

## Head 62 — HOUSING DEPARTMENT

**Controlling officer:** the Director of Housing will account for expenditure under this Head.

**Estimate 2001–02**..... **\$481.2m**

### Controlling Officer's Report

#### Programme

#### **Squatter and Temporary Housing Clearance and Squatter Control**

This programme contributes to Policy Area 31: Housing (Secretary for Housing).

#### Detail

	1999–2000 (Actual)	2000–01 (Approved)	2000–01 (Revised)	<b>2001–02 (Estimate)</b>
Financial provision (\$m)	511.7	486.9 (–4.8%)	486.6 (–0.1%)	<b>481.2 (–1.1%)</b>

#### Aim

**2** Acting on behalf of Government, the Housing Department clears land for development or other purposes. It prevents new squatting on government land and leased agricultural land and maintains in good repair the facilities provided under the Squatter Area Improvement Programme.

#### Brief Description

**3** The work involves:

- surveying of domestic structures, business undertakings etc. within the clearance zone;
- screening of clearees;
- deterring, detecting and demolishing new illegal structures;
- assisting the Environmental Protection Department to demolish compensated livestock structures on government land;
- assisting the Lands Department to enforce compliance with terms and conditions of licences;
- assistance in rehousing the occupants of unauthorised rooftop structures displaced by the Buildings Department's enforcement actions;
- registration of victims of natural disasters for subsequent rehousing, and arrangement of temporary shelter; and
- maintenance of squatter area improvement facilities.

**4** The key performance measures in respect of this programme are:

#### Targets

	Target	1999 (Actual)	2000 (Actual)	<b>2001 (Plan)</b>
screening of domestic clearees' rehousing eligibility after clearance announcement .....	not more than 2 months	100%	100%	<b>100%</b>
arrival time of staff at the scene upon receiving message of occurrence of natural disasters .....	within 1 hour	100%	100%	<b>100%</b>

#### Indicators

	1999 (Actual)	2000 (Actual)	<b>2001 (Estimate)</b>
no. of people rehoused as a result of programmed squatter and unauthorised rooftop structure clearances or emergency clearances following natural disaster .....	4 500	5 800	<b>7 000</b>
squatter population .....	228 900	226 500	<b>222 800</b>
urban .....	20 700	20 300	<b>17 600</b>
non-urban .....	208 200	206 200	<b>205 200</b>

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	1999 (Actual)	2000 (Actual)	2001 (Estimate)
no. of illegal structures demolished.....	1 700	2 000	3 000
no. of Temporary Housing Area residents rehoused.....	6 000	4 500	1 000
no. of Cottage Area residents rehoused .....	300	550	900

5 In 2000, squatting activities were kept under tight control and any new squatting was suppressed in a timely manner.

### *Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2001-02*

6 Clearance of the three remaining Cottage Areas in Lai Chi Kok, Mt. Davis and So Kon Po will be carried out in 2001.

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### ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL PROVISION

<b>Programme</b>	1999–2000 (Actual) (\$m)	2000–01 (Approved) (\$m)	2000–01 (Revised) (\$m)	<b>2001–02 (Estimate) (\$m)</b>
Squatter and Temporary Housing Clearance and Squatter Control .....	511.7	486.9 (–4.8%)	486.6 (–0.1%)	<b>481.2 (–1.1%)</b>

#### Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision

Provision for 2001–02 is \$5.4 million (1.1%) lower than the revised estimate for 2000–01. This mainly reflects reduced requirement as a result of the deletion of posts and reduced operating expenses under the Enhanced Productivity Programme, partly offset by salary increments for existing staff.

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Sub-head (Code)		Actual expenditure 1999-2000	Approved estimate 2000-01	Revised estimate 2000-01	<b>Estimate 2001-02</b>
	\$ 000	\$ 000	\$ 000	\$ 000	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Recurrent Account</b>					
I — Personal Emoluments					
003	Recoverable salaries and allowances .....	4,255,699			
	<i>Deduct</i> reimbursements .....	<u>Cr.4,255,699</u>	—	—	—
	Total, Personal Emoluments .....	—	—	—	—
IV — Other Charges					
294	Clearance and squatter control .....	511,704	486,855	486,596	<b>481,200</b>
	Total, Other Charges .....	511,704	486,855	486,596	<b>481,200</b>
	Total, Recurrent Account .....	511,704	486,855	486,596	<b>481,200</b>
	Total Expenditure .....	<u>511,704</u>	<u>486,855</u>	<u>486,596</u>	<u><b>481,200</b></u>

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### Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2001–02 for the expenses of those activities of the Housing Department that are funded from grants from General Revenue is \$481,200,000. This represents a decrease of \$5,396,000 against the revised estimate for 2000–01 and of \$30,504,000 against actual expenditure in 1999–2000.

#### *Recurrent Account*

##### Personal Emoluments

**2** Staff in the department remain in the civil service. Expenditure on the salaries and allowances of the staff is reimbursable by the Hong Kong Housing Authority. Provision of \$4,255,699,000 has been included under *Subhead 003 Recoverable salaries and allowances* together with a credit item for reimbursements made by the Authority. Overhead costs are reimbursed by the Authority and credited to General Revenue.

**3** Subject to certain conditions, the controlling officer may under delegated powers create or delete non-directorate posts during 2001–02. For posts funded by the Authority, and before exercising his delegated powers, the controlling officer is required to seek the advice of the Departmental Establishment Committee and, subsequently, to obtain the endorsement of the Authority that the proposals and their financial implications are acceptable. However, the gross estimate under *Subhead 003* must not be exceeded without the prior approval of the Secretary for the Treasury.

##### Other Charges

**4** Provision of \$481,200,000 under *Subhead 294 Clearance and squatter control* is for staff costs and other expenses incurred in clearing squatters, Cottage Areas and unauthorised rooftop structures, preventing and controlling squatting; and for expenses incurred in maintaining facilities provided by the Housing Department under the programme of improvements to squatter areas.