

Head 163 — REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL OFFICE

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

Estimate 2010–11 **\$247.2m**

Establishment ceiling 2010–11 (notional annual mid-point salary value) representing an estimated 121 non-directorate posts as at 31 March 2010 rising by 61 posts to 182 posts as at 31 March 2011 **\$68.3m**

In addition, there will be an estimated one directorate post as at 31 March 2010 rising by one post to two posts as at 31 March 2011.

Controlling Officer's Report

Programme

Electoral Services

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

Detail

	2008–09 (Actual)	2009–10 (Original)	2009–10 (Revised)	2010–11 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	323.4	78.4	74.8 (–4.6%)	247.2 (+230.5%)
				(or +215.3% on 2009–10 Original)

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 will, under the direction of the Electoral Affairs Commission, implement the decisions of the Commission in relation to:

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

4 During 2009–10, the Registration and Electoral Office provided the Electoral Affairs Commission with administrative support to accomplish a number of major tasks, including:

- the promotion and conduct of a voter registration exercise;
- the publication of registers of electors for geographical constituencies, functional constituencies and Election Committee subsectors;
- the making of subsidiary legislation to enable prisoners to register as electors and to vote;
- the making of electoral arrangements to allow electors imprisoned, remanded or detained by law enforcement agencies to cast their votes at elections;
- the updating of the full set of electoral guidelines to reflect the legislative amendments in respect of the arrangements for prisoners to register as electors and for registered electors imprisoned, remanded or detained by law enforcement agencies to vote;
- the conduct and supervision of two District Council by-elections;
- the supervision of the conduct of two Village Representative by-elections;
- the submission of reports to the Chief Executive on three District Council by-elections and one Village Representative by-election; and
- the registration of specified particulars relating to candidates on ballot papers for use in the Legislative Council and District Council elections.

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5 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	2008 (Actual)	2009 (Actual)	2010 (Plan)
to conduct annual exercise for			
voter registration	1	1	1
updating records of the registered electors	1	1	1
to organise election(s) for			
Legislative Council	1	—	1§
District Councils	2§	3§	as and when necessary§
to issue notification of election arrangements to electors			
ten days before the poll (%)	100	100	100
to respond to telephone enquiries on election arrangements			
on polling days within two minutes (%)	100	100	100
to complete processing of an elector registration or updating			
of an elector record within 14 days (%)	100	100	100
to complete initial processing actions on election-related			
complaints within five working days (%)	100	100	100
to submit recommendations to the Chief Executive on the			
delineation of constituencies for the 2011 District Council			
election	—	—	on or before 17 Nov
to submit to the Chief Executive a report on matters			
relating to			
the Village Representative by-elections	on 1 Apr & 15 Aug	on 18 Feb & 28 Jul	on or before 16 Apr & in Aug
the District Council election	on 15 Feb	—	—
a by-election of the Legislative Council Hong Kong			
Island Geographical Constituency	on 22 Feb	—	—
the Legislative Council election	on 5 Dec	—	—
a by-election of the Yau Tsim Mong District Council			
Jordan East Constituency	on 31 Dec	—	—
a by-election of the Wong Tai Sin District Council			
Tsz Wan West Constituency	—	on 19 Feb	—
a by-election of the Sha Tin District Council			
Tai Wai Constituency	—	on 25 Jun	—
a by-election of the Wan Chai District Council			
Canal Road Constituency	—	on 14 Aug	—
a by-election of the Kwai Tsing District Council			
Kwai Shing East Estate Constituency	—	on 2 Dec	—

§ by-election.

Indicators

	2008 (Actual)	2009 (Actual)	2010 (Estimate)
no. of new electors registered#	212 636	64 600	65 000
no. of elector records updated#	274 058	111 065	88 000

Figures appeared or expected to appear in the Final Registers of the relevant year.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2010–11

6 During 2010–11, the Registration and Electoral Office will continue to provide the Electoral Affairs Commission with administrative support in connection with its work, which includes:

- the promotion and conduct of a voter registration exercise;
- the updating of the registers of electors;
- the making of subsidiary legislation on electoral arrangements for elections, if necessary;
- the review of electoral arrangements with a view to providing better services to candidates and electors in future elections;

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- the submission of recommendations to the Chief Executive on the delineation of constituencies for the 2011 District Council election;
- the issuing of guidelines for the conduct of 2011 Village Representative elections;
- the supervision of the conduct of two Village Representative by-elections and the 2011 Village Representative elections;
- the preparatory work for the conduct of the 2011 District Council election and the 2011 Election Committee subsector elections;
- the registration of specified particulars relating to candidates on ballot papers for use in the Legislative Council and District Council elections; and
- the conduct and supervision of by-elections to the Legislative Council and District Councils, if any.

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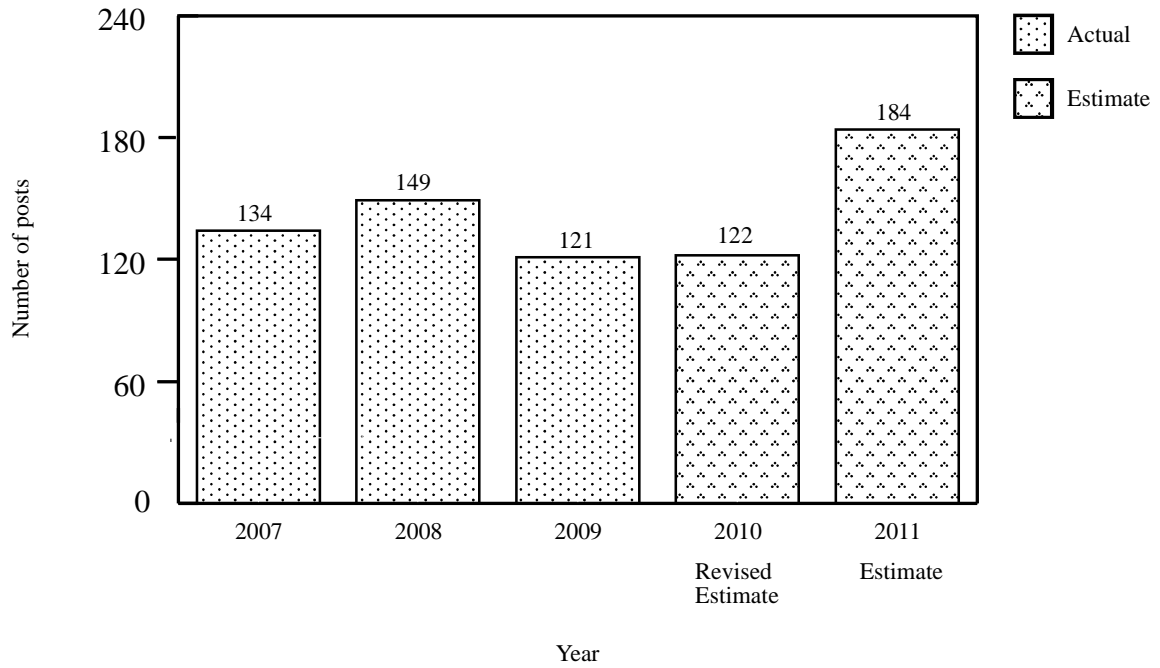
ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL PROVISION

Programme	2008–09 (Actual) (\$m)	2009–10 (Original) (\$m)	2009–10 (Revised) (\$m)	2010–11 (Estimate) (\$m)
Electoral Services	323.4	78.4	74.8 (–4.6%)	247.2 (+230.5%)
				(or +215.3% on 2009–10 Original)

Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision

Provision for 2010–11 is \$172.4 million (230.5%) higher than the revised estimate for 2009–10. This is mainly due to increased requirements for the preparation and conduct of the 2010 Legislative Council by-election, the supervision of the 2011 Village Representative elections and the preparation for the 2011 District Council election and the 2011 Election Committee subsector elections. A total of 62 posts will be created in 2010–11 for undertaking election-related duties.

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



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Sub-head (Code)	Actual expenditure 2008-09	Approved estimate 2009-10	Revised estimate 2009-10	Estimate 2010-11	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Operating Account					
Recurrent					
000	Operational expenses.....	323,385	78,444	74,756	247,231
	Total, Recurrent.....	323,385	78,444	74,756	247,231
	Total, Operating Account.....	323,385	78,444	74,756	247,231
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	Total Expenditure.....	<u>323,385</u>	<u>78,444</u>	<u>74,756</u>	<u>247,231</u>

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Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2010–11 for the salaries and expenses of the Registration and Electoral Office is \$247,231,000. This represents an increase of \$172,475,000 over the revised estimate for 2009–10 and a decrease of \$76,154,000 against the actual expenditure in 2008–09.

Operating Account

Recurrent

2 Provision of \$247,231,000 under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is for the salaries, allowances and other operating expenses of the Registration and Electoral Office. This represents an increase of \$172,475,000 (230.7%) over the revised estimate for 2009–10. This is mainly due to increased requirements for the preparation and conduct of the 2010 Legislative Council by-election, the supervision of the 2011 Village Representative elections and the preparation for the 2011 District Council election and the 2011 Election Committee subsector elections.

3 The establishment as at 31 March 2010 will be 122 permanent posts. It is expected that 62 posts will be created in 2010–11. Subject to certain conditions, the controlling officer may under delegated power create or delete non-directorate posts during 2010–11, but the notional annual mid-point salary value of all such posts must not exceed \$68,306,000.

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

	2008–09 (Actual) (\$'000)	2009–10 (Original) (\$'000)	2009–10 (Revised) (\$'000)	2010–11 (Estimate) (\$'000)
Personal Emoluments				
- Salaries	47,270	39,458	39,794	55,117
- Allowances	1,589	698	309	741
- Job-related allowances	1	—	—	—
Personnel Related Expenses				
- Mandatory Provident Fund contribution	117	72	107	97
- Civil Service Provident Fund contribution	97	148	212	218
Departmental Expenses				
- Honoraria for members of committees	480	480	480	480
- General departmental expenses	14,356	14,430	17,457	14,650
Other Charges				
- Election expenses	259,475	23,158	16,397	175,928
	323,385	78,444	74,756	247,231