

## Head 5 — FINES, FORFEITURES AND PENALTIES

### Details of Revenue

Sub-head (Code)	Actual revenue 2000–01	Original estimate 2001–02	Revised estimate 2001–02	Estimate 2002–03
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
010 Court fines and statutory penalties .....	509,849	555,262	469,237	477,668
020 Forfeitures .....	72,086	40,191	73,252	52,381
030 Fixed penalty system (Traffic Contraventions) ..	277,138	282,616	228,271	227,983
040 Fixed penalty system (Criminal Proceedings) ...	198,989	198,142	191,868	191,868
050 Payments by civil servants .....	2,845	2,885	3,230	2,482
Total .....	<u>1,060,907</u>	<u>1,079,096</u>	<u>965,858</u>	<u>952,382</u>

### Description of Revenue Sources

To this revenue head are credited fines imposed by the Courts and penalties imposed by statute, forfeitures resulting from Court orders or from breaches of contracts and agreements with the Government, penalties arising from the fixed penalty system for traffic offences under the Fixed Penalty (Traffic Contraventions) Ordinance (Cap. 237) and the Fixed Penalty (Criminal Proceedings) Ordinance (Cap. 240), the fixed penalty ticket system for parking offences in public housing estates and payments by civil servants in respect of disciplinary proceedings and breaches of contract.

Revenue from fines, forfeitures and penalties generated 0.6% of general revenue in 2001–02.

### Underlying Changes in Revenue Yield

The **2001–02** revised estimate of \$965,858,000 is a net decrease of \$113,238,000 (10.5%) against the original estimate.

Under *Subhead 010 Court fines and statutory penalties* the decrease of \$86,025,000 (15.5%) is mainly due to the decrease in the number of court cases involving imposition of fines.

Under *Subhead 020 Forfeitures* the increase of \$33,061,000 (82.3%) is mainly due to the higher than expected revenue from forfeiture cases and the sale of confiscated goods.

Under *Subhead 030 Fixed penalty system (Traffic Contraventions)* the decrease of \$54,345,000 (19.2%) is mainly due to the lower than anticipated number of fixed penalty tickets issued for traffic offences.

Under *Subhead 050 Payments by civil servants* the increase of \$345,000 (12.0%) is mainly due to the higher than expected increase in the number of cases in which civil servants resigning from the civil service choose to pay salary in lieu of observing the prescribed notice period.

The **2002–03** estimate of \$952,382,000 is a net increase of \$13,476,000 (1.4%) over the revised estimate for 2001–02.

Under *Subhead 020 Forfeitures* the decrease of \$20,871,000 (28.5%) is mainly due to an anticipated decrease in revenue from forfeiture cases and the sale of confiscated goods.

Under *Subhead 050 Payments by civil servants* the decrease of \$748,000 (23.2%) is mainly due to an anticipated decrease in the number of cases in which civil servants resigning from the civil service choose to pay salary in lieu of observing the prescribed notice period.