

Head 44 — ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

Controlling officer: the Permanent Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works (Environment)/Director of Environmental Protection will account for expenditure under this Head.

Estimate 2006–07	\$2,044.5m
Establishment ceiling 2006–07 (notional annual mid-point salary value) representing an estimated 1 587 non-directorate posts as at 31 March 2006 reducing by four posts to 1 583 posts as at 31 March 2007	\$516.0m
In addition, there will be an estimated 34 directorate posts as at 31 March 2006 and as at 31 March 2007.	
Commitment balance	\$471.4m

Controlling Officer's Report

Programmes

<p>Programme (1) Waste Programme (2) Air Programme (3) Noise Programme (4) Water Programme (5) Environmental Assessment and Planning Programme (6) Nature Conservation</p>	<p>These programmes contribute to Policy Area 23: Environmental Protection and Conservation (Secretary for the Environment, Transport and Works).</p>
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Detail

Programme (1): Waste

	2004–05 (Actual)	2005–06 (Original)	2005–06 (Revised)	2006–07 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	1,391.7#	1,413.6	1,399.0 (–1.0%)	1,411.6 (+0.9%)
				(or –0.1% on 2005–06 Original)

The figure includes part of the provision for the Programme “Environmental Protection and Conservation” previously funded under Head 158—Government Secretariat: Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (Environment and Transport Branch), now retitled as Government Secretariat: Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (Transport Branch), following the merging of the Environment Branch (EB) and the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) from 1 April 2005.

Aim

2 The aim is to develop and implement a sustainable waste management strategy for Hong Kong to reduce waste and to safeguard the health and welfare of the community from any adverse environmental effects associated with the improper handling and disposal of waste. This is done through a framework of programmes for the provision of facilities as well as legislative and institutional measures.

Brief Description

3 The Department is the client department for the environmental public works programme and is responsible for preparing plans at strategic and district levels for the provision of facilities to manage all types of waste including municipal, construction, livestock, chemical and clinical wastes, sediments, sewage and water treatment works sludges and other special wastes. The Department enforces relevant legislation to control the illegal disposal of all forms of waste, develops new proposals to meet changing waste management needs and advises on the assessment and remediation of contaminated land. The Department also works with the community to promote and encourage waste reduction and recycling.

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4 In 2005, over six million tonnes of solid waste were disposed of in the three landfills. As the waste volume grows, the landfills are filling up much faster than expected. The Department published a Policy Framework for the Management of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) to set out a comprehensive strategy for the management of MSW for the ten years from 2005 to 2014. The community was invited to join hands with the Government in achieving the waste reduction targets through contributing to various initiatives in accordance with the “polluter-pays” principle. The feasibility studies for the extension of the existing North East New Territories Landfill and South East New Territories Landfill commenced in 2005. To encourage reduction and recycling of construction waste, the construction waste disposal charging scheme was implemented on 1 December 2005. A Waste Disposal (Amendment) Bill 2005 was submitted to the Legislative Council in 2005 to strengthen control on the collection and disposal of clinical waste and the disposal of imported waste.

5 The key performance measures in respect of the waste programme are:

Targets

	Target	2004 (Actual)	2005 (Actual)	2006 (Plan)
operation hours of strategic landfills.....	14 234	14 295	14 257	14 235
processing clinical waste disposal permits within nine days (%).....	95	95	98	95
processing marine dumping permits within 18 days (%).....	90	92	94	90
initial response to waste complaints within three days (%).....	95	99	99	98

Indicators

	2004 (Actual)	2005 (Actual)	2006 (Estimate)
strategic landfills			
no. of capital works milestone payments.....	3	3	2
tonnage of waste received annually.....	6 405 641	6 452 866	6 350 000
total solid waste disposed of (%).....	100	100	100
refuse transfer stations			
tonnage of waste received annually.....	1 960 634	2 003 293	2 020 000
special wastes			
tonnage of waste treated annually at the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre.....	37 400	37 400	37 500
livestock waste			
total quantity produced (thousand tonnes).....	272	277	270
disposed of by environmentally-acceptable means (%)..	94	93	94
marine dumping permits issued.....	143	105	105
waste import/export permits issued.....	5	3	3
chemical waste trip tickets recorded.....	37 190	38 071	38 000
chemical waste collector licences issued.....	35	7	5
chemical waste disposal licences issued.....	15	9	10
prosecutions for			
chemical waste control offences.....	46	25	25
livestock waste control offences.....	34	7	8
marine dumping offences.....	33	3	5
waste import/export offences.....	37	43	35
illegal deposit of waste offences.....	12	1	5
complaints handled.....	1 192	1 153	1 100
enquiries handled by the Waste Reduction and Recycling Hotline Service.....	4 729	5 400	5 400

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2006–07

6 During 2006–07, the Department will:

- expedite the roll-out of the territory-wide source separation of domestic waste programme;
- further promote waste separation, recovery and recycling by working together with stakeholders and the community;
- develop producer responsibility schemes;
- commission phase I of the EcoPark in Tuen Mun Area 38 towards the end of 2006;
- develop long-term plans for large-scale waste treatment facilities to achieve bulk reduction of MSW;

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- commission the feasibility study for the West New Territories Landfill extension scheme;
- study the feasibility of a sludge treatment facility;
- oversee action programmes on the prevention, reuse and recycling of construction and demolition materials;
- strengthen control on the collection and disposal of clinical waste;
- co-ordinate co-operation and exchanges with the Guangdong authorities on cross-boundary waste management issues;
- continue to explore ways to develop the restored landfills for beneficial uses; and
- review the risk-based local standards for contaminated land assessment.

Programme (2): Air

	2004–05 (Actual)	2005–06 (Original)	2005–06 (Revised)	2006–07 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	376.1#	399.6	303.0 (–24.2%)	248.8 (–17.9%)
				(or –37.7% on 2005–06 Original)

The figure includes part of the provision for the Programme “Environmental Protection and Conservation” previously funded under Head 158—Government Secretariat: Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (Environment and Transport Branch), now retitled as Government Secretariat: Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (Transport Branch), following the merging of EB and EPD from 1 April 2005.

Aim

7 The aim is to achieve and maintain satisfactory air quality through intervention in the planning process and enforcement of the Air Pollution Control Ordinance (APCO), Ozone Layer Protection Ordinance (OLPO) and other statutory requirements.

Brief Description

8 The work carried out by the Department in seeking to achieve and maintain satisfactory air quality includes:

- development of air quality objectives, standards and guidelines;
- enforcement of the requirements of the APCO and OLPO to control air pollution from factories, polluting processes and products, motor vehicles, ozone depleting substances, asbestos and other sources;
- scrutiny of project development proposals and land use plans to ensure that air quality standards and guidelines will be met;
- scrutiny of relevant project development proposals to ensure that the associated safety risks are properly assessed and managed;
- operation of an air quality monitoring network and laboratories to provide the air quality information needed for checking the effectiveness of existing programmes and development of new policies;
- investigations into emerging issues such as indoor and toxic air pollution to provide a basis for formulating new policies;
- provision of air quality information and air pollution index to the public; and
- participation in the development of initiatives concerning global warming (climate change) and related energy matters.

9 Under the incentive scheme launched to encourage the replacement of diesel light buses by liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) or electric light buses, over 2 500 light buses had been converted to LPG ones by the end of 2005. Over 80% of the newly-registered public light buses are LPG ones. An amendment regulation was introduced to require pre-Euro heavy-duty diesel vehicles other than those under long-idling operational mode to be installed with particulate reduction devices. The new requirement will take effect on 1 April 2006. Unleaded petrol specifications were further tightened to the Euro IV level. Euro IV emission standards have been introduced in tandem with the European Union to newly-registered light-duty vehicles. Subsequent to the consensus reached in 2002 with the Guangdong Provincial Government to improve regional air quality, a Pearl River Delta Regional Air Quality Management Plan is being implemented and an air quality monitoring network for the Pearl River Delta has commenced operation since 30 November 2005. To ensure that the emissions from the power stations are reduced to the practical minimum, an emission cap on the Castle Peak Power Station was imposed in August 2005 when its licence was renewed under the law.

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10 The key performance measures in respect of air related activities are:

Targets

	Target	2004 (Actual)	2005 (Actual)	2006 (Plan)
processing of chimney/furnace applications within 16 days (%) Ψ	90	95	94	90
no. of days with air pollution index not exceeding 100 Δ	365/366	279	316	315
annual average air pollution index Δ	50	54	49	50

Ψ Instead of measuring the average processing time, the target has been revised, for clarity and consistency, to measure the extent to which the applications can be processed within the target time frame. The target processing time has also been revised from 28 days to 16 days.

Δ Two previous targets “percentage of time with all monitoring stations complying with short-term Air Quality Objectives” and “monitoring stations complying with long-term Air Quality Objectives (%)” have been replaced by these two new targets which are easier to understand and better reflect changes in air quality from year to year. The current 24-hourly Air Quality Objective limits (i.e. the short-term Air Quality Objectives) correspond to air pollution index 100 and the calculation method remains unchanged. The current annual Air Quality Objective limits (i.e. the long-term Air Quality Objectives) correspond to air pollution index 50.

Indicators

	2004 (Actual)	2005 (Actual)	2006 (Estimate)
chimney/furnace applications processed	345	380	350
asbestos abatement plans processed	314	201	200
specified processes under licence (%)	95	95	95
premises and plants inspected	21 272	20 329	20 000
complaints handled	5 680	5 766	5 400
technical advice provided to polluters	6 374	4 681	5 200
legal notices issued	1 513	1 581	1 550
prosecutions under the APCO and OLPO	230	108	110
reduction of scheduled ozone depleting substance consumption (tonnage)	5 395	5 415	5 400
planning advice issued	751	686	700
smoky vehicle reports processed	13 215	11 827	10 500
smoky vehicles tested	11 626	11 534	11 500
enquiries/complaints on smoky vehicle matters handled	12 467	11 542	11 500

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2006–07

11 During 2006–07, the Department will:

- continue to co-ordinate inter-departmental efforts to reduce emissions from vehicles;
- oversee the implementation of energy efficiency and conservation programmes, including wider adoption of water-cooled air conditioning systems;
- prepare a legislative proposal for the introduction of a mandatory energy efficiency labelling scheme;
- continue to facilitate and promote wider application of renewable energy;
- continue to implement in collaboration with the Guangdong authorities the air quality management plan to improve regional air quality;
- continue to work with the Guangdong authorities to finalise in 2006 the details of the emissions trading pilot scheme among power plants in Hong Kong and the Pearl River Delta region;
- continue to operate with Guangdong the joint air quality monitoring network for Pearl River Delta region;
- continue to explore ways to encourage the use of cleaner vehicles and fuels and technologies that can help reduce air pollution;
- propose measures to strengthen the control of emissions from petrol and LPG vehicles including the use of roadside remote sensing equipment and the use of dynamometers for emission testings;

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- explore the feasibility of controlling emissions from off-road mobile sources;
- make it a mandatory requirement for owners of pre-Euro heavy-duty diesel vehicles that need to operate under long-idling conditions to install emission reduction devices;
- tighten emission standards for newly-registered heavy-duty vehicles to the Euro IV level; and
- introduce a new regulation to control the contents of volatile organic compounds in paints, printing inks and selected consumer products.

Programme (3): Noise

	2004–05 (Actual)	2005–06 (Original)	2005–06 (Revised)	2006–07 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	92.0#	91.8	84.9 (-7.5%)	91.5 (+7.8%)
				(or -0.3% on 2005–06 Original)

The figure includes part of the provision for the Programme “Environmental Protection and Conservation” previously funded under Head 158—Government Secretariat: Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (Environment and Transport Branch), now retitled as Government Secretariat: Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (Transport Branch), following the merging of EB and EPD from 1 April 2005.

Aim

12 The aim is to prevent, minimise and resolve environmental noise problems through formulation of noise policy, intervention in the planning process, implementation of noise abatement measures and enforcement of the Noise Control Ordinance (NCO).

Brief Description

13 To achieve this aim, the Department carries out the following main tasks:

- formulate environmental noise policy;
- provide professional input at the planning stage of policy and project development to pre-empt and mitigate noise problems;
- enforce, in conjunction with the Police, the provisions of the NCO through four Regional Offices for a better service to the local community; and
- develop practicable proposals to address existing traffic noise problems.

14 In 2005, the Department continued to enforce the provisions of the NCO to hold the management of bodies corporate personally liable for repeated noise offences, and to promote the application of good management practices to prevent violations under the Ordinance. The Department also promoted the use of quieter construction equipment and enhanced the processing of construction noise permit applications.

15 The key performance measures in respect of noise related activities are:

Targets

	Target	2004 (Actual)	2005 (Actual)	2006 (Plan)
processing of construction noise permit within 18 days (%)Ψ.....	90	96	94	90
processing of noise emission label for breaker and air compressor within 15 days (%)Ψ.....	90	100	99	90

Ψ Instead of measuring the average processing times, the targets have been revised, for clarity and consistency, to measure the extent to which the applications can be processed within the target time frame. The target processing times have also been revised from 28 days to 18 days and 15 days respectively.

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Indicators

	2004 (Actual)	2005 (Actual)	2006 (Estimate)
comments given in planning stage.....	1 418	1 370	1 400
prosecutions under the NCO.....	127	72	70
construction noise permits processed.....	3 555	3 353	3 300
noise emission labels issued for breakers and compressors	760	611	580
noise abatement notices served.....	131	108	110
complaints handled.....	6 200	5 034	5 000

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2006–07

16 During 2006–07, the Department will:

- continue to tackle noise impact of existing roads through the retrofitting programme; and
- consult the relevant parties on the expansion of the Designated Areas under the NCO to provide better protection to the local community against construction noise.

Programme (4): Water

	2004–05 (Actual)	2005–06 (Original)	2005–06 (Revised)	2006–07 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	221.9#	213.3	208.4 (–2.3%)	211.1 (+1.3%)

(or –1.0% on
2005–06 Original)

The figure includes part of the provision for the Programme “Environmental Protection and Conservation” previously funded under Head 158—Government Secretariat: Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (Environment and Transport Branch), now retitled as Government Secretariat: Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (Transport Branch), following the merging of EB and EPD from 1 April 2005.

Aim

17 The aim is to ensure that the quality of Hong Kong’s marine and fresh water meets the various conservation goals, and that plans are formulated and implemented to ensure that Hong Kong’s sewerage systems can operate safely and effectively both now and with further urban development in future.

Brief Description

18 The Department seeks to ensure Water Quality Objectives (WQOs) are attained and maintained by enforcing relevant legislation; by ensuring the provision of an adequate sewerage infrastructure; by assessing the possible impact of strategic and local developments on water quality and requiring this to be taken into account in development plans; and by proposing revisions to legislative arrangements aimed at preventing water pollution. Water and sediment quality is monitored extensively, and special investigations are conducted to provide the basis for policy development and preventive planning.

19 In 2005, the Department reviewed the views collated during the consultation on the way forward for the Harbour Area Treatment Scheme. It is pursuing the implementation of Stage 2 of the Scheme in two phases with the aim of completing Stage 2A by 2013–14, and advancing the provision of disinfection of the existing sewage discharge at Stonecutters Island to 2008–09, subject to acceptance by the community that the full recurrent costs of the Scheme will be recovered through sewage charges. A review of the existing sewage charging schemes according to the “polluter-pays” principle was initiated in 2005 with a view to achieving an equitable sharing among the users of the funding responsibility in respect of the recurrent costs of the provision of sewage services. Based on the recommendations of a study of toxic substances completed in 2003, a phased toxic substances marine monitoring programme was initiated in 2004, and the results were used to further refine the monitoring in 2005. In addition, the Department is preparing the Hong Kong Implementation Plan for fulfilling the requirements of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), and working on new legislation to control and regulate non-pesticide hazardous chemicals.

20 The sewerage master plans for Central and East Kowloon, Tuen Mun, Tsing Yi, the Outlying Islands, Hong Kong Island, North District and Tolo Harbour areas have been reviewed and proposals for upgrading works are being pursued on a priority basis. In the light of development changes in the past decade and new proposals, the Department intends to review the sewerage master plans for Tsuen Wan and West Kowloon in the coming year.

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21 The key performance measures in respect of the water programme are:

Targets

	Target	2004 (Actual)	2005 (Actual)	2006 (Plan)
inspection of major discharges in every Water Control Zone at least four times a year (%)	100	100	100	100
provision of weekly beach water quality grading to the public during bathing season (%)	100	100	100	100
initial response to water pollution complaints within three days (%)	95	99	99	98

Indicators

	2004 (Actual)	2005 (Actual)	2006 (Estimate)
compliance with WQOs for marine waters (%).....	85	85	85
inland water sampling points	82	82	82
no. of the sampling points classified as (%)			
excellent	46	49	49
good	33	31	31
fair	11	6	6
bad	9	11	11
very bad	1	3	3
compliance with WQOs for inland waters (%).....	84	85	85
enforcement of the WPCO			
licences granted	1 772	1 331	1 400
licences renewed	860	565	2 000
prosecutions for water pollution control offences	67	41	30
detailed investigations and inspections	21 198	17 880	18 000
complaints handled	2 407	1 991	2 000
drainage plans vetted (under the Buildings Ordinance)	210	242	230
responses to planning cases	998	965	1 000

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2006–07

22 During 2006–07, the Department will:

- commission the demonstration plant and distribution system for reclaimed water use in North District as part of the Government's Total Water Management Programme;
- co-operate with the Guangdong authorities on cross-boundary water quality management issues;
- finalise the Hong Kong Implementation Plan for incorporation into the National Implementation Plan of the People's Republic of China to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention in late 2006;
- introduce legislation to control and regulate non-pesticide hazardous chemicals, including those covered in the Stockholm Convention on POPs and the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade;
- continue to develop an improved trade effluent surcharge scheme according to the "polluter-pays" principle so that the funding responsibility in respect of the recurrent costs of the provision of sewage services is equitably shared among the trades and the public; and
- bring forward proposals for increasing sewage charges in line with the "polluter-pays" principle so as to set the future provision of sewage services on a sound footing.

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Programme (5): Environmental Assessment and Planning

	2004–05 (Actual)	2005–06 (Original)	2005–06 (Revised)	2006–07 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	78.9#	74.2	74.2 (—)	76.1 (+2.6%)

(or +2.6% on
2005–06 Original)

The figure includes part of the provision for the Programme “Environmental Protection and Conservation” previously funded under Head 158—Government Secretariat: Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (Environment and Transport Branch), now retitled as Government Secretariat: Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (Transport Branch), following the merging of EB and EPD from 1 April 2005.

Aim

23 The aim is to pre-empt environmental problems associated with projects, plans, policies and strategies by assessing their environmental implications and ensuring that effective preventive and mitigatory measures are implemented where potential problems are identified.

Brief Description

24 The Department seeks to prevent environmental problems through reviewing the environmental findings of projects, planning proposals and development strategies which may have significant environmental implications. It oversees strategic environmental assessment and environmental impact assessment (EIA) studies, and processes EIA Ordinance applications to ensure that the environmental impacts of designated projects are properly assessed and that measures to control them to acceptable levels are properly implemented. Environmental information is provided to the Policy Committee, the Executive Council and the Public Works Subcommittee of the Finance Committee, as appropriate, to facilitate informed decision making.

25 The key performance measures in respect of environmental assessment and planning are:

Indicators

	2004 (Actual)	2005 (Actual)	2006 (Estimate)
plans reviewed and technical environmental advice given (on outline zoning plans, layout plans, etc.).....	157	131	130
miscellaneous district planning or housing proposals reviewed and technical environmental advice given (on housing proposals, applications under section 16 of the Town Planning Ordinance).....	1 234	1 346	1 300
major planning studies and strategic planning studies.....	42	48	45
applications processed under the EIA Ordinance.....	104	129	130
major projects undergoing environmental monitoring and audit.....	130	121	120
environmental impact assessments with technical advice provided.....	62	65	65
cases where environmental implications paragraphs in funding and policy proposals vetted.....	132	172	170

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2006–07

26 During 2006–07, the Department will:

- co-ordinate inter-bureau/departmental efforts to improve the EIA process for government works projects;
- pre-empt environmental problems through processing EIA Ordinance applications and enforcement of the permit conditions;
- promote the incorporation of environmental considerations into major policies and strategies at the earliest possible stage; and
- enhance communication and co-operation with the Mainland in the areas of environmental assessment and planning.

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Programme (6): Nature Conservation

	2004–05 (Actual)	2005–06 (Original)	2005–06 (Revised)	2006–07 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	3.3#	3.2	5.0 (+56.3%)	5.4 (+8.0%)
				(or +68.8% on 2005–06 Original)

The figure includes part of the provision for the Programme “Environmental Protection and Conservation” previously funded under Head 158—Government Secretariat: Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (Environment and Transport Branch), now retitled as Government Secretariat: Environment, Transport and Works Bureau (Transport Branch), following the merging of EB and EPD from 1 April 2005.

Aim

27 The aim is to regulate, protect and manage natural resources that are important for the conservation of biological diversity of Hong Kong in a sustainable manner, taking into account social and economic considerations, for the benefit and enjoyment of the present and future generations of the community.

Brief Description

28 The Department’s main responsibilities under this programme are to formulate policies and to co-ordinate and oversee the implementation of programmes on nature conservation.

29 We announced a new nature conservation policy together with an implementation programme in November 2004. Under the new policy:

- there is a new policy statement with clearer vision and policy objectives;
- a scoring system has been adopted for assessing the relative ecological importance of sites and 12 priority sites for enhanced conservation have been identified;
- pilot projects on management agreements with the landowners are being implemented while the implementation details of the pilot scheme for public-private partnership are being further examined;
- existing nature conservation measures will continue and be enhanced;
- the Wetland Advisory Committee has been converted into the Nature Conservation Subcommittee of the Advisory Council on the Environment;
- conservation education and publicity will be enhanced; and
- viability of establishing a nature conservation trust is being explored.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2006–07

30 During 2006–07, the Department will:

- oversee the implementation of the new nature conservation policy, in particular the pilot scheme on the two new conservation measures, viz., management agreements and public-private partnership;
- upon the enactment of the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Bill, oversee the implementation of the new legislation to ensure full compliance with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora; and
- prepare a legislative proposal to extend the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety under the Convention on Biological Diversity to Hong Kong, so as to control the trans-boundary movement of living modified organisms.

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ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL PROVISION

Programme	2004-05 (Actual) (\$m)	2005-06 (Original) (\$m)	2005-06 (Revised) (\$m)	2006-07 (Estimate) (\$m)
(1) Waste.....	1,391.7	1,413.6	1,399.0	1,411.6
(2) Air.....	376.1	399.6	303.0	248.8
(3) Noise.....	92.0	91.8	84.9	91.5
(4) Water.....	221.9	213.3	208.4	211.1
(5) Environmental Assessment and Planning.....	78.9	74.2	74.2	76.1
(6) Nature Conservation.....	3.3	3.2	5.0	5.4
	2,163.9	2,195.7	2,074.5 (-5.5%)	2,044.5 (-1.4%)
				(or -6.9% on 2005-06 Original)

Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision

Programme (1)

Provision for 2006-07 is \$12.6 million (0.9%) higher than the revised estimate for 2005-06. This is mainly due to the additional provision for the implementation of the territory-wide source separation of waste programme and the development of the EcoPark.

Programme (2)

Provision for 2006-07 is \$54.2 million (17.9%) lower than the revised estimate for 2005-06. This is mainly due to the completion of the incentive scheme launched to encourage the replacement of diesel public light buses by LPG or electric ones, partly offset by the additional provision for developing regulatory control on volatile organic compounds and implementing a gross emitter control programme for petrol vehicles.

Programme (3)

Provision for 2006-07 is \$6.6 million (7.8%) higher than the revised estimate for 2005-06. This is mainly due to the additional provision for the implementation of the retrofitting programme to address traffic noise of existing roads and increased cash flow requirements of non-recurrent items.

Programme (4)

Provision for 2006-07 is \$2.7 million (1.3%) higher than the revised estimate for 2005-06. This is mainly due to increased operating expenses, partly offset by reduced cash flow requirements of non-recurrent items. In addition, four posts will be deleted in 2006-07.

Programme (5)

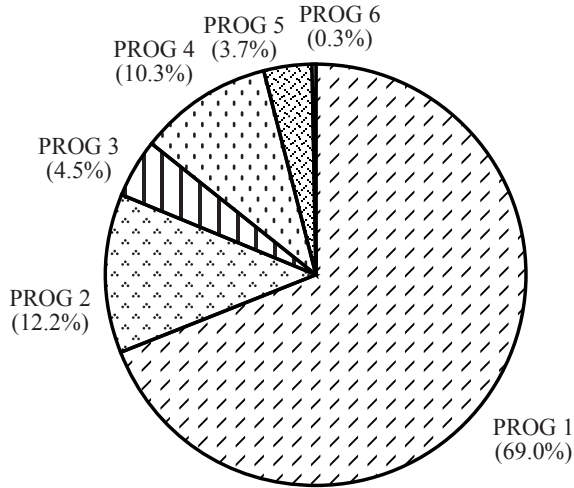
Provision for 2006-07 is \$1.9 million (2.6%) higher than the revised estimate for 2005-06. This is mainly due to increased operating expenses.

Programme (6)

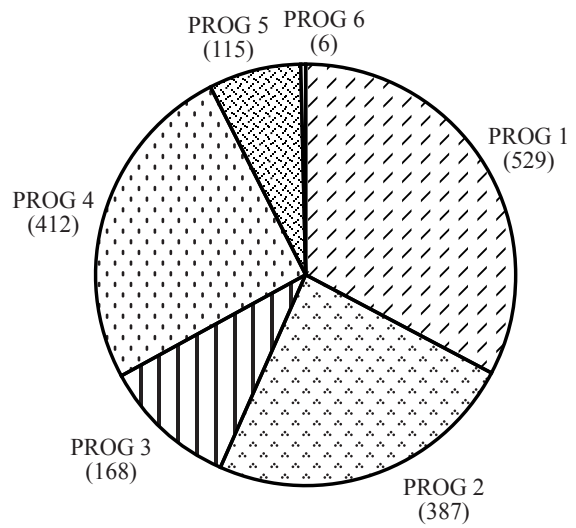
Provision for 2006-07 is \$0.4 million (8.0%) higher than the revised estimate for 2005-06. This is mainly due to increased operating expenses.

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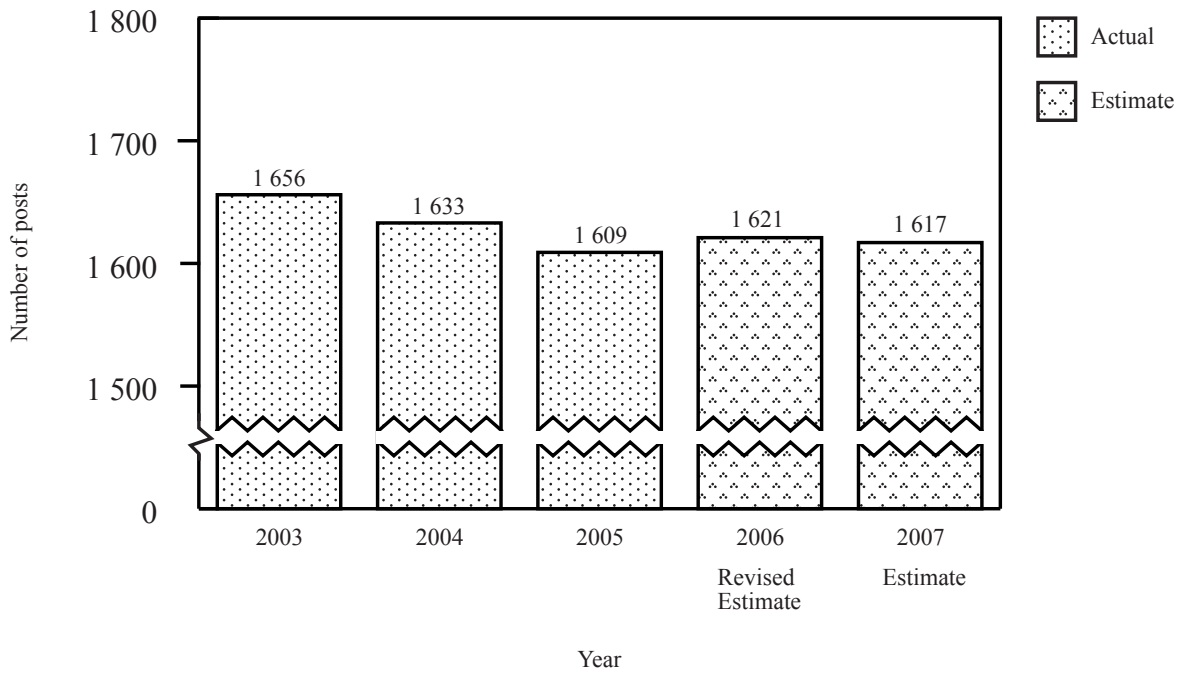
Allocation of provision to programmes (2006-07)



Staff by programme (as at 31 March 2007)



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



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Sub-head (Code)	Actual expenditure 2004-05	Approved estimate 2005-06	Revised estimate 2005-06	Estimate 2006-07	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Operating Account					
Recurrent					
000	Operational expenses	852,030	865,755	865,571	913,696
297	Fees for operation of waste facilities	1,115,986	1,130,678	1,117,000	1,108,605
	Total, Recurrent.....	<u>1,968,016</u>	<u>1,996,433</u>	<u>1,982,571</u>	<u>2,022,301</u>
Non-Recurrent					
700	General non-recurrent.....	167,806	199,284	91,977	20,421
	Total, Non-Recurrent.....	<u>167,806</u>	<u>199,284</u>	<u>91,977</u>	<u>20,421</u>
	Total, Operating Account	<u>2,135,822</u>	<u>2,195,717</u>	<u>2,074,548</u>	<u>2,042,722</u>
Capital Account					
Plant, Equipment and Works					
661	Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)	1,226	—	—	1,814
	Total, Plant, Equipment and Works	<u>1,226</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,814</u>
	Total, Capital Account	<u>1,226</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,814</u>
	Total Expenditure	<u><u>2,137,048</u></u>	<u><u>2,195,717</u></u>	<u><u>2,074,548</u></u>	<u><u>2,044,536</u></u>

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Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2006–07 for the salaries and expenses of EPD is \$2,044,536,000. This represents a decrease of \$30,012,000 against the revised estimate for 2005–06 and of \$92,512,000 against actual expenditure in 2004–05.

Operating Account

Recurrent

2 Provision of \$913,696,000 under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is for the salaries, allowances and other operating expenses of EPD.

3 The establishment as at 31 March 2006 will be 1 621 permanent posts. It is expected that there will be a net reduction of four permanent posts in 2006–07. Subject to certain conditions, the controlling officer may under delegated power create or delete non-directorate posts during 2006–07, but the notional annual mid-point salary value of all such posts must not exceed \$515,995,000.

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

	2004–05 (Actual) (\$'000)	2005–06 (Original) (\$'000)	2005–06 (Revised) (\$'000)	2006–07 (Estimate) (\$'000)
Personal Emoluments				
- Salaries	725,718	731,576	724,000	733,000
- Allowances	7,987	7,847	9,743	8,348
- Job-related allowances	581	638	475	528
Personnel Related Expenses				
- Mandatory Provident Fund contribution	845	870	836	880
- Civil Service Provident Fund contribution	—	—	—	95
Departmental Expenses				
- Specialist supplies and equipment	10,361	10,391	11,381	10,391
- General departmental expenses	106,538	114,433	119,136	160,454
	852,030	865,755	865,571	913,696

5 Provision of \$1,108,605,000 under *Subhead 297 Fees for operation of waste facilities* is for contract payments for the operation of waste facilities including the Chemical Waste Treatment Centre, refuse transfer stations, landfills and for administering the charging schemes therefor.

Head 44 — ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

Commitments

Sub-head (Code)	Item (Code)	Ambit	Approved commitment	Accumulated expenditure to 31.3.2005	Revised estimated expenditure for 2005–06	Balance
			\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<i>Operating Account</i>						
700		<i>General non-recurrent</i>				
435		One-off grant to assist owners of pre-Euro diesel heavy vehicles of long idling operational mode to retrofit their vehicles with emission reduction devices	70,000	—	27,000	43,000
518		Demolition of compensated farm structures on Government land	31,860	21,782	200	9,878
548		Consultancy study on the air pollution problems in the Pearl River Delta Region	15,000	13,270	133	1,597
558		Public awareness on waste reduction	2,600	1,989	—	611
559		Development of a Pearl River Estuary Model for water quality management	5,100	1,020	1,905	2,175
563		Study of dioxins emission by sampling	7,200	3,391	3,520	289
564		Study to evaluate the adverse impact of environmental noise on public health in Hong Kong	3,500	340	85	3,075
565		Study to evaluate the environmental implications on traffic management measures	1,500	180	300	1,020
566		Review the eligibility of road sections for retrofitting barriers	3,000	238	368	2,394
568		One-off grant to assist owners of pre-Euro diesel heavy vehicles to retrofit their vehicles with particulate removal devices	600,000	305,018	9,000	285,982
569		“Community green network programme” to educate the public on the environment and government’s environmental initiatives	9,950	5,838	1,500	2,612
570		One-off grant to encourage diesel public light bus owners to replace their vehicles early with ones that run on liquefied petroleum gas or electricity	261,000	94,380	47,880	118,740
		Total	<u>1,010,710</u>	<u>447,446</u>	<u>91,891</u>	<u>471,373</u>