square metres;
- enhance fire safety measures in old commercial buildings;
- · monitor fire safety standards in composite, domestic and industrial buildings;
- promote a fire safety culture among the community in order to arouse public awareness of fire safety;
- co-ordinate and expand the Fire Safety Ambassador Scheme;

- step up inspections of FSIs within buildings as well as the emergency vehicular accesses provided for fire fighting
 operations and advise owners and residents of the importance of proper maintenance of these facilities;
- take law enforcement action in accordance with the Fire Services (Amendment) Ordinance 2003 and Fire Services (Fire Hazard Abatement) Regulation commencing 1 January 2004;
- prepare subsidiary legislation of the Dangerous Goods (Amendment) Ordinance 2002 to enhance the control on dangerous goods;
- monitor the performance of registered FSI contractors; and
- review the legislative provisions regarding the registration scheme for FSI contractors.

Programme (3): Ambulance Service

	2002–03	2003–04	2003–04	2004–05
	(Actual)	(Original)	(Revised)	(Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	817.2	876.9	858.2 (-2.1%)	816.6 (-4.8%)

(or -6.9% on 2003-04 Original)

Aim

12 The aim is to provide an efficient and effective emergency ambulance service to meet public demand.

Brief Description

13 Through strategic deployment of properly trained staff, equipment and ambulances, the department maintains an ambulance service that responds to ambulance calls effectively and efficiently. This work involves mainly:

- rendering assistance to any person who appears to need prompt or immediate medical attention by securing his safety, resuscitating or sustaining his life and reducing his suffering or distress;
- ensuring that all emergency calls, which involve immediate provision of ambulance aid and subsequent conveyance of the sick or injured persons to hospital, are responded to as expeditiously as possible;
- ensuring that all urgent calls, which involve the transfer of patients from a hospital or clinic to an acute hospital for urgent medical investigation or treatment, are responded to as expeditiously as possible;
- ensuring that all ambulances and equipment are well maintained and fully operational at all times;
- maintaining good working relationship with district committees, medical institutions, etc., to facilitate the effective and efficient discharge of operational duties; and
- ensuring that pre-hospital emergency care knowledge and skills of personnel are maintained and enhanced through regular and specialised training.
- 14 The key performance measures in respect of ambulance service are:

Target

	Target	2002 (Actual)	2003 (Actual)	2004 (Plan)
% of emergency calls answered within the target response time of 12 minutes	92.5	91.8	93.2	92.5
Indicators				
		2002 (Actual)	2003 (Actual)	2004 (Estimate)
no. of emergency calls no. of urgent calls calls per ambulance		505 980 53 489 2 312	478 109 47 453 2 181	493 000 44 000 2 170

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2004–05

15 During 2004–05, the department will:

- continue to deploy flexibly its resources to achieve the target response time performance;
- continue to extend by phases paramedic ambulance service to all ambulances;

- continue to enhance pre-hospital emergency care knowledge and paramedic skills of personnel through on-going and specialised medical training programmes co-ordinated by the Medical Directors of the department;
- commission new ambulance depots at Braemar Hill and Penny's Bay;
- monitor the progress of the construction of new ambulance depots at Kwai Chung and Mong Kok;
- continue to provide a community education programme, including the provision of cardio-pulmonary resuscitation training for the general public; and
- continue to organise publicity activities to educate the public on proper use of ambulance services and correct information to be furnished when making emergency ambulance calls.

Programme	2002–03	2003–04	2003–04	2004–05
	(Actual)	(Original)	(Revised)	(Estimate)
	(\$m)	(\$m)	(\$m)	(\$m)
 (1) Fire Service (2) Fire Protection and Prevention (3) Ambulance Service 	2,093.2	2,088.1	2,050.4	2,027.5
	256.4	244.0	240.9	234.6
	817.2	876.9	858.2	816.6
	3,166.8	3,209.0	3,149.5 (-1.9%)	3,078.7 (-2.2%)

ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL PROVISION

(or -4.1% on 2003-04 Original)

Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision

Programme (1)

Provision for 2004–05 is \$22.9 million (1.1%) lower than the revised estimate for 2003–04. This is mainly due to the effect of the 2004 and 2005 civil service pay cut and a net deletion of 93 posts to achieve efficiency savings, partly offset by the increased cashflow requirement for replacement of fire fighting and rescue appliances and equipment and provision for filling vacancies.

Programme (2)

Provision for 2004–05 is \$6.3 million (2.6%) lower than the revised estimate for 2003–04. This is mainly due to the effect of the 2004 and 2005 civil service pay cut and deletion of four posts to achieve efficiency savings, partly offset by the increased expenses related to fire safety enforcement actions.

Programme (3)

Provision for 2004–05 is \$41.6 million (4.8%) lower than the revised estimate for 2003–04. This is mainly due to the effect of the 2004 and 2005 civil service pay cut and reduced cashflow requirement for procurement of new and replacement ambulances, partly offset by the provision for filling vacancies.



Year

Head	45 —	FIRE	SERVICES	DEPARTMENT

Sub- head (Code)		Actual expenditure 2002–03	Approved estimate 2003–04	Revised estimate 2003–04	Estimate 2004–05
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
	Operating Account				
	Recurrent				
000	Operational expenses Salaries Allowances	2,685,160 56,480	3,048,590	3,021,741	2,938,151
	Job-related allowances Specialist supplies and equipment General departmental expenses	50 28,901 280,658			
	Total, Recurrent	3,051,249	3,048,590	3,021,741	2,938,151
	Non-Recurrent				
700	General non-recurrent	2,215	2,303	2,281	653
	Total, Non-Recurrent	2,215	2,303	2,281	653
	Total, Operating Account	3,053,464	3,050,893	3,024,022	2,938,804
	Capital Account				
	Plant, Equipment and Works				
603 661	Plant, vehicles and equipment	86,598	95,886	74,712	108,147
001	Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)	26,697	62,239	50,719	31,798
	Total, Plant, Equipment and Works	113,295	158,125	125,431	139,945
	Total, Capital Account	113,295	158,125	125,431	139,945
	Total Expenditure	3,166,759	3,209,018	3,149,453	3,078,749

Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2004–05 for the salaries and expenses of the Fire Services Department is \$3,078,749,000. This represents a decrease of \$70,704,000 against the revised estimate for 2003–04 and of \$88,010,000 against actual expenditure in 2002–03.

Operating Account

Recurrent

2 Provision of \$2,938,151,000 under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is for the salaries, allowances and other operating expenses of the Fire Services Department.

3 The establishment as at 31 March 2004 will be 9 357 permanent posts. It is expected that a net 97 permanent posts will be deleted in 2004–05. Subject to certain conditions, the controlling officer may under delegated power create or delete non-directorate posts during 2004–05, but the notional annual mid-point salary value of all such posts must not exceed \$2,394,521,000.

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

	2002–03 (Actual) (\$'000)	2003–04 (Original) (\$'000)	2003–04 (Revised) (\$'000)	2004–05 (Estimate) (\$'000)
Personal Emoluments				
- Salaries	2,685,160	2,679,749	2,654,524	2,579,901
- Allowances	56,480	26,360	14,883	14,087
- Job-related allowances	50	32,237	30,904	32,192
Personnel Related Expenses				*
- Mandatory Provident Fund				
contribution		4,134	5,190	3,722
- Civil Service Provident Fund		,	,	,
contribution		3.784	3.295	9,662
Departmental Expenses		- ,	-,	-)
- Specialist supplies and equipment	28.901	28.739	35,331	28,239
- General departmental expenses	280,658	273,587	277,614	270,348
	3,051,249	3,048,590	3,021,741	2,938,151

Capital Account

Plant, Equipment and Works

5 Provision of \$31,798,000 under *Subhead 661 Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)* represents a decrease of \$18,921,000 (37.3%) against the revised estimate for 2003–04. This is mainly due to the reduced cashflow requirement for procurement of new and replacement ambulances.

Commitments

Sub- head (Code)	Item (Code)	Ambit	Approved commitment	Accumulated expenditure to 31.3.2003	Revised estimated expenditure for 2003–04	Balance
			\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Opera	ting Ac	ccount				
700	648 679	<i>General non-recurrent</i> Production of fire safety publicity and education programmes Publicity campaign to promote protection of properties against fire	1,000	794	50	156
	703	hazards, prevention of hill fire and the Dangerous Goods (Amendment) Bill Promotion of building fire safety and	2,500	1,826	596	78
		paramedic ambulance service	3,000	1,874	685	441
			6,500	4,494	1,331	675
Capital Account						
603	615	Plant, vehicles and equipment Replacement of Fireboat Alexander Grantham	48,533	47,666	_	867
	654	One replacement diving tender for Shatin Fire Station	2,200	1,193	400	607
	655	One replacement diving tender for Castle Peak Fire Station	2,200	1,193	400	607
	656	One replacement hydraulic platform for Aberdeen Fire Station	3,800	3,129	100	571
	657	One replacement hydraulic platform for Mui Wo Fire Station	3,800	3,129	100	571
	658	One replacement hydraulic platform for Kowloon Bay Fire Station	3,800	3,129	100	571
	659	One replacement reserved heavy pump for Fire Services Training School	3,300	1,905	395	1,000
	660	One replacement reserved heavy pump for Driving Training School	3,300	1,892	408	1,000
	662	One replacement emergency tender for Wong Tai Sin Fire Station	2,500	1,833	160	507
	663	One replacement emergency tender for Central Fire Station	2,500	1,859	100	541
	664	One replacement hydraulic platform for Fire Services Training School	4,000	3,139	70	791
	665	One replacement hydraulic platform for				
	666	Driving Training School One replacement hydraulic platform for	4,000	3,092	50	858
	667	Tai Po Fire Station One replacement hydraulic platform for	4,000	3,092	50	858
	668	Yau Tong Fire Station One replacement hydraulic platform for	4,000	3,092	50	858
	669	Chai Wan Fire Station One replacement hydraulic platform for	4,000	3,092	50	858
	670	Sheung Wan Fire Station One replacement hydraulic platform for	4,000	3,092	50	858
	671	Lai King Fire Station Two replacement major pumps for Fire	4,000	3,092	50	858
	672	Services Training School One replacement major pump for	5,000	3,973	600	427
	674	Driving Training School One replacement major pump for Shun	2,500	1,953	200	347
		Lee Fire Station	2,500	1,953	200	347

Commitments—Cont'd.

Sub- head (Code)	Item (Code)	Ambit	Approved commitment \$'000	Accumulated expenditure to 31.3.2003 	Revised estimated expenditure for 2003–04 %'000	Balance \$'000
Capit	al Acco	unt—Cont'd.	\$ 000	\$ 000	\$ 000	\$ 000
-		Diant unbiolog and continuout Cout'd				
603	675	<i>Plant, vehicles and equipment—Cont'd.</i> One replacement major pump for Tung Lo Wan Fire Station	2,500	1,953	200	347
	676	One replacement major pump for Siu Lek Yuen Fire Station	2,500	1,953	200	347
	677	One replacement major pump for Kowloon Bay Fire Station	2,500	1,953	200	347
	678	One replacement hose foam carrier for Airport Fire Contingent	3,785	3,209	200	376
	680	One replacement turntable ladder for Mong Kok Fire Station	7,500	6,658	400	442
	681	Two replacement rapid intervention vehicles for Airport Fire Contingent.	13,869	9,978	2,000	1,891
	682 683	Replacement of Fireboat 6 One replacement hydraulic platform for	70,750		24,378	46,372
	684	Tin Shui Wai Fire Station One replacement hydraulic platform for	4,500		—	4,500
	685	Kotewall Fire Station One replacement hydraulic platform for	4,500	—	—	4,500
	686	Discovery Bay Fire Station	4,500	—	_	4,500
		One replacement hydraulic platform for Shun Lee Fire Station	4,500			4,500
	687	One replacement hydraulic platform for Driving Training School	4,500	_	150	4,350
	688	One replacement major pump for Chung Hom Kok Fire Station	3,200		2,100	1,100
	689	One replacement major pump for Pat Heung Fire Station	3,200	_	2,100	1,100
	690	One replacement major pump for Pok Fu Lam Fire Station	3,200	_	2,100	1,100
	691	One replacement major pump for Tseung Kwan O Fire Station	3,200		2,100	1,100
	692	One replacement major pump for Tai O Fire Station	3,200	_	2,100	1,100
	693	One replacement major pump for Driving Training School	3,200		2,100	1,100
	694	One replacement breathing apparatus tender for Sheung Wan Fire Station	2,500	808	1,500	192
	695	One replacement breathing apparatus tender for Sha Tin Fire Station	2,500		2,200	300
	696	One replacement breathing apparatus tender for Wong Tai Sin Fire Station	2,500		2,200	300
	697	One replacement foam tender for Tsing		 615		
	698	Yi South Fire Station One replacement foam tender for Pillar	2,500	615	1,200	685
	699	Point Fire Station One replacement foam tender for Lam	2,500	615	1,200	685
	700	Tin Fire Station One replacement foam tender for Chai	2,500	615	1,200	685
	702	Wan Fire Station One mobile casualty treatment centre for enhancement of emergency	2,500	615	1,200	685
	704	coverage One replacement jackless snorkel for	4,200	—	3,000	1,200
	705	Airport Fire Contingent One replacement turntable ladder for	6,250	—	—	6,250
	, 00	Driving Training School	5,400	—	5,200	200

Commitments—Cont'd.

Sub- head (Code)	Item (Code)	Ambit	Approved commitment \$'000	Accumulated expenditure to 31.3.2003 %'000	Revised estimated expenditure for 2003–04 	Balance \$'000
Capit	al Acco	unt—Cont'd.				
603		<i>Plant, vehicles and equipment—Cont'd.</i>				
	706	One replacement turntable ladder for				
	707	Tung Chung Fire Station One replacement turntable ladder for	5,500	—	—	5,500
	/0/	Ma On Shan Fire Station	5,500			5,500
	708	One replacement turntable ladder for				
	700	North Point Fire Station	5,500		—	5,500
	709	One replacement jackless snorkel for Main Airport Fire Station	6,000			6,000
	710	One replacement diving tender for Tung	,			,
	711	Chung Fire Station	2,500	—	200	2,300
	711	One speedboat with trolley for enhancing shallow water fire fighting				
		at Tai O Creek	500		475	25
	712	One replacement crash fire tender for	0.000			0.000
	713	Main Airport Fire Station One replacement hydraulic platform	9,000		—	9,000
	/15	HP1	4,300		_	4,300
	714	One replacement major pump MP1	3,200	_		3,200
	715	One replacement major pump MP2	3,200	—		3,200
	716	One replacement major pump MP3	3,200	—		3,200
	717	One replacement major pump MP4	3,200	_		3,200
	718	One replacement major pump MP5	3,200	—		3,200
	719	One replacement major pump MP6	3,200	_		3,200
	720	One replacement major pump MP7	3,200	—		3,200
	721	One replacement major pump MP8	3,200		—	3,200
			356,787	125,470	63,436	167,881
		Total	363,287	129,964	64,767	168,556