

Head 176 — SUBVENTIONS: MISCELLANEOUS

Controlling officers: expenditure under this Head will be accounted for as follows—

Permanent Secretary for Commerce, Industry and Technology (Commerce and Industry) (Subheads 437, 461, 457 and 420)

Permanent Secretary for Security (Subhead 462)

Permanent Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food (Subheads 521, 528, 414 and 864)

Director of Social Welfare (Subhead 460)

Permanent Secretary for Education and Manpower (Subhead 527)

Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs (Subhead 475)

Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Subheads 503, 451, 502 and 863)

Director of Administration (Subheads 446 and 925)

Estimate 2003–04 **\$268.4m**

Capital Account commitment balance **\$5.8m**

These subheads are listed under their respective controlling officers (in order of Policy Area and size of subvention) to emphasise the relevant accountability in the reports and analysis of financial provision.

Controlling Officers' Reports and Analysis of Financial Provision

This Head provides for subventions to a number of local organisations, and for Hong Kong's participation in a number of international organisations.

Policy Area 6: Commerce and Industry

Permanent Secretary for Commerce, Industry and Technology (Commerce and Industry)

Subhead 437 Hong Kong-Japan Business Co-operation Committee (HKJBCC)

2 Provision of \$3,610,000 is for subventing the HKJBCC, which was formed in 1979 to foster friendship and understanding between the business communities of Hong Kong and Japan and to promote trade, investment and economic co-operation.

3 Since its inception, the HKJBCC and its counterpart, the Japan-Hong Kong Business Co-operation Committee, have been meeting at least once a year alternately in Hong Kong and Japan to update and discuss trade and economic issues. The HKJBCC is currently supported by a Communication Working Group to lead and facilitate the communication strategies and tools that help to advance the objectives of the HKJBCC.

4 The Committee's priority is to explore ways of promoting Hong Kong as a trade services platform where Japanese entrepreneurs can expand their manufacturing capabilities and markets, especially in the Mainland of China. Key projects spearheaded by the HKJBCC include:

- the publication of a practical business guide book in Japanese promoting Hong Kong as the partner and platform for the Mainland of China;
- the issuance of a monthly e-newsletter providing a steady flow of news in Japanese about business opportunities in Hong Kong for Japanese companies. This e-newsletter is distributed by email to Japanese companies on TDC's databank and can be accessed on the Japanese interface site of *tdctrade.com*;
- providing summaries in Japanese of selected TDC research reports that are of interest to Japanese companies, especially those providing and analysing details of China's evolving trade regime under its WTO commitments. The reports can also be accessed by the Japanese companies through the internet or the aforesaid e-newsletter; and
- conducting in-depth research and surveys to find out how Japanese companies are using Hong Kong as the services platform for their business in the Mainland and their perception of the Mainland market. The findings will be very useful and important to both Japan and Hong Kong.

5 The Hong Kong Trade Development Council (see Head 177—Subventions: Non-Departmental Public Bodies *Subhead 444*) will provide an additional \$358,000 to the Committee in 2003–04.

Subhead 461 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

6 Provision of \$308,000 is to meet the annual contribution for 2003 towards the costs of the UNDP's activities benefiting Hong Kong and part of the administrative costs of the UNDP country office which deals with UNDP matters relating to Hong Kong. Hong Kong benefits from the UNDP in terms of overseas training and expert advisory and consultancy services.

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Subhead 457 World Customs Organisation (WCO)

7 Provision of \$260,000 is to pay for Hong Kong's contribution to the 2003–04 WCO budget. The objectives of the WCO are to improve and harmonise customs systems and procedures and to facilitate international trade.

Subhead 420 Asian and Pacific Development Centre (APDC)

8 Provision of \$88,000 is to meet the annual contribution of US\$11,220 to the APDC. In contributing to the APDC, Hong Kong is able to nominate participants to attend the training courses and seminars organised by the Centre, and benefit from the Centre's consultancy and information on development.

Policy Area 9: Internal Security

Permanent Secretary for Security

Subhead 462 United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) and World Health Organisation (WHO)

9 Provision of \$224,000 is to meet the annual contribution towards the UNDCP and the WHO in support of their activities to control drug trafficking and substance abuse.

Policy Area 14: Social Welfare

Permanent Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food

Subhead 521 Skills centres

10 Provision of \$117,948,000 is for subventing on a deficiency basis three skills centres run by the Vocational Training Council, which provide vocational assessment and training services to people with disabilities over the age of 15. Key performance indicators are:

	<i>Academic Year</i>		
	2001/02# (Actual)	2002/03# (Estimate)	2003/04 (Estimate)
number of vocational assessments made			
comprehensive assessment programme.....	177	150	150
specific assessment programme	1 240	800	800
number of training places			
full-time	1 251	1 251	900
part-time.....	360	360	360
number of trainees enrolled			
full-time	1 234	1 252	900
part-time.....	467	360	360
number of trainees completed training			
full-time	377	397	260
part-time.....	407	300	300

Including figures on two skills centres run by non-governmental organisations which will be subvented under the Social Welfare Department starting from 2003–04.

11 The overall performance of the skills centres in the 2002/03 academic year is expected to be satisfactory.

Subhead 528 Guardianship Board

12 Provision of \$4,022,000 is to meet the running expenses of a Guardianship Board for mentally disordered and mentally handicapped persons under the Mental Health Ordinance (Cap. 136).

Subhead 414 Environmental Advisory Service

13 Provision of \$1,459,000 is for subventing on a discretionary basis the Environmental Advisory Service to provide specialist information and advice on ways to improve access facilities to meet the special needs of people with disabilities.

Director of Social Welfare

Subhead 460 United Nations Children's Fund

14 Provision of \$131,000 comprises a donation of \$88,000 towards the United Nations Children's Fund and a contribution of \$43,000 towards the Fund's administrative expenses in 2003–04. The Fund is the largest development organisation in the world that works for the well-being of children.

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Policy Area 16: Education

Permanent Secretary for Education and Manpower

Subhead 527 Open University of Hong Kong

15 Provision of \$1,261,000 is for the reimbursement of rates paid by the Open University of Hong Kong.

Policy Area 18: Recreation, Culture, Amenities and Entertainment Licensing

Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs

Subhead 475 Outward Bound Trust of Hong Kong

16 Provision of \$1,911,000 is to assist deserving underprivileged or disabled persons and young people at risk, who are unable to meet all or part of the course fees, to take courses at the Outward Bound School. The courses are designed to develop the character, community spirit and leadership qualities of the participants. The key performance measures are:

	2001 (Actual)	2002 (Actual)	2003 (Estimate)
number of deserving underprivileged or disabled persons and young people at risk assisted	718	795	725
number of training programme days	5 009	5 729	5 200

Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Subhead 503 Subventions to non-government organisation camps

17 Provision of \$27,425,000 is to assist 25 holiday camps and water sports centres managed by 12 non-government organisations to provide recreational activities for members of the public. The subvention helps towards meeting operating expenses on staff costs, rents and rates, and minor repairs.

18 In 2003–04, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department will continue to pay frequent visits to the 25 camps and centres and assist the 12 non-government organisations in maximising the utilisation of these facilities. The department will hold regular meetings with these organisations to exchange information and ideas. The department will also attend relevant meetings with the Home Affairs Bureau and relevant departments. Through these channels, the department will maintain close contact with staff of these camps and centres, and will review their facilities, programmes and mode of operation and recommend changes and improvements where necessary. The key performance measures are:

	2001 (Actual)	2002 (Actual)	2003 (Estimate)
number of non-government organisation camps subvented	25	25	25
average utilisation rate (%)	59.9	61.8	62.0
number of users.....	704 356	762 526	765 000

Subhead 451 Hong Kong Life Saving Society

19 Provision of \$547,000 is for subvention to the Hong Kong Life Saving Society to meet part of its administration expenses. The Society promotes interest in life saving work and water safety training in Hong Kong.

Subhead 502 Hong Kong Archaeological Society

20 Provision of \$164,000 is a discretionary grant to the Hong Kong Archaeological Society to meet the expenses incurred in connection with the excavation activities conducted for the study and preservation of Hong Kong's archaeological heritage.

Policy Area 20: Legal Aid

Director of Administration

Subhead 446 Duty Lawyer Service (DLS)

21 Provision of \$101,619,000 is for subventing the DLS in the implementation of three legal assistance schemes to complement the legal aid services provided by the Legal Aid Department. These schemes are the Duty Lawyer Scheme, the Legal Advice Scheme and the Tel-Law Scheme. The DLS, which was known as the Legal Advice and Duty Lawyer Scheme until its incorporation in August 1993, is managed by the Hong Kong Bar Association and the Law Society of Hong Kong through a governing council and is administered by an administrator who is a legally qualified person.

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22 The Legal Aid Department provides legal representation in both civil and criminal cases heard in the District Court and above under the Legal Aid Ordinance and the Legal Aid in Criminal Cases Rules. To ensure access to justice on matters outside the jurisdiction of the Legal Aid Department, the Duty Lawyer Scheme provides legal representation to any defendant in Magistrates' Courts where the interests of justice require, and without payment by the defendant in any such case if he does not have sufficient means to pay for it. The Scheme also provides, either with the agreement or at the request of the Government, other forms of legal assistance and advice. These at present include assigning lawyers to advise defendants facing extradition, to monitor one-way viewer identification parades and to represent hawkers upon their appeals to the Municipal Services Appeals Board and any person who is at risk of criminal prosecution as a result of giving incriminating evidence in Coroner's inquest.

23 The Legal Advice Scheme provides free legal advice without means testing at nine evening centres at Sha Tin, Tsuen Wan, Wan Chai, Central and Western, Yau Tsim Mong, Kwun Tong, Eastern, Islands and Wong Tai Sin District Offices. In addition, the Scheme provides advice at the offices of the Hong Kong Federation of Women's Centres and the Hong Kong Federation of Women. Members of the public can make appointments to see volunteer lawyers through one of the 122 referral agencies which include all district offices and many voluntary agencies. The DLS has generally met its target of arranging a client of the Scheme to see volunteer lawyers at a centre of his choice within two weeks upon confirmation of an appointment.

24 The Tel-Law Scheme is a 24-hour free telephone enquiry service which provides members of the public with basic information on the legal aspects of everyday problems. There are 73 tapes available in Cantonese, English and Putonghua, covering matrimonial, landlord and tenant, criminal, financial, employment and administrative law. The website of the DLS was formally launched on 15 April 2002. It provides comprehensive information on DLS's services to members of the public, including an on-line version of the Tel-Law service.

25 The key performance measures of the DLS are:

	2001 (Actual)	2002 (Actual)	2003 (Estimate)
number of persons who received legal advice and representation from the Duty Lawyer Scheme	43 313	46 593	49 631
cost per defendant under the Duty Lawyer Scheme (\$)	2,394.4	2,137.8	2,072.4
number of cases handled by the Legal Advice Scheme	5 692	6 084	6 084
cost per case under the Legal Advice Scheme (\$)	140.3	148.9	136.9
number of cases handled by the Tel-Law Scheme	62 300	51 058	51 058
cost per call under the Tel-Law Scheme (\$)	0.5	0.5	0.5

26 The Director of Administration will continue to closely monitor the performance of the DLS to ensure a high level of usage of the services while maintaining quality of service and cost-effectiveness.

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Sub-head (Code)	Actual expenditure 2001-02	Approved estimate 2002-03	Revised estimate 2002-03	Estimate 2003-04	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Recurrent Account					
V — Subventions					
414	Environmental Advisory Service.....	1,508	1,523	1,504	1,459
420	Asian and Pacific Development Centre.....	80	88	88	88
437	Hong Kong-Japan Business Co-operation Committee.....	3,610	3,610	3,610	3,610
446	Duty Lawyer Service.....	101,241	98,971	101,274	101,619
451	Hong Kong Life Saving Society.....	577	557	557	547
457	World Customs Organisation.....	123	260	260	260
460	United Nations Children's Fund.....	138	133	133	131
461	United Nations Development Programme.....	300	308	308	308
462	United Nations International Drug Control Programme and World Health Organisation..	233	228	228	224
475	Outward Bound Trust of Hong Kong.....	1,946	1,946	1,946	1,911
502	Hong Kong Archaeological Society.....	169	167	167	164
503	Subventions to non-government organisation camps.....	28,869	28,547	28,238	27,425
521	Skills centres.....	140,382	148,990	140,300	117,948
527	Open University of Hong Kong.....	1,338	1,349	1,246	1,261
528	Guardianship Board.....	4,191	4,491	4,257	4,022
	Total, Subventions.....	284,705	291,168	284,116	260,977
	Total, Recurrent Account.....	284,705	291,168	284,116	260,977
Capital Account					
III — Subventions					
863	Non-government organisation camps (block vote).....	1,134	3,779	3,779	3,703
864	Skills centres (block vote).....	2,090	5,960	5,960	3,728
925	Duty Lawyer Service.....	873	248	306	8
	Research grant to the Open University of Hong Kong.....	1,200	—	402	—
	Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority.....	—	—	1,000	—
	Total, Subventions.....	5,297	9,987	11,447	7,439
	Total, Capital Account.....	5,297	9,987	11,447	7,439
	Total Expenditure.....	290,002	301,155	295,563	268,416

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Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2003–04 for subventing or subscribing to the various organisations and institutions in and outside Hong Kong under this Head is \$268,416,000. This represents a decrease of \$27,147,000 against the revised estimate for 2002–03 and of \$21,586,000 against actual expenditure in 2001–02. Details of expenditure in respect of subheads where there are significant changes in provision are described hereunder.

Recurrent Account

Subventions

2 Provision of \$117,948,000 under *Subhead 521 Skills centres* represents a decrease of \$22,352,000 (15.9%) against the revised estimate for 2002–03. This is mainly due to the transfer of recurrent subventions for two skills centres run by non-governmental organisations to the respective vote under the Social Welfare Department.

3 Provision of \$4,022,000 under *Subhead 528 Guardianship Board* represents a decrease of \$235,000 (5.5%) against the revised estimate for 2002–03. This is mainly due to the payment of an end-of-contract gratuity for the Chairperson in 2002–03, partly offset by the effect of salary increments and end-of-contract gratuities for staff of the Guardianship Board in 2003–04.

Capital Account

Subventions

4 Provision of \$3,703,000 under *Subhead 863 Non-government organisation camps (block vote)* is to assist the subvented camps/centres to undertake major repairs, maintenance and improvement works with the cost of each individual item above \$50,000 but not exceeding \$2,000,000.

5 Provision of \$3,728,000 under *Subhead 864 Skills centres (block vote)* is for repair and maintenance works for the three skills centres run by the Vocational Training Council, replacement of the centre bus for Kwun Tong Skills Centre, and periodic testing and inspection of electrical installation for Pokfulam Skills Centre. The decrease of \$2,232,000 (37.4%) against the revised estimate for 2002–03 is mainly due to reduced requirement for repair and maintenance works.

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Capital Account

Commitments

Sub-head (Code)	Item (Code)	Ambit	Approved commitment	Accumulated expenditure to 31.3.2002	Revised estimated expenditure for 2002-03	Balance
			\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
925		<i>Duty Lawyer Service</i>				
	085	Renovation of Tsuen Wan Court Liaison Office	6,500	655	87	5,758
		Total.....	<u>6,500</u>	<u>655</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>5,758</u>