

Head 163 — REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL OFFICE

Controlling officer: the Chief Electoral Officer will account for expenditure under this Head.

Estimate 2000–01 **\$406.0m**

Establishment ceiling 2000–01 (notional annual mid-point salary value) representing an estimated 122 permanent non-directorate posts at 31 March 2000 reducing by one post to 121 permanent non-directorate posts at 31 March 2001, and an estimated 115 temporary posts at 31 March 2000 rising by ten posts to 125 posts for varying durations in 2000–01 **\$98.5m**

In addition there will be one directorate post at 31 March 2000 and at 31 March 2001.

Controlling Officer's Report

Programme

Electoral Services

This programme contributes to Policy Area 28: Constitutional Affairs (Secretary for Constitutional Affairs).

Detail

	1998–99 (Actual)	1999–2000 (Approved)	1999–2000 (Revised)	2000–01 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	234.2	463.6 (+98.0%)	290.6 (–37.3%)	406.0 (+39.7%)

Aim

2 The aim is to provide the Electoral Affairs Commission with administrative support in the effective discharge of its statutory functions under the Electoral Affairs Commission Ordinance to ensure that elections are conducted openly, honestly and fairly.

Brief Description

3 The Registration and Electoral Office is the executive arm of the Electoral Affairs Commission. It will, under the direction of the Commission, implement the decisions of the Commission in relation to:

- the review and delineation of geographical constituencies and District Council constituencies;
- the registration of electors; and
- the conduct and supervision of elections.

4 During 1999–2000, the Registration and Electoral Office has provided the Electoral Affairs Commission with efficient and effective administrative support to accomplish a number of major tasks. These include:

- the making of recommendations on the delineation of constituencies for District Councils;
- the making of subsidiary legislation on electoral arrangements for the first District Councils election;
- the issue of guidelines for the conduct of the first District Councils election;
- the conduct and supervision of the District Councils election;
- the making of recommendations on the delineation of geographical constituencies for the second Legislative Council election;
- the making of subsidiary legislation on voter registration for the second Legislative Council election;
- the promotion and conduct of a major voter registration drive for the second Legislative Council election; and
- preparatory work for conducting the second Legislative Council election.

5 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	1998 (Actual)	1999 (Actual)	2000 (Plan)
to submit recommendations to the Chief Executive on the demarcation of geographical constituencies for the Legislative Council.....	—	on 30.10.1999	—

Head 163 — REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL OFFICE

	1998 (Actual)	1999 (Actual)	2000 (Plan)
constituencies for District Councils	—	on 15.5.1999	—
to conduct voter registration drive	1	1	1
to update the records of the registered electors	1	1	1
to organise election for			
Legislative Council	3†	—	1
District Councils	—	1	—
to issue notification of election arrangements to electors ten days before the poll	Target Achieved 88%	Target Achieved 100%	Target to be achieved 100%
to respond to telephone enquiries on election arrangements on polling days within two minutes.....	Target Achieved 100%	Target Achieved 100%	Target to be achieved 100%
to process complaints on elections within 14 days	Target Achieved 100%	Target Achieved 100%	Target to be achieved 100%
to submit to the Chief Executive a report on matters relating to			
a general election of the Legislative Council	on 24.8.1998	—	1
an ordinary election of the District Councils	—	—	1

† including two by-elections

Indicators

	1998 (Actual)	1999 (Actual)	2000 (Estimate)
no. of new electors registered/to be registered	307 373	92 786	320 000
no. of elector records updated/to be updated	345 200	170 559	400 000

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2000–01

6 During 2000–01, the Registration and Electoral Office will continue to provide the Electoral Affairs Commission with efficient and effective administrative support in connection with its work, which includes:

- the publication of registers of electors for the second Legislative Council election;
- the making of subsidiary legislation on electoral arrangements for the second Legislative Council election;
- the issue of guidelines for the conduct of the second Legislative Council election;
- the conduct and supervision of the Election Committee subsector election and the second Legislative Council election; and
- the review of the electoral arrangements for the second Legislative Council election with a view to making improvements in future elections.

Head 163 — REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL OFFICE

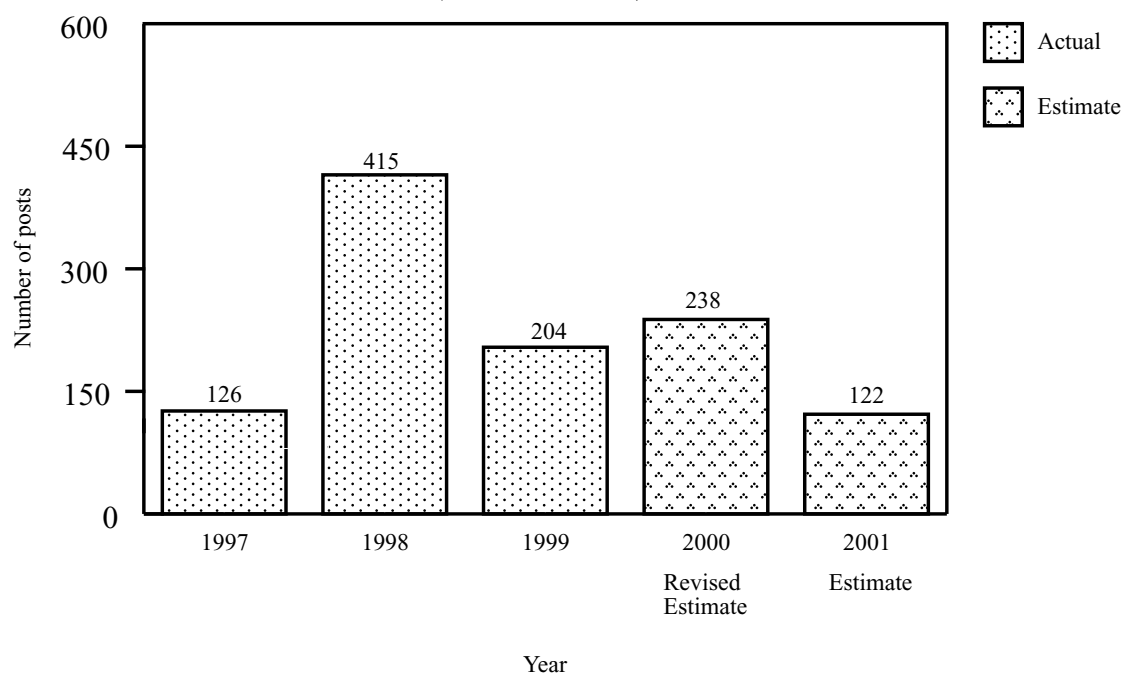
ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL PROVISION

Programme	1998-99 (Actual) (\$m)	1999-2000 (Approved) (\$m)	1999-2000 (Revised) (\$m)	2000-01 (Estimate) (\$m)
Electoral Services	234.2	463.6 (+98.0%)	290.6 (-37.3%)	406.0 (+39.7%)

Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision

Provision for 2000-01 is \$115.4 million (39.7%) higher than the revised estimate for 1999-2000. This is mainly due to the additional expenses (such as free postage provided for candidates) required for conducting the second Legislative Council election of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

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



- Note:*
- (i) The establishment of 204 posts as at 31 March 1999 includes 123 core staff of the Office and 81 temporary posts for updating the registers of electors, conducting a voter registration drive and preparing for the first District Councils election.
 - (ii) The estimated establishment of 238 posts as at 31 March 2000 includes 123 core staff of the Office and 115 temporary posts for undertaking voter registration and other duties in connection with the second Legislative Council election.

Head 163 — REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL OFFICE

Sub-head (Code)		Actual expenditure 1998-99	Approved estimate 1999-2000	Revised estimate 1999-2000	Estimate 2000-01
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Recurrent Account					
I — Personal Emoluments					
001	Salaries	48,721	98,876	55,600	54,892
002	Allowances	9,375	11,033	5,980	6,104
007	Job-related allowances	6	7	7	7
	Total, Personal Emoluments	58,102	109,916	61,587	61,003
III — Departmental Expenses					
110	Honoraria for members of committees.....	480	480	480	480
149	General departmental expenses	6,150	12,572	9,940	10,000
	Total, Departmental Expenses	6,630	13,052	10,420	10,480
IV — Other Charges					
258	Election expenses	169,440	340,669	218,602	334,506
	Total, Other Charges.....	169,440	340,669	218,602	334,506
	Total, Recurrent Account.....	234,172	463,637	290,609	405,989
	Total Expenditure	234,172	463,637	290,609	405,989

Head 163 — REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL OFFICE

Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2000–01 for the salaries and expenses of the Registration and Electoral Office is \$405,989,000. This represents an increase of \$115,380,000 over the revised estimate for 1999–2000 and of \$171,817,000 on actual expenditure in 1998–99.

Recurrent Account

Personal Emoluments

2 Provision of \$61,003,000 for personal emoluments represents a decrease of \$584,000 against the revised estimate for 1999–2000.

3 The establishment of the Office at 31 March 2000 will be 123 permanent posts and 115 temporary posts. The number of temporary posts is expected to increase to 125 for varying periods for election-related duties during 2000–01. It is expected that one permanent post will be deleted in 2000–01 under the Enhanced Productivity Programme.

4 Subject to certain conditions, the controlling officer may under delegated powers create or delete non-directorate posts during 2000–01, but the notional annual mid-point salary value of all such posts must not exceed \$98,476,000.

5 Provision of \$6,104,000 under *Subhead 002 Allowances* is for standard allowances and the following non-standard allowance—

	Rank	Master Pay Scale point	Rate per month† \$
consolidated overtime allowance for Chauffeur grade	Chauffeur	6	5,570
		7	5,940
		8	6,330
		9	6,740
		10	7,145

† These rates are payable for the first 1–100 hours overtime per month. Overtime performed in excess of 100 hours will be compensated at 1% of the monthly rate per hour.

6 Provision of \$7,000 under *Subhead 007 Job-related allowances* is for standard job-related allowances.

Departmental Expenses

7 Provision of \$480,000 under *Subhead 110 Honoraria for members of committees* is for paying a monthly allowance of \$20,000 to the two members of the Electoral Affairs Commission.

Other Charges

8 Provision of \$334,506,000 under *Subhead 258 Election expenses* represents an increase of \$115,904,000 (53.0%) over the revised estimate in 1999–2000. This is mainly due to additional expenses required for conducting the second Legislative Council election of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.