

Head 159 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: DEVELOPMENT BUREAU (WORKS BRANCH)

Controlling officer: the Permanent Secretary for Development (Works) will account for expenditure under this Head.

Estimate 2008–09 **\$221.1m**

Establishment ceiling 2008–09 (notional annual mid-point salary value) representing an estimated 162 non-directorate posts as at 31 March 2008 rising by ten posts to 172 posts as at 31 March 2009 **\$80.7m**

In addition, there will be an estimated 19 directorate posts as at 31 March 2008 rising by one post to 20 posts as at 31 March 2009.

Commitment balance **\$103.5m**

Controlling Officer's Report

Programmes

Programme (1) Water Supply	This programme contributes to Policy Area 24: Water Supply (Secretary for Development).
Programme (2) Heritage Conservation	This programme contributes to Policy Area 22: Buildings, Lands, Planning and Heritage Conservation (Secretary for Development).
Programme (3) Intra-Governmental Services	This programme contributes to Policy Area 27: Intra-Governmental Services (Secretary for Development).

Detail

Programme (1): Water Supply

	2006–07 (Actual)	2007–08 (Original)	2007–08 (Revised)	2008–09 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	10.5	11.7	10.1 (–13.7%)	10.6 (+5.0%)
				(or –9.4% on 2007–08 Original)

Aim

2 The aim is to ensure the provision of a reliable, adequate and quality supply of water and to maintain an efficient water supply service.

Brief Description

3 The Works Branch's main responsibility under this programme is to formulate water supply policies and co-ordinate their implementation. In 2007, the Branch:

- sustained round-the-clock water supply to the territory throughout the year;
- ensured that the quality of water supplied to customers at connection points fully complied with the Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality of the World Health Organization; and
- continued with the study to map out a long-term strategy on total water management built upon the outcome of pilot schemes.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2008–09

4 During 2008–09, the Branch will:

- continue to ensure a reliable and safe supply of potable water;
- oversee the maintenance and improvement of the water supply infrastructure; and
- carry on the formulation of a long-term strategy on total water management.

Head 159 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: DEVELOPMENT BUREAU (WORKS BRANCH)

Programme (2): Heritage Conservation

	2006–07 (Actual)	2007–08 (Original)	2007–08 (Revised)	2008–09 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)#	2.7	3.0	14.1 (+370.0%)	33.6 (+138.3%)
				(or +1 020.0% on 2007–08 Original)

The figures include relevant provisions for this programme which have been transferred from Head 53—Government Secretariat: Home Affairs Bureau and the former Head 145—Government Secretariat: Economic Development and Labour Bureau (Economic Development Branch) due to the re-organisation of the Government Secretariat with effect from 1 July 2007.

Aim

5 The aim is to protect, conserve and revitalise as appropriate historical and heritage sites and buildings through relevant and sustainable approaches for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

Brief Description

6 The Works Branch's main responsibility under this programme is to support the Secretary for Development in discharging her statutory role as the Antiquities Authority; formulate heritage conservation measures with public participation, co-ordinate their implementation and operate the "Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme" for the adaptive re-use of government-owned historic buildings.

7 The key performance measure in respect of heritage conservation is:

Indicator

	2006 (Actual)	2007 (Actual)	2008 (Estimate)
Cumulative total number of buildings included under the Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership SchemeΔ.....	—	—	7

Δ New indicator as from 2008.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2008–09

8 During 2008–09, the Branch will:

- implement "Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme" to preserve and put government-owned historic buildings into good and innovative use; to transform historic buildings into unique cultural landmarks; to promote active public participation in the conservation of historic buildings; and to create job opportunities in particular at the district level;
- explore different economic incentives to facilitate the conservation of privately owned historic buildings;
- extend financial support on maintenance of private historic buildings from declared monuments to graded historic buildings and devise the implementation details;
- take forward the Central Police Station Compound revitalisation project in the light of Hong Kong Jockey Club's public engagement exercise;
- draw up a revitalisation plan for the ex-Hollywood Road Police Married Quarters Site; and
- seek to set up a Commissioner for Heritage's Office in the Branch to handle matters concerning heritage conservation, to raise government profile and visibility on heritage conservation matters and to provide the focal point for local and overseas networking.

Head 159 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: DEVELOPMENT BUREAU (WORKS BRANCH)

Programme (3): Intra-Governmental Services

	2006–07 (Actual)	2007–08 (Original)	2007–08 (Revised)	2008–09 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)§	156.4	169.8	158.8 (–6.5%)	176.9 (+11.4%)
				(or +4.2% on 2007–08 Original)

§ For comparison purpose, the figures exclude relevant provisions for general administrative support services which have been transferred to Head 158—Government Secretariat: Transport and Housing Bureau (Transport Branch) due to the re-organisation of the Government Secretariat with effect from 1 July 2007.

Aim

9 The aim is to plan, manage and implement public sector infrastructure development and works programmes in a safe, timely and cost-effective manner whilst maintaining high quality standards.

Brief Description

10 The Branch's main responsibilities under this programme are to formulate works policies; to monitor implementation of public sector infrastructure development and works programmes; to roll out industry reform initiatives; and to provide legal services for these matters. In 2007, the Branch:

- monitored the delivery of major public works projects according to schedule and within budget;
- maintained the Public Works Programme Information System to provide timely project and contract information to relevant parties;
- sustained momentum in raising the quality of the construction industry through collaboration with the Construction Industry Council and saw through the amalgamation of the Council with the Construction Industry Training Authority on 1 January 2008;
- co-organised with the Guangdong Provincial Department of Construction a seminar held in Guangzhou which was participated by 70 senior executives and professionals from Hong Kong and Mainland enterprises and organisations related to businesses in construction and related professional services;
- commenced implementation of phase one prohibition under the Construction Workers Registration Ordinance to prohibit unregistered construction workers from carrying out construction work on construction sites and employers from employing unregistered construction workers;
- co-organised with the Ministry of Construction of the Mainland a large-scale forum in Changsha which was joined by more than 180 Hong Kong senior practitioners and executives engaged in construction-related services;
- commenced preparatory works with the Ministry of Construction of the Mainland on the mutual recognition of professional qualifications for electrical engineers, building services engineers, geotechnical engineers and land surveyors as well as on registration and practices for construction sector professionals after acquiring professional qualifications through mutual recognition; and
- introduced improvement measures and organised promotional activities to enhance safety and environmental performance at construction sites.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2008–09

11 During 2008–09, the Branch will:

- continue to monitor the delivery of the Public Works Programme to secure early completion of projects and keep its underspending, if any, to below five per cent;
- continue to promote the wider use of alternative procurement models in public works projects with a view to improving efficiency and productivity;
- devise a strategy to deal with landslide risks associated with natural hillside catchments, and continue to oversee the improvement, maintenance and landscaping of government slopes;
- continue to monitor the drainage upgrading works on Hong Kong Island, and in west Kowloon, northern and northwest New Territories to reduce flooding risk in these areas;
- continue to monitor the nullah decking and improvement projects to enhance local environment;
- continue to implement improvement measures and initiatives including promotional activities, training courses and regulating actions to uplift the safety and environmental performance at construction sites;

**Head 159 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: DEVELOPMENT BUREAU
(WORKS BRANCH)**

- transfer the secretariat duties for the Construction Industry Council to its permanent secretariat and ensure smooth operation upon the amalgamation of the Council with the Construction Industry Training Authority;
- continue to work closely with the Construction Workers Registration Authority to facilitate registration of construction workers and implementation of prohibitions under the Construction Workers Registration Ordinance;
- continue to co-ordinate inter-departmental efforts on greening, explore new opportunities to improve the cityscape, supervise the development and implementation of Greening Master Plans, enhance tree preservation and enlist community support in greening the environment; and
- continue to promote the construction and related professional services and to pursue better market access in the Mainland as well as wider mutual recognition of professional qualifications.

Head 159 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: DEVELOPMENT BUREAU (WORKS BRANCH)

ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL PROVISION

Programme	2006–07 (Actual) (\$m)	2007–08 (Original) (\$m)	2007–08 (Revised) (\$m)	2008–09 (Estimate) (\$m)
(1) Water Supply.....	10.5	11.7	10.1	10.6
(2) Heritage Conservation.....	2.7	3.0	14.1	33.6
(3) Intra-Governmental Services.....	156.4	169.8	158.8	176.9
	169.6\$	184.5\$	183.0\$ (–0.8%)	221.1 (+20.8%)
				(or +19.8% on 2007–08 Original)

§ In addition to the changes to programmes (2) and (3) mentioned under individual programme, the figures exclude relevant provisions for the director of bureau's office which have been transferred to the new Head 137—Government Secretariat: Environment Bureau and Head 158—Government Secretariat: Transport and Housing Bureau (Transport Branch) due to the re-organisation of the Government Secretariat with effect from 1 July 2007. The director of bureau's office of the Development Bureau is under Head 138—Government Secretariat: Development Bureau (Planning and Lands Branch).

Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision

Programme (1)

Provision for 2008–09 is \$0.5 million (5.0%) higher than the revised estimate for 2007–08. This is mainly due to the increased provision for filling of vacancies and implementing the Graduate Training Scheme.

Programme (2)

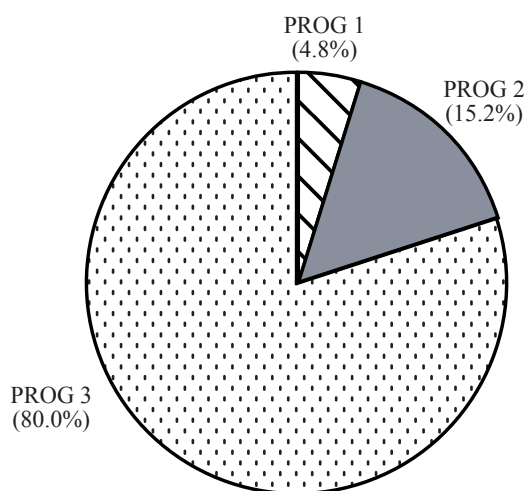
Provision for 2008–09 is \$19.5 million (138.3%) higher than the revised estimate for 2007–08. This is mainly due to the increased provision for the net increase of four posts and implementation of heritage conservation policies including the cash flow for the general non-recurrent item on "Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme".

Programme (3)

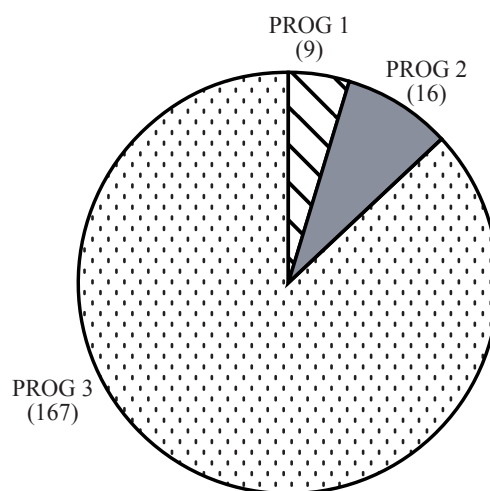
Provision for 2008–09 is \$18.1 million (11.4%) higher than the revised estimate for 2007–08. This is mainly due to the increased provision for minor consultancy studies, implementation of Graduate Training Scheme and enhancement of computer systems, partly offset by the completion of a general non-recurrent item. In addition, there will be a net increase of seven posts.

Head 159 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: DEVELOPMENT BUREAU (WORKS BRANCH)

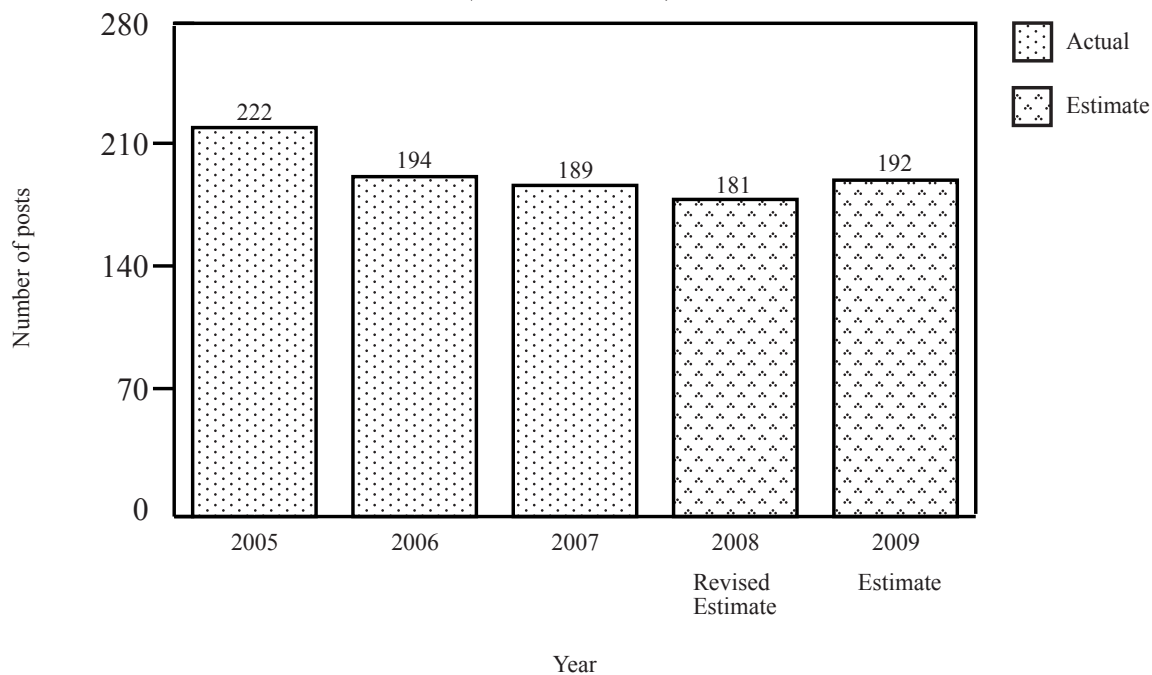
*Allocation of provision
to programmes
(2008-09)*



*Staff by programme
(as at 31 March 2009)*



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



**Head 159 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: DEVELOPMENT BUREAU
(WORKS BRANCH)**

Sub-head (Code)		Actual expenditure 2006–07	Approved estimate 2007–08	Revised estimate 2007–08	Estimate 2008–09
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
	Operating Account				
	Recurrent				
000	Operational expenses	171,324	189,911	183,501	217,795
	Total, Recurrent.....	<u>171,324</u>	<u>189,911</u>	<u>183,501</u>	<u>217,795</u>
	Non-Recurrent				
700	General non-recurrent	4,939	1,073	1,749	3,322
	Total, Non-Recurrent.....	<u>4,939</u>	<u>1,073</u>	<u>1,749</u>	<u>3,322</u>
	Total, Operating Account	176,263	190,984	185,250	221,117
	Total Expenditure	<u><u>176,263</u></u>	<u><u>190,984</u></u>	<u><u>185,250</u></u>	<u><u>221,117</u></u>

Head 159 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: DEVELOPMENT BUREAU (WORKS BRANCH)

Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2008–09 for the salaries and expenses of the Works Branch is \$221,117,000. This represents an increase of \$35,867,000 over the revised estimate for 2007–08 and of \$44,854,000 over actual expenditure in 2006–07.

Operating Account

Recurrent

2 Provision of \$217,795,000 under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is for the salaries, allowances and other operating expenses of the Works Branch. The increase of \$34,294,000 (18.7%) over the revised estimate for 2007–08 is mainly due to the net increase of 11 posts and the increased provision for implementing the heritage conservation policies and the Graduate Training Scheme, as well as for the minor consultancy studies.

3 The establishment as at 31 March 2008 will be 181 permanent posts. It is expected that there will be a net increase of 11 permanent posts in 2008–09. Subject to certain conditions, the controlling officer may under delegated power create or delete non-directorate posts during 2008–09, but the notional annual mid-point salary value of all such posts must not exceed \$80,667,000.

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

	2006–07 (Actual) (\$'000)	2007–08 (Original) (\$'000)	2007–08 (Revised) (\$'000)	2008–09 (Estimate) (\$'000)
Personal Emoluments				
- Salaries	106,246	108,800	110,218	119,280
- Allowances	1,556	1,800	1,616	1,539
- Job-related allowances	—	4	2	4
Personnel Related Expenses				
- Mandatory Provident Fund contribution	69	52	50	52
- Civil Service Provident Fund contribution	—	85	89	140
Departmental Expenses				
- Temporary staff	38,263	48,981	39,322	48,798
- General departmental expenses	24,140	28,189	30,204	45,982
Other Charges				
- Maintenance of government slopes by Housing Department	1,050	2,000	2,000	2,000
	<u>171,324</u>	<u>189,911</u>	<u>183,501</u>	<u>217,795</u>

**Head 159 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: DEVELOPMENT BUREAU
(WORKS BRANCH)**

Commitments

Sub-head (Code)	Item (Code)	Ambit	Approved commitment	Accumulated expenditure to 31.3.2007	Revised estimated expenditure for 2007–08	Balance
			\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<i>Operating Account</i>						
700		<i>General non-recurrent</i>				
472		Start-up grant for the Construction Workers Registration Authority to engage services of the trade unions and associations for processing applications under the Construction Workers Registration Ordinance during the initial registration period..	4,200	184	482	3,534
870		Revitalising Historic Buildings Through Partnership Scheme#.....	100,000	—	—	100,000
		Total	104,200	184	482	103,534

Commitment approved by the Finance Committee on 1 February 2008.