

Head 31 — CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT

Controlling officer: the Commissioner of Customs and Excise will account for expenditure under this Head.

Estimate 2016–17	\$3,432.1m
Establishment ceiling 2016–17 (notional annual mid-point salary value) representing an estimated 6 138 non-directorate posts as at 31 March 2016 rising by 19 posts to 6 157 posts as at 31 March 2017	\$2,407.5m
In addition, there will be an estimated nine directorate posts as at 31 March 2016 and as at 31 March 2017.	
Commitment balance	\$235.1m

Controlling Officer's Report

Programmes

Programme (1) Control and Enforcement	This programme contributes to Policy Area 1: Financial Services (Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury), Policy Area 6: Commerce and Industry (Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development), Policy Area 9: Internal Security (Secretary for Security) and Policy Area 25: Revenue Collection and Financial Control (Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury).
Programme (2) Anti-narcotics Investigation	This programme contributes to Policy Area 9: Internal Security (Secretary for Security).
Programme (3) Intellectual Property Rights and Consumer Protection	This programme contributes to Policy Area 4: Posts, Competition Policy and Consumer Protection (Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development) and Policy Area 6: Commerce and Industry (Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development).
Programme (4) Revenue Protection and Collection	This programme contributes to Policy Area 25: Revenue Collection and Financial Control (Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury).
Programme (5) Trade Controls	This programme contributes to Policy Area 6: Commerce and Industry (Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development).

Detail

Programme (1): Control and Enforcement

	2014–15 (Actual)	2015–16 (Original)	2015–16 (Revised)	2016–17 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	2,296.4	2,442.2	2,451.8 (+0.4%)	2,541.8 (+3.7%)
				(or +4.1% on 2015–16 Original)

Aim

2 The aims are to prevent and detect the smuggling of contraband, including narcotics, firearms, strategic goods, dutiable commodities, articles which infringe copyright or trade descriptions, and any other articles the importation or exportation of which is prohibited by law, through actions at control points and regular land and maritime patrols within the territory of Hong Kong; as well as to run a regulatory regime for the Money Service Operators (MSOs) under the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing (Financial Institutions) Ordinance (Cap. 615) (AMLO).

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Brief Description

3 The Department is the primary agency responsible for the suppression of smuggling activities and is an integral member of the Joint Police/Customs Anti-smuggling Task Force formed to combat smuggling activities at sea. The Department also acts as the front-line agency to prevent importation and exportation of any articles which are prohibited by law concerning security, public health and environmental protection or in fulfilling international obligations; as well as to perform the regulatory functions of MSOs under the AMLO. The enforcement work includes:

- monitoring both the import and export of goods and the licensing of the movement of prohibited and prescribed articles as stipulated in the Import and Export Ordinance (Cap. 60);
- conducting primary checks on passengers, crew, cargoes, postal parcels, aircraft, vessels and vehicles, and secondary examination of those considered high risk, in order to detect contraband, controlled items and other violations of the law;
- conducting regular maritime and land patrols within Hong Kong's territorial boundaries to detect and suppress violations of customs law and other illegal activities;
- providing sustained intelligence support to anti-smuggling enforcement actions through the work of the Intelligence Bureau;
- inspecting and verifying licences and manifests in order to control the import and export of prohibited articles and the carriage of prescribed articles; and
- licensing and supervising MSOs under the AMLO and taking enforcement action against Unlicensed Money Service Operators.

4 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2014 (Actual)	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Plan)
issuing licences for prescribed articles within one working day upon receipt of applications (%) ^α	100	100	100	100
clearing detained sea cargo within five working days from date of request (%) ^α	100	100	100	100
clearing detained air cargo within 80 minutes from time of request (%) ^α	100	100	100	100
clearing passengers within 15 minutes upon queuing up for customs clearance (except those selected for further examination) (%)	100	100	100	100
clearing vehicles crossing the land boundary within 60 seconds (except those selected for further examination) (%)	100	100	100	100
issuing or renewing licences for MSOs within 33 working days upon receipt of applications (%) ^α	100	100	100	100

^α The target is applicable upon receipt of all necessary documents and information.

Indicators

	2014 (Actual)	2015 (Actual)#	2016 (Estimate)
carriage licences issued	5	7	7
seizure cases	24 713	22 001	— [^]
value of seizures (\$m)			
dutiable commodities [¶]	21.4	19.2	— [^]
articles other than dutiable commodities	536.3	390.0	— [^]
conveyance used for smuggling (e.g. vehicles, speedboats and small crafts)	9.0	12.8	— [^]
persons compounded for offences relating to illicit cigarettes	9 470	8 410	— [^]

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	2014 (Actual)	2015 (Actual)#	2016 (Estimate)
MSO licences issued or renewed	579‡	571‡	620

Figures for 2015 are subject to adjustment.

^ Not possible to estimate.

¶ Denote cases detected at all entry and exit points but excluding those taken over for in-depth investigation which are reflected in Programme (4).

‡ The AMLO was effective since 1 April 2012 and an MSO licence is normally valid for two years. Renewal of licence is required before expiry. Staggering arrangement has been adopted to spread out the renewal cases from 2014 to 2015.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2016–17

5 During 2016–17, the Department will continue to:

- take proactive action against smuggling activities through intelligence-based operations and closer co-operation with the Mainland and overseas authorities;
- improve clearance services to facilitate efficient passenger and cargo flows across the boundary;
- closely monitor the operation of the electronic Road Cargo System to ensure efficient and effective clearance of cross-boundary goods vehicles;
- ensure smooth operation of the Inter-modal Transshipment Facilitation Scheme, whereby cargoes involving inter-modal transfer (e.g. from land to air and sea) will only be subject to customs inspection at either the point of exit or entry;
- promote the Free Trade Agreement Transshipment Facilitation Scheme, covering free trade agreements the Mainland has entered into such as the Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement between the Mainland and Taiwan, to enable traders to enjoy tariff reductions for trade in goods between the Mainland and trading partners concerned when transhipped through Hong Kong;
- promote and develop the Hong Kong Authorized Economic Operator Programme, whereby accredited companies may enjoy facilitation such as reduced inspection and prioritised clearance; and
- maintain effective supervision of licensed MSOs to ensure compliance with the customer due diligence and record-keeping obligations.

Programme (2): Anti-narcotics Investigation

	2014–15 (Actual)	2015–16 (Original)	2015–16 (Revised)	2016–17 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	191.9	195.1	199.9 (+2.5%)	200.4 (+0.3%)
				(or +2.7% on 2015–16 Original)

Aim

6 The aims are to suppress illicit trafficking in and abuse of dangerous drugs, to combat money laundering and to prevent diversion of controlled chemicals for the illicit manufacture of dangerous drugs.

Brief Description

7 The Department is responsible for investigating and detecting the illegal import, export, manufacture, distribution and abuse of dangerous drugs. It conducts financial investigations to trace the assets of drug traffickers and initiates confiscation proceedings in respect of drug-related assets. It also exercises licensing control on the import, export and transshipment of controlled chemicals and conducts investigations to prevent and detect their illicit diversion.

8 The Department co-operates with other Customs administrations and law enforcement agencies outside Hong Kong to combat international drug trafficking and money laundering, and to prevent illicit diversion of controlled chemicals. This work includes:

- surveillance, investigations and operations to combat organised drug syndicates and individual drug offenders;
- identification and confiscation of drug-related assets derived from offences committed in or outside Hong Kong;
- liaison and co-operation with drug enforcement agencies and other competent authorities in or outside Hong Kong in the suppression of international drug trafficking and illicit diversion of controlled chemicals; and
- collection, collation and exchange of intelligence with law enforcement agencies in or outside Hong Kong.

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9 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2014 (Actual)	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Plan)
issuing authorisation for import/export of chemicals (as listed in Schedule 1 or 2 of the Control of Chemicals Ordinance (Cap. 145)) within ten working days upon receipt of applications (%) ^α	100	100	100	100
issuing authorisation for export of any chemicals listed in Schedule 3 of the Control of Chemicals Ordinance to any country specified in the same Schedule within ten working days upon receipt of applications (%) ^α	100	100	100	100
issuing approval for storing/keeping any chemicals listed in Schedule 1 or 2 of the Control of Chemicals Ordinance within five working days upon receipt of applications (%) ^α	100	100	100	100

^α The target is applicable upon receipt of all necessary documents and information.

Indicators

	2014 (Actual)	2015 (Actual) ^λ	2016 (Estimate)
drug abusers reported to the Central Registry of Drug Abuse maintained by Security Bureau			
aged under 21	800	552 [§]	— [^]
aged 21 or above	8 126	6 529 [§]	— [^]
average purity of heroin (indicative of availability) (%)	62.3	64.6	— [^]
average retail price of heroin (\$ per gram).....	778.1	740.6	— [^]
dangerous drugs seized in Hong Kong			
seizure cases	797	758	— [^]
narcotics seized			
heroin (kg).....	39.6	10.9	— [^]
psychotropic drugs seized			
cocaine (kg).....	103.9	228.4	— [^]
cannabis (kg).....	66.9	72.0	— [^]
MDMA (ecstasy) (tablet).....	0	14	— [^]
methylamphetamine (ice) (kg)	416.3	277.9	— [^]
ketamine (kg)	126.5	283.9	— [^]
dangerous drugs seized outside Hong Kong (as a result of customs co-operation with agencies outside Hong Kong) (kg)	222.9	999.8	— [^]
persons arrested outside Hong Kong (as a result of customs co-operation with agencies outside Hong Kong)	36	44	— [^]
assets of drug traffickers (\$m)			
restrained	0	0	— [^]
confiscated	0.3	0	— [^]
poisons/anti-biotics seized in Hong Kong			
seizure cases	158	183	— [^]
quantity (kg).....	81.7	384.3	— [^]
quantity (tablet).....	106 410	1 354 259	— [^]

^λ Figures for 2015, unless otherwise stated, are subject to adjustment.

[§] Based on the figure provided by the Narcotics Division of the Security Bureau up to September 2015.

[^] Not possible to estimate.

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Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2016–17

10 During 2016–17, the Department will continue to:

- strengthen the co-operation and intelligence exchange on drug trafficking, money laundering and smuggling of controlled chemicals with overseas law enforcement agencies;
- step up enforcement actions against drug trafficking via airport and land boundary control points through closer co-operation with the Mainland authorities and overseas counterparts; and
- liaise with relevant policy bureaux and government departments to monitor any new threat posed by drugs of abuse and precursor chemicals in other regions and constantly review the corresponding enforcement strategies.

Programme (3): Intellectual Property Rights and Consumer Protection

	2014–15 (Actual)	2015–16 (Original)	2015–16 (Revised)	2016–17 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	307.0	324.5	307.6 (–5.2%)	307.5 (—)
				(or –5.2% on 2015–16 Original)

Aim

11 The aims are to prevent and detect copyright and trade mark infringement; to collaborate with trade mark and copyright owners, relevant organisations and law enforcement agencies in or outside Hong Kong in order to combat trade mark counterfeiting and copyright piracy; and to enforce consumer protection legislation relating to weights and measures, toys and children’s products safety, consumer goods safety, trade descriptions and trade practices.

Brief Description

12 The Department is responsible for suppressing offences and investigating complaints related to copyright infringement under the Copyright Ordinance (Cap. 528) and the Prevention of Copyright Piracy Ordinance (Cap. 544), forgery of trade marks, false trade descriptions and unfair trade practices under the Trade Descriptions Ordinance (Cap. 362), short weights and measures under the Weights and Measures Ordinance (Cap. 68), unsafe toys and children’s products under the Toys and Children’s Products Safety Ordinance (Cap. 424) as well as unsafe consumer goods under the Consumer Goods Safety Ordinance (Cap. 456). It initiates investigations in these areas and collaborates as necessary with organisations and law enforcement agencies in or outside Hong Kong, and with trade mark and copyright owners. To safeguard the interests of consumers, the Department also conducts spot checks to ensure compliance with the Toys and Children’s Products Safety Ordinance, the Weights and Measures Ordinance, the Consumer Goods Safety Ordinance and the Trade Descriptions Ordinance. The enforcement work involves:

Intellectual property rights

- conducting investigations and taking enforcement actions against persons and syndicates suspected of committing offences relating to infringement of intellectual property rights,
- executing court orders to detain goods at importation for the purpose of enforcing boundary measures to comply with the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights established under the auspices of the World Trade Organization,
- arranging and supervising the examination and identification of seizures by trade mark and copyright owners or their representatives,
- conducting inspections on licensed optical disc mastering and replication factories to guard against manufacture of pirated optical discs and stampers,
- controlling the import and export of optical discs mastering and replication equipment, and
- applying to the court for the confiscation of financial proceeds obtained from intellectual property rights infringement crimes.

Consumer protection

- conducting spot checks on the accuracy of weighing and measuring equipment, compliance with the safety requirements for toys and children’s products and consumer goods, compliance with the orders for provision of information on precious stones, metals and regulated electronic products, and compliance with the requirements on trade descriptions and trade practices; and
- investigating complaints relating to short weights and measures, unsafe toys and children’s products and consumer goods, false trade descriptions and unfair trade practices.

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13 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2014 (Actual)	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Plan)
issuing licences for import and export of optical disc mastering and replication equipment within two working days upon receipt of applications (%) ^α	100	100	100	100
issuing licences for manufacturing of optical discs within 14 working days upon receipt of applications (%) ^α	100	100	N.A. ^β	100
commencing investigations into urgent complaints against short weights and measures and unsafe products within 24 hours upon receipt of complaints (%).....	100	100	100	100
commencing investigations into priority complaints against short weights and measures and unsafe products within three working days upon assessment of complaints (%).....	100	100	100	100
commencing investigations into urgent complaints against unfair trade practices within 24 hours upon receipt of complaints (%).....	100	100	100	100
commencing investigations into priority complaints against unfair trade practices within three working days upon assessment of complaints (%).....	100	100	100	100

^α The target is applicable upon receipt of all necessary documents and information.

^β No such application was received in 2015.

Indicators

	2014 (Actual)	2015 (Actual)#	2016 (Estimate)
<i>Intellectual property rights</i>			
intellectual property rights investigations	1 913	1 577	— [^]
seizure cases	796	987	— [^]
value of seizures (including optical discs, textiles, leather-ware, footwear and telecommunications equipment) (\$m)	69.8	99.0	— [^]
spot checks on optical disc factories	100	55	27
verifications on import/export of optical disc mastering and replication equipment	162	88	40
<i>Weights and measures</i>			
spot checks	1 588	1 878	1 700
seizure cases	49	13	— [^]
value of seizures (\$'000).....	261.7	60.1	— [^]
<i>Toys and children's products safety</i>			
spot checks	1 417	1 529	1 600
seizure cases	2	4	— [^]
value of seizures (\$'000).....	28.8	27.6	— [^]
<i>Consumer goods safety</i>			
spot checks	1 146	1 439	1 400
seizure cases	13	37	— [^]
value of seizures (\$'000).....	278.4	430.4	— [^]

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	2014 (Actual)	2015 (Actual)#	2016 (Estimate)
<i>Fair trading in articles (trade descriptions)</i>			
spot checks	4 052	4 128	4 000
seizure cases	62	61	— [^]
value of seizures (\$'000)	2,774	4,673	— [^]

Figures for 2015 are subject to adjustment.

[^] Not possible to estimate.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2016–17

14 During 2016–17, the Department will continue to:

- strengthen the co-operative alliance with the industries and enforcement agencies in detecting online sale of infringing goods,
- apply the Organised and Serious Crimes Ordinance (Cap. 455) to the investigation of intellectual property crimes,
- upgrade the capability in the investigation of Internet and electronic crimes relating to infringement of intellectual property rights,
- promote public and traders' awareness of intellectual property rights and consumer protection legislation through publicity and education programmes, and
- strengthen enforcement actions against false trade descriptions and unfair trade practices in respect of both goods and services.

Programme (4): Revenue Protection and Collection

	2014–15 (Actual)	2015–16 (Original)	2015–16 (Revised)	2016–17 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	174.6	178.2	185.8 (+4.3%)	186.2 (+0.2%)
				(or +4.5% on 2015–16 Original)

Aim

15 The aims are to collect and protect revenue from dutiable commodities stipulated in the Dutiable Commodities Ordinance (Cap. 109) and to assess the provisional taxable values of motor vehicles under the Motor Vehicles (First Registration Tax) Ordinance (Cap. 330).

Brief Description

16 The Department is responsible for the collection and protection of duties derived from dutiable commodities stipulated in the Dutiable Commodities Ordinance. It administers a licensing and permit system to control the manufacture, import, export, storage and movement of dutiable commodities.

17 The Department assesses the provisional taxable values of motor vehicles for the purpose of calculating the first registration tax and maintains a registration scheme for motor vehicle importers and distributors.

18 The Department is responsible for combating smuggling and distribution of illicit cigarettes and taking enforcement actions against illicit fuel activities at all levels.

19 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2014 (Actual)	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Plan)
<i>Dutiable commodities</i>				
issuing import and export licences within 12 working days upon receipt of applications (%) α	100	100	100	100
issuing permits within half a working day upon receipt of applications (%) α	100	100	100	100
providing customs attendance within two working days upon receipt of applications (%) α	100	100	100	100

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	Target	2014 (Actual)	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Plan)
<i>First Registration Tax</i>				
completing assessment of provisional taxable values of imported vehicles within five working days upon receipt of applications (%) ^α	100	100	100	100
completing registration of importers/ distributors of motor vehicles within seven working days upon receipt of applications (%) ^α	100	100	100	100

^α The target is applicable upon receipt of all necessary documents and information.

Indicators

	2014 (Actual)	2015 (Actual)#	2016 (Estimate)
<i>Dutiable commodities</i>			
licences issued.....	102	104	104
permits issued ^Ω	134 871	138 156	138 000
duty collected (\$m)	9,749.2	10,418.8	10,833.2
duty recovered (\$m)	2.2	2.0	— [^]
licence fees, customs attendance fees and other related payments collected (\$m).....	5.4	5.9	6.2
revenue collected per \$1 provision (\$).....	120.9	119.6	124.3
cases detected.....	31	34	— [^]
<i>Anti-illicit-cigarette enforcement^δ</i>			
seizure cases.....	877	822	— [^]
cigarettes seized ('000 sticks)	47 665	67 746	— [^]
vehicles seized.....	90	69	— [^]
vessels seized	0	2	— [^]
persons prosecuted for offences relating to illicit cigarettes	2 284	2 032	— [^]
<i>Anti-illicit-fuel enforcement^δ</i>			
seizure cases.....	25	10	— [^]
hydrocarbon oil seized ('000 litres)	10	6	— [^]
illicit fuel filling stations neutralised.....	22	8	— [^]
<i>First Registration Tax</i>			
cases detected.....	52	53	— [^]
inspection and verification of imported vehicles for payment of First Registration Tax.....	1 428	1 425	1 413
assessment of provisional taxable value on imported vehicles (cases).....	77 690	79 283	80 000
re-assessment of provisional taxable value on imported vehicles (cases).....	25 944	31 006	28 000

Figures for 2015 are subject to adjustment.

Ω The figures cover issuing of both new permits and amended permits.

[^] Not possible to estimate.

^δ The figures reflect the enforcement efforts of the Department but exclude cases mentioned in Programme (1).

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2016–17

20 During 2016–17, the Department will continue to:

- strengthen enforcement actions against illicit cigarettes activities, especially in respect of cross-boundary smuggling and telephone-order peddling;
- strengthen regional co-operation with other Customs administrations in combating smuggling of illicit cigarettes; and
- strengthen co-operation with the Mainland Customs in combating cross-boundary smuggling of illicit fuel.

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Programme (5): Trade Controls

	2014–15 (Actual)	2015–16 (Original)	2015–16 (Revised)	2016–17 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	172.6	176.9	187.3 (+5.9%)	196.2 (+4.8%)
				(or +10.9% on 2015–16 Original)

Aim

21 The aims are to secure and maintain the integrity and credibility of the various trade controls and import and export control systems operated in Hong Kong in fulfilment of international obligations and for public health and safety reasons; as well as to collect import and export declarations and declaration charges under the Import and Export (Registration) Regulations (Cap. 60E) and clothing levies under the Industrial Training (Clothing Industry) Ordinance (Cap. 318).

Brief Description

22 The Department enforces the relevant laws for various trade controls systems including those concerning the issue of Certificates of Origin, the import and export of strategic commodities, reserved commodities and other prohibited goods, as well as compliance with the Chemical Weapons Convention, with a view to preventing and detecting abuses of these systems. The Department is also tasked to collect import and export declarations, declaration charges and clothing levies and to enforce the relevant statutory control on these systems. The enforcement work involves:

- factory and consignment inspections to ensure compliance with legislation governing the issue of Certificates of Origin and import and export of other prohibited goods,
- costing checks on goods covered by Certificates of Hong Kong Origin – Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CO(CEPA)) to help ensure that only goods that pass a value-added percentage threshold can benefit from the tariff preference under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA),
- blitz checks on consignments subject to licensing control or covered by CO(CEPA) at entry and exit points and public cargo working areas,
- consignment inspections to ensure compliance with legislation governing the import and export of strategic commodities and other licensable items,
- inspections and verifications to ensure the effective implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in Hong Kong,
- inspections to enforce control on reserved commodities,
- collection of import and export declaration charges and clothing levies under the respective legislation,
- verification and assessment of the values of import and export consignments to recover under-paid import and export declaration charges and clothing levies, and
- investigation and prosecution of contraventions.

23 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2014 (Actual)	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Plan)
conducting pre-issue consignment inspections relating to textile licences / production notifications within two working days upon receipt of referral of applications from the Trade and Industry Department (TID) (%) ^a	100	100	—	—
conducting pre-issue consignment inspections relating to non-textile licences within four working days upon receipt of referral of applications from the TID (%).....	100	100	100	100

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	Target	2014 (Actual)	2015 (Actual)	2016 (Plan)
conducting factory registration and re-registration inspections relating to the issue of Certificates of Origin within four working days upon receipt of referral of applications from the TID (%).....	100	100	100	100
conducting registration inspections relating to control on reserved commodities within three working days upon receipt of referral of applications from the TID (%).....	100	100	100	100
conducting pre-issue consignment inspections relating to licences for strategic commodities within two working days upon receipt of referral of applications from the TID (%).....	100	100	100	100
conducting registration and re-registration inspections under the Air Transhipment Cargo Exemption Scheme for Strategic Commodities within four working days upon receipt of referral of applications from the TID (%).....	100	100	100	100
⊖ Target removed as from 2015 as the licensing and notification requirements for all textiles imports and exports, and production notification requirement for cut-and-sewn garments, are abolished as from 21 November 2014.				

Indicators

	2014 (Actual)	2015 (Actual)#	2016 (Estimate)
factory and consignment inspections	31 637	33 068	31 600
factory audit checks ^γ	2	—	—
reserved commodities inspections.....	4 407	4 579	4 400
blitz checks on consignments subject to licensing control or covered by CO(CÉPA) at entry and exit points, and public cargo working areas.....	1 196	1 139	1 100
import and export declarations			
declarations processed.....	19 688 958	19 394 961	19 324 000
overdue declarations verified	164 443	128 542	121 500
under-valued declarations verified.....	11 304	11 170	11 700
revenue collected (\$m).....	997.0	962.0	958.7
revenue recovered (\$m)	3.4	4.1	— [∧]
administrative penalties imposed (\$m)	12.4	8.3	— [∧]

Figures for 2015 are subject to adjustment.

γ Indicator removed as from 2015 as no factory audit check will be conducted upon abolition of textile controls by end of 2014.

∧ Not possible to estimate.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2016–17

24 During 2016–17, the Department will continue to:

- assume any additional enforcement responsibilities arising from the trade in new products that become eligible for the zero tariff preference as a result of the biannual Rules of Origin Consultations under the CÉPA implemented in two stages beginning on 1 January 2006, and
- maintain effective enforcement actions on strategic trade controls by strengthening disposal checks and outreaching programmes.

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ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL PROVISION

Programme	2014–15 (Actual) (\$m)	2015–16 (Original) (\$m)	2015–16 (Revised) (\$m)	2016–17 (Estimate) (\$m)
(1) Control and Enforcement	2,296.4	2,442.2	2,451.8	2,541.8
(2) Anti-narcotics Investigation	191.9	195.1	199.9	200.4
(3) Intellectual Property Rights and Consumer Protection	307.0	324.5	307.6	307.5
(4) Revenue Protection and Collection	174.6	178.2	185.8	186.2
(5) Trade Controls	172.6	176.9	187.3	196.2
	3,142.5	3,316.9	3,332.4 (+0.5%)	3,432.1 (+3.0%)
				(or +3.5% on 2015–16 Original)

Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision

Programme (1)

Provision for 2016–17 is \$90.0 million (3.7%) higher than the revised estimate for 2015–16. This is mainly due to a net increase of 19 posts to meet operational needs, increased operating expenses, and increased cash flow requirement for capital projects.

Programme (2)

Provision for 2016–17 is \$0.5 million (0.3%) higher than the revised estimate for 2015–16. This is mainly due to the increased operating expenses.

Programme (3)

Provision for 2016–17 is comparable to the revised estimate for 2015–16.

Programme (4)

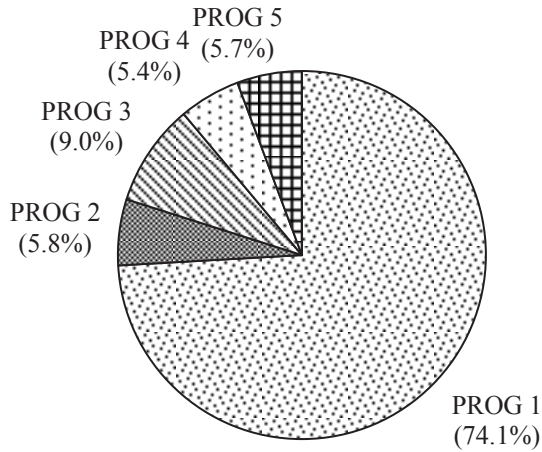
Provision for 2016–17 is \$0.4 million (0.2%) higher than the revised estimate for 2015–16. This is mainly due to the increased operating expenses.

Programme (5)

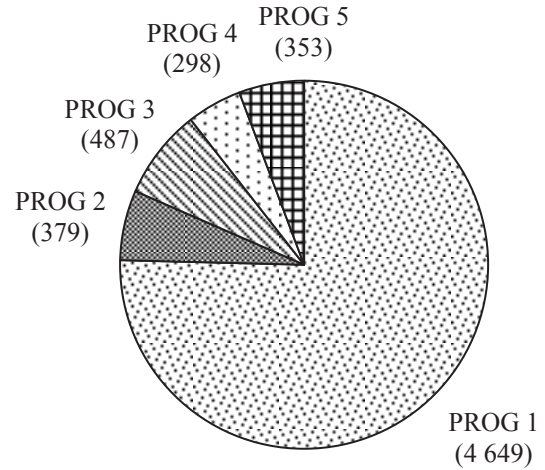
Provision for 2016–17 is \$8.9 million (4.8%) higher than the revised estimate for 2015–16. This is mainly due to the increased operating expenses.

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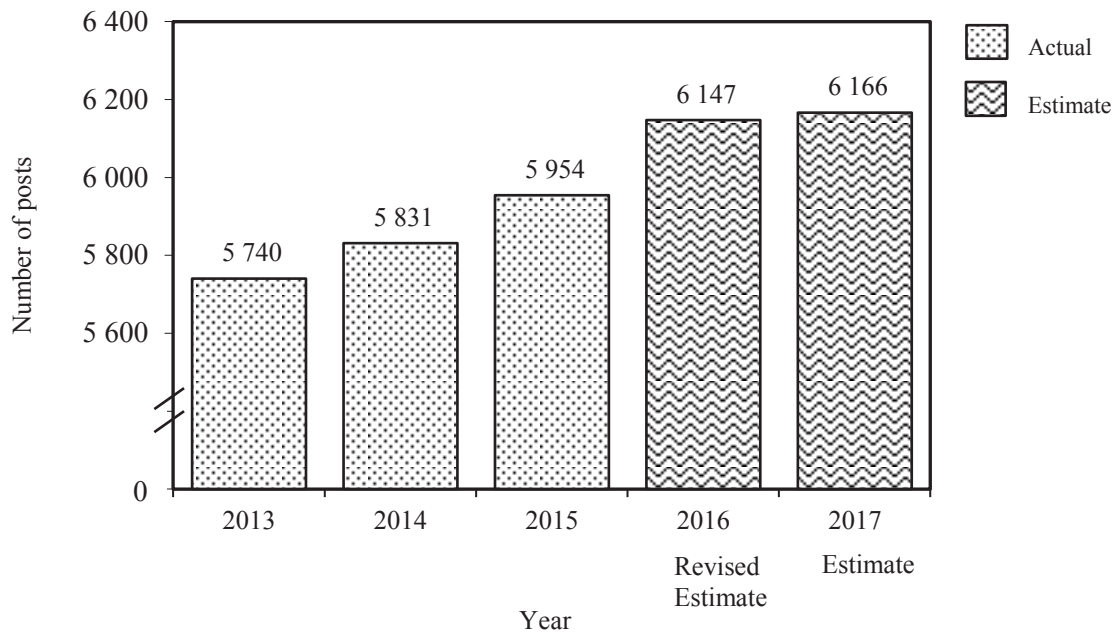
*Allocation of provision
to programmes
(2016-17)*



*Staff by programme
(as at 31 March 2017)*



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



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Sub-head (Code)	Actual expenditure 2014–15	Approved estimate 2015–16	Revised estimate 2015–16	Estimate 2016–17	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Operating Account					
Recurrent					
000	Operational expenses	3,058,500	3,151,170	3,250,524	3,289,661
103	Rewards and special services	11,773	11,000	11,000	11,000
292	Seizure management	36,313	44,500	44,500	44,500
	Total, Recurrent	3,106,586	3,206,670	3,306,024	3,345,161
	Total, Operating Account	3,106,586	3,206,670	3,306,024	3,345,161
Capital Account					
Plant, Equipment and Works					
603	Plant, vehicles and equipment	18,321	95,960	13,900	53,952
661	Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)	17,614	14,260	12,429	32,952^Ω
	Total, Plant, Equipment and Works	35,935	110,220	26,329	86,904
	Total, Capital Account	35,935	110,220	26,329	86,904
	Total Expenditure	3,142,521	3,316,890	3,332,353	3,432,065

Ω Provision of \$32,952,000 under *Subhead 661 Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)* represents an increase of \$20,523,000 (165.1%) over the revised estimate for 2015–16. This reflects the updating of the ambit of this block vote subhead as set out in the Introduction to the Estimates and the increased requirement for new and replacement equipment.

Head 31 — CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT

Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2016–17 for the salaries and expenses of the Customs and Excise Department is \$3,432,065,000. This represents an increase of \$99,712,000 over the revised estimate for 2015–16 and \$289,544,000 over the actual expenditure in 2014–15.

Operating Account

Recurrent

2 Provision of \$3,289,661,000 under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is for the salaries, allowances and other operating expenses of the Customs and Excise Department.

3 The establishment as at 31 March 2016 will be 6 147 permanent posts. It is expected that there will be a net increase of 19 permanent posts in 2016–17. Subject to certain conditions, the controlling officer may under delegated power create or delete non-directorate posts during 2016–17, but the notional annual mid-point salary value of all such posts must not exceed \$2,407,489,000.

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

	2014–15 (Actual) (\$'000)	2015–16 (Original) (\$'000)	2015–16 (Revised) (\$'000)	2016–17 (Estimate) (\$'000)
Personal Emoluments				
- Salaries.....	2,333,374	2,349,294	2,447,869	2,454,959
- Allowances.....	57,459	62,682	66,957	64,690
- Job-related allowances.....	9,870	9,942	10,457	10,559
Personnel Related Expenses				
- Rent allowance.....	752	768	639	574
- Mandatory Provident Fund contribution.....	10,951	12,391	12,257	13,110
- Civil Service Provident Fund contribution.....	72,893	91,081	92,998	114,239
- Disturbance allowance.....	181	149	60	95
Departmental Expenses				
- General departmental expenses	568,834	619,380	615,089	625,950
Other Charges				
- Land usage cost.....	3,908	5,200	3,911	5,200
- Grant to the Customs and Excise Service Welfare Fund	278	283	287	285
	3,058,500	3,151,170	3,250,524	3,289,661

5 Provision of \$11,000,000 under *Subhead 103 Rewards and special services* is for expenditure on rewards and services of a confidential nature.

6 Provision of \$44,500,000 under *Subhead 292 Seizure management* is to meet expenses related to the transportation and storage of goods seized in anti-smuggling and other enforcement activities.

Capital Account

Plant, Equipment and Works

7 Provision of \$32,952,000 under *Subhead 661 Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)* represents an increase of \$20,523,000 (165.1%) over the revised estimate for 2015–16. This reflects the updating of the ambit of this block vote subhead as set out in the Introduction to the Estimates and the increased requirement for new and replacement equipment.

Head 31 — CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT

Commitments

Sub-head (Code)	Item (Code)	Ambit	Approved commitment	Accumulated expenditure to 31.3.2015	Revised estimated expenditure for 2015–16	Balance
			\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Capital Account						
603		<i>Plant, vehicles and equipment</i>				
	832	Replacement of one high speed pursuit craft (CE16)	21,640	—	—	21,640
	833	Replacement of one high speed pursuit craft (CE15)	26,294	—	2,290	24,004
	847	Replacement of two mobile X-ray vehicle scanning systems for Man Kam To Control Point and Sha Tau Kok Control Point.....	101,440	7,000	3,000	91,440
	876	Procurement of one set of X-ray checker with conveyor belt modification (carousel no. 1) for the Airport Command	2,421	303	—	2,118
	881	Procurement of one set of X-ray checker with conveyor belt modification (carousel no. 14) for the Airport Command	2,421	303	—	2,118
	882	Replacement of one mobile X-ray vehicle scanning system for Kwai Chung Customhouse (AM5529)β.....	46,872β	—	—	46,872
	883	Replacement of one mobile X-ray vehicle scanning system for Kwai Chung Customhouse (AM5530)β.....	46,872β	—	—	46,872
		Total	<u>247,960</u>	<u>7,606</u>	<u>5,290</u>	<u>235,064</u>

β This is a new item, funding for which is sought in the context of the Appropriation Bill 2016.