

Head 42 — ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Controlling officer: the Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services will account for expenditure under this Head.

Estimate 2024–25 **\$1,932.6m**

Establishment ceiling 2024–25 (notional annual mid-point salary value) representing an estimated 564 non-directorate posts as at 31 March 2024 reducing by ten posts to 554 posts as at 31 March 2025 **\$438.7m**

In addition, there will be an estimated 19 directorate posts as at 31 March 2024 and as at 31 March 2025.

Commitment balance..... **\$1,748.2m**

Controlling Officer’s Report

Programmes

Programme (1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety	This programme contributes to Policy Area 9: Internal Security (Secretary for Security) and Policy Area 23: Environmental Protection, Conservation, Power and Sustainable Development (Secretary for Environment and Ecology).
Programme (2) Mechanical Installations Safety	This programme contributes to Policy Area 5: Travel and Tourism (Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism), Policy Area 18: Recreation, Culture, Amenities and Entertainment Licensing (Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs), Policy Area 21: Land and Waterborne Transport (Secretary for Transport and Logistics) and Policy Area 22: Buildings, Lands, Planning, Heritage Conservation, Greening and Landscape (Secretary for Development).
Programme (3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy	This programme contributes to Policy Area 23: Environmental Protection, Conservation, Power and Sustainable Development (Secretary for Environment and Ecology).
Programme (4) Centralised Services and Special Support	This programme contributes to Policy Area 27: Intra-Governmental Services (Secretary for Development).

Head 42 does not include expenses attributable to the Electrical and Mechanical Services Trading Fund (EMSTF) established in August 1996, other than EMSTF’s share of the common administrative expenses provided by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD). Such expenses will be reimbursed to the Government through General Revenue.

Detail

Programme (1): Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety

	2022–23 (Actual)	2023–24 (Original)	2023–24 (Revised)	2024–25 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	184.0	181.8	187.7 (+3.2%)	203.9 (+8.6%)
				(or +12.2% on 2023–24 Original)

Aim

2 The aim is to safeguard the public through implementation of a set of comprehensive regulatory frameworks and systems on the safety of electrical and gas applications and work closely with the community on education, to monitor the operation of utility companies and development of electricity supply, and to provide professional support and advice on nuclear-related matters.

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Brief Description

3 For the regulatory functions, the Department is responsible for the administration and enforcement of the Electricity Ordinance (Cap. 406) (EO), the Gas Safety Ordinance (Cap. 51) (GSO) and the Oil (Conservation and Control) Ordinance (Cap. 264). The work includes:

Gas safety

- administration and enforcement of the GSO, including registration of gas supply companies, installers and contractors; monitoring gas distributors and contractors; and approval and inspection of gas appliances, tubing and installations including those in maintenance workshops for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) vehicles;
- risk assessment of potentially hazardous installations relating to gas supply and land use planning aspects;
- assessment, approval and monitoring of natural gas supply projects;
- enlistment of competent persons for maintenance of LPG vehicles and approval of fuel tank of LPG vehicles;
- approval and monitoring of the operation of LPG filling stations;
- investigation of gas incidents;
- initiating prosecution and taking disciplinary actions;
- promotion of gas safety;

Electrical safety

- administration and enforcement of the EO, including registration of electrical workers, contractors and competent persons, recognised certification bodies, recognised manufacturers and generating facilities; and inspection of electrical installations and products;
- investigation of electrical incidents;
- initiating prosecution and taking disciplinary actions;
- promotion of electrical safety;

Monitoring of electricity utilities (Scheme of Control Agreements)

- annual auditing review of technical performance of electricity utilities;
- assessment of development plans submitted regularly by electricity utilities;
- provision of technical advice relating to monitoring of electricity utilities;

Oil and gas supply

- administration and enforcement of the Oil (Conservation and Control) Ordinance;
- compilation of statistics on oil and gas supply;

Nuclear safety

- reviewing and implementing departmental plans in preparedness for nuclear emergencies;
- responding immediately to initial alert, and interpreting and assessing engineering information received;
- planning and participating in exercises and drills in response to nuclear emergencies; and
- giving professional advice on matters relating to nuclear power and associated emergency preparedness.

4 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2022 (Actual)	2023 (Actual)	2024 (Plan)
<i>Gas safety</i>				
registration of installers within 12 working days (%).....	100	100	100	100
registration of contractors within 38 working days (%).....	100	100	100	100
approval for construction of notifiable gas installations (NGIs) within 30 working days (%).....	100	100	100	100
approval for use of NGIs within 12 working days (%).....	100	100	100	100
approval for use of equipment/materials within 26 working days (%)	100	100	100	100

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	Target	2022 (Actual)	2023 (Actual)	2024 (Plan)
scheduling and inspection of LPG road tankers and cylinder wagons within 18 working days (%).....	100	100	100	100
investigation of reports of illegal installations within ten working days (%).....	100	100	100	100
response to complaints of excessive storage of LPG within two working days (%).....	100	100	100	100
enlistment of competent persons for LPG installations/gasholders within 25 working days (%).....	100	100	100	100
<i>LPG vehicle safety</i>				
enlistment of competent persons for maintenance of fuel systems within 25 working days (%).....	100	100	100	100
approval for use of LPG fuel tanks in vehicles within 26 working days (%)	100	100	100	100
approval for construction of filling stations within 30 working days (%)	100	100	100	100
approval for use of filling stations within 12 working days (%).....	100	100	100	100
<i>Electrical safety</i>				
registration of electrical workers/contractors/competent persons within 13 working days (%).....	99	99	99	99
registration of generating facilities within 40 working days (%)	95	100	99	99
registration of recognised certification bodies and manufacturers within 17 working days (%).....	100	100	100	100
endorsement of testing certificate of electrical installations within 13 working days (%).....	99	99	100	99
investigation of incidents/complaints related to electrical installations/products within ten working days (%).....	100	100	100	100
<i>Monitoring of electricity utilities</i>				
conducting an annual technical performance audit on each of the two power companies under the Scheme of Control Agreements within 102 working days (%)	100	100	100	100
providing technical input in the financial auditing review of capital expenditure variances within 55 working days (%)	100	100	100	100
providing technical advice related to electricity utilities matters within 13 working days (%).....	100	100	100	100

Nuclear safety

The target is to ensure the availability of fully-trained and competent officers round the clock to provide immediate response to initial alerts, and to provide professional advice to the Government on matters relating to nuclear power and nuclear emergencies.

Indicators

	2022 (Actual)	2023 (Actual)	2024 (Estimate)
<i>Gas safety</i>			
audit inspections to gas supply companies, contractors and distributors	1 371	1 302	1 400
NGIs and related inspections	1 205	1 246	1 200

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	2022 (Actual)	2023 (Actual)	2024 (Estimate)
follow-up inspections and quality assurance visits	2 058	2 456 ^λ	2 100^λ
applications processed for equipment approval and registration of gas contractors/installers	176	128 ^δ	150^δ
LPG road tankers and cylinder wagons inspected	442	430	450
NGIs approved	22	23	20
gas incidents investigated.....	334	315	300
prosecutions/disciplinary actions conducted/improvement notices served	53	59	60
competent persons (for LPG installations/gasholders) enlistment applications processed	4	15 ^γ	5^γ
enquiries/complaints handled.....	2 366	2 076	2 300
<i>LPG vehicle safety</i>			
competent persons enlistment applications processed	5	6	6
LPG fuel tanks in vehicles approved and revalidated.....	4 376	3 533	3 800
inspections of vehicles and filling stations (all before grant of approval).....	50	47	24[#]
inspections of approved filling stations.....	248	240	240
filling stations approved.....	6	5	0^ρ
enquiries/complaints handled.....	1 004	963	950
<i>Electrical safety</i>			
site inspections on electrical installations	8 340	8 581	8 500
site inspections on electrical products.....	3 969	3 910	3 900
electrical workers/contractors/competent persons registration applications processed (including renewals)....	40 786	35 047	24 000^Δ
generating facilities registration applications processed.....	5 018	4 228 [◇]	4 200[◇]
recognised certification bodies and manufacturers applications processed	9	17	10
periodic testing certificates of electrical installations processed	10 573	12 767	11 500
reported electrical incidents investigated	478	524	500
reported unsafe electrical installations/products investigated.....	739	702	700
prosecutions/disciplinary actions conducted.....	202	263	250
electrical products tested.....	60	60	60
enquiries handled	9 154	7 844	8 000
<i>Monitoring of electricity utilities</i>			
technical indicators assessed in the annual auditing review to monitor the technical performance of electricity utilities	62	62	62
projects assessed relating to technical input in the financial auditing review of capital expenditure variances	40	40	40
enquiries handled	90	90	90
<i>Nuclear safety</i>			
technical co-operation or exchanges participated	3	3	3
exercises and drills participated	2	2	2

λ Due to a gas incident happened at a restaurant in August 2023, additional follow-up inspections, quality assurance visits and publicity work were carried out in 2023. The number of inspections and visits in 2024 is expected to return to the level similar to that of 2022.

δ The decrease in the number of applications for equipment approval and registration of gas contractors/ installers in 2023 was mainly due to the suspension of Vocational Training Council training programme. The number of applications in 2024 is expected to increase slightly as compared with 2023 due to the resumption of Vocational Training Council training programme, but the level will be lower than the level in 2022 as the number of domestic gas appliance approvals is expected to decrease in 2024 after the surge during the implementation of Phase IV of mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme (EELS).

γ The increase in the number of applications processed for enlistment as competent persons in 2023 was mainly driven by new biogas holder related projects such as the new organic waste treatment facilities and upgrading of sewage treatment works. The number of applications in 2024 is expected to return to the level similar to 2022.

The number of inspections of filling stations (before grant of approval) is expected to decrease in 2024 due to the completion of modification of existing stations under the contracts of dedicated LPG filling stations in 2023.

ρ The number of filling stations approved is expected to decrease in 2024 due to the completion of renovation of all dedicated LPG filling stations as required by the new contracts in 2023.

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- △ Registered electrical workers/contractors/competent persons are required to have their registration renewed every three years. In view of the uneven distribution of registrations for these persons, the estimate is based on the number of these persons with their registration to be expired in 2024.
- ◇ The number of applications processed in 2023 decreased as fewer solar energy generating facilities had been installed under the Feed-in Tariff Scheme. It is expected that the number of applications to be processed for generating facilities registration in 2024 will remain at the same level as 2023.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2024–25

5 During 2024–25, the Department will:

- continue to monitor the operation and maintenance of LPG storage installations;
- continue the stepped-up inspection of vehicle maintenance workshops in relation to LPG vehicles and education for the trades on gas safety measures;
- monitor the development and application of new refrigerants of low global warming potential in the air conditioning and refrigeration market and assist the Environment and Ecology Bureau in driving the industry on adoption of low global warming potential refrigerants and reclaimed refrigerants in a safe and practical manner;
- provide technical support to the Environment and Ecology Bureau on matters relating to the use of hydrogen as fuel;
- amend the GSO to cover the safe utilisation of hydrogen as fuel in Hong Kong; and
- continue to provide technical support to the Environment and Ecology Bureau on matters relating to the future development of the electricity market and the implementation of the Scheme of Control Agreements.

Programme (2): Mechanical Installations Safety

	2022–23 (Actual)	2023–24 (Original)	2023–24 (Revised)	2024–25 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	895.8	915.2	920.1 (+0.5%)	1,031.6 (+12.1%)
				(or +12.7% on 2023–24 Original)

Aim

6 The aim is to safeguard the public through implementation of a set of comprehensive regulatory frameworks and systems on the safety of lifts, escalators, builders' lifts, tower working platforms, aerial ropeways, amusement rides, railways, tramway, peak tramway and other mechanical installations; and to work closely with the community on public education.

Brief Description

7 The Department is responsible for the administration and enforcement of various safety ordinances, including the Lifts and Escalators Ordinance (Cap. 618) (LEO), the Amusement Rides (Safety) Ordinance (Cap. 449), the Aerial Ropeways (Safety) Ordinance (Cap. 211), the Builders' Lifts and Tower Working Platforms (Safety) Ordinance (Cap. 470), certain provisions of the Mass Transit Railway Ordinance (Cap. 556) and the Mass Transit Railway Regulations (Cap. 556A), the Airport Authority (Automated People Mover) (Safety) Regulation (Cap. 483C), the Tramway Ordinance (Cap. 107) and the Peak Tramway (Safety) Regulations (Cap. 265A). The Department is also responsible for the development and implementation of the voluntary registration schemes for vehicle mechanics and vehicle maintenance workshops. For ease of reference, the above activities, which are under different policy areas, are reported under this programme. The work includes:

- administration and enforcement of the above ordinances and regulations on mechanical safety and railway safety;
- registration of contractors, engineers, workers, examiners, surveyors and competent persons and inspection of installations;
- approval of design and construction of aerial ropeways, amusement rides, builders' lifts and tower working platforms, new brands/models of lift and escalator equipment, new railways and major railway modifications;
- preparation of codes of practice;
- investigation of incidents;
- initiating prosecution and taking disciplinary actions;
- implementation of the voluntary registration schemes for vehicle mechanics and vehicle maintenance workshops; and
- provision of expert advice.

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8 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2022 (Actual)	2023 (Actual)	2024 (Plan)
applications of new or major modified railway facilities/systems processed within 25 working days (%)	100Ω	100	100	100
registration of lift/escalator contractors within 40 working days (%)	100	100	100	100
lift/escalator engineers within 40 working days (%)	100	100	100	100
lift/escalator workers within 40 working days (%)	100	100	100	100
periodic testing certificates for lifts and escalators processed within 13 working days (%)	100	100	100	100
builders' lifts and tower working platforms processed within 12 working days (%)	100	100	100	100
issue of permits to use for lifts and escalators within 13 working days (%)	100	100	100	100
builders' lifts and tower working platforms within 12 working days (%)	100	100	100	100
amusement rides within 13 working days (%)	100	100	100	100
approval of design and construction of amusement rides (capacity ≤20 persons) within 34 working days (%)	100	100	100	100
amusement rides (capacity ≥21 persons) within 48 working days (%)	100	100	100	100
builders' lifts and tower working platforms within 34 working days (%)	100	100	100	100

Ω The target is revised from 99 per cent to 100 per cent as from 2024.

Indicators

	2022 (Actual)	2023 (Actual)	2024 (Estimate)
applications processed			
new brands/models of lift and escalator equipment	513	504	500
design and construction of builders' lifts and tower working platforms	45	43	45
new or major modified railway facilities/systems	545	640β	640β
certificates processed			
lifts and escalators	93 412	94 423	97 500
builders' lifts and tower working platforms	210	245Φ	240Φ
amusement rides	169	238§	270§
inspections			
lifts and escalators	27 918	29 508	30 000
percentage of existing lifts and escalators (%)	33.8	35.2	35.2
builders' lifts and tower working platforms	304	301	300
amusement rides	1 897	1 855	1 850
railway facilities/systems	492η	478η	450η
peak tramway	36	31	33
tramway	179	175	170
aerial ropeways	90	90	90

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	2022 (Actual)	2023 (Actual)	2024 (Estimate)
incidents investigated			
lifts and escalators	278	276	276
aerial ropeways.....	1	1	3
amusement rides.....	17	16	16
peak tramway	1	1	1
tramway.....	10	9	9
railways	122	82	82
builders' lifts and tower working platforms, and others.....	3	3	3
incidents/1 000 registered lifts	3.7	4.8 ψ	4.8 ψ
incidents/100 registered escalators.....	17.7	25.9 ϕ	19.8 ϕ
enquiries/complaints handled.....	3 782	4 123	4 000

- β The increase in 2023 was attributed to the increase in the number of applications related to asset replacement works in MTR stations and new railway projects. It is expected that the number of applications in 2024 would be similar to 2023.
- Φ The increase in the number of certificates in 2023 was attributed to the increased number of active construction sites following the resumption of normalcy. It is expected that the number of certificates in 2024 would be similar to 2023.
- \S The number of applications in 2023 gradually increased alongside the economic recovery but remained below the pre-epidemic level. It is expected that the number of applications would continue to revive in 2024.
- η The higher number of inspections in 2022 and 2023 were attributed to the additional inspections in relation to the two major railway incidents in November and December 2022. It is expected that the number would return to the normal level in 2024.
- ψ The number of incidents rose due to the utilisation returned to the normal level in 2023 following the resumption of normalcy. The number is expected to remain in the normal level in 2024.
- ϕ The number of incidents rose due to the utilisation returned to normal level in 2023 following the resumption of normalcy. With additional efforts in publicity and promotion of safe use of escalators, the number is expected to revert to a lower level in 2024.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2024–25

- 9 During 2024–25, the Department will continue to:
- monitor the operation and maintenance of the aerial ropeways of Ngong Ping 360 and Ocean Park, and amusement rides in Hong Kong Disneyland, Ocean Park and other venues;
 - promote and administer the voluntary registration schemes for vehicle mechanics and vehicle maintenance workshops through stepping up inspection of both vehicle mechanics and vehicle maintenance workshops under the voluntary registration schemes; include the maintenance of electric vehicles (EVs) into the voluntary registration schemes to accommodate the rising demand from the popularisation of EVs in Hong Kong; as well as examine the feasibility and formulate proposals on introducing a mandatory registration scheme for vehicle mechanics and vehicle maintenance workshops taking into account developments in the vehicle market;
 - step up public education and publicity efforts to enhance the safety of lifts and escalators;
 - step up inspection of registered contractors' maintenance works for aged lifts and escalators;
 - implement the LEO and publicise the requirements to relevant stakeholders;
 - promote the use of digital log-books for lifts and escalators;
 - provide support to the Urban Renewal Authority for implementation of the Lift Modernisation Subsidy Scheme; and
 - monitor the safety performance of railway service provided by the MTR Corporation Limited.

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Programme (3): Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy

	2022–23 (Actual)	2023–24 (Original)	2023–24 (Revised)	2024–25 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	476.3	643.3	514.4 (–20.0%)	563.8 (+9.6%)
				(or –12.4% on 2023–24 Original)

Aim

10 The aim is to promote energy efficiency and conservation and application of alternative energy.

Brief Description

11 The Department is responsible for the development, promotion and implementation of energy efficiency and conservation; and providing professional support to the Government on the promotion and use of new and renewable energy. The work includes:

- administration and enforcement of the Energy Efficiency (Labelling of Products) Ordinance (Cap. 598);
- administration and enforcement of the Buildings Energy Efficiency Ordinance (Cap. 610) (BEEO);
- provision of professional support and advice to relevant bureaux and the Energy Advisory Committee on matters in relation to energy efficiency and conservation as well as adoption of renewable energy;
- planning for and implementation of district cooling systems;
- preparation and review of codes of practice and technical guidelines;
- development and implementation of energy saving, energy efficiency and conservation as well as renewable energy programmes and projects;
- research and development on application of innovative energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies;
- establishment and updating of the energy end-use database;
- promotion of public awareness and application of energy efficiency and conservation measures, equipment and systems and the use of renewable energy; and
- liaison with the Mainland, regional and international organisations such as the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation on energy-related issues.

12 The key performance measures are:

Targets

	Target	2022 (Actual)	2023 (Actual)	2024 (Plan)
registration under the voluntary EELS within 17 working days (%)	99	99	100	99
processing of product submissions under the mandatory EELS within 17 working days (%).....	99	99	100	99
approval of applications under the voluntary water-cooled air-conditioning system scheme for the design or operation of the evaporative cooling towers within 17 working days (%).....	99	100	100	99
registration under the voluntary Energy Efficiency Registration Scheme for Buildings (EERSB) within 17 working days (%).....	99	100	100	99
annual updating of Hong Kong Energy End-use Database (% completed).....	100	100	100	100
registration of Registered Energy Assessors under the Mandatory Building Energy Code (BEC) Scheme within 40 working days (%)	99	100	100	99

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Indicators

	2022 (Actual)	2023 (Actual)	2024 (Estimate)
<i>Mandatory EELS</i>			
product submissions processed	940	828	1 400 ^μ
site inspections on prescribed products.....	704	704	700
<i>Voluntary EELS</i>			
energy labels developed	0 [¶]	0 [¶]	0 [¶]
energy labels implemented.....	0 [¶]	0 [¶]	0 [¶]
energy labels issued.....	61	99 [¶]	99 [¶]
<i>Mandatory BEC Scheme</i>			
sampling inspections for submissions relating to new buildings, major retrofitting works and energy audit	24	24	24
sampling inspections of buildings.....	1 040	1 069	1 000
<i>Voluntary EERSB</i>			
certificate issued	24	20	20
<i>Energy consumption study</i>			
studies completed.....	1	1	1
energy consumption indicators developed/updated	1	1	1
<i>Voluntary water-cooled air-conditioning system scheme</i>			
applications received and processed	50	46	40
installations completed.....	40	33	30
<i>Research and development on the application of innovative energy efficiency technologies</i>			
studies completed.....	3	3	3
<i>Energy efficiency and conservation promotion</i>			
talks delivered/visits organised for organisations/schools	386	470 [^]	300 [^]
enquiries handled	4 177	5 045	3 400

^μ The number of product submissions in 2024 is expected to increase following the commencement of Phase IV of the mandatory EELS for light emitting diode lamps, gas cookers and gas instantaneous water heaters, and also the commencement of the new energy efficiency grading standards for refrigerating appliances, washing machines and storage type electric water heaters under the mandatory EELS in 2024.

[¶] There was no new energy label under the voluntary EELS in recent years as it has already covered 22 types of electrical appliances, office equipment and gas appliances. The increase in the number of energy labels issued was mainly due to more product submissions in 2023 following the resumption of normalcy as reflected by major suppliers. The figure in 2024 is expected to remain at the same level as 2023.

[^] The number of talks/visits increased in 2023 following the resumption of normalcy. However, the EMSD Gallery is scheduled to close for around three months in the second half of 2024 due to renovation, and the associated talks/visits organised in the gallery would be suspended during the renovation period. Moreover, the promotion of the two schemes “Solar Harvest” and “Green Schools 2.0 – Energy Smart” is scheduled to be completed in 2023–24 and 2024–25 respectively. Hence, the estimated number of talks/visits in 2024 is expected to decrease.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2024–25

13 During 2024–25, the Department will:

- continue to implement the mandatory EELS including the full implementation of Phase IV of the scheme, commencement of the new energy efficiency grading standards for refrigerating appliances, washing machines and storage type electric water heaters, and continue to implement the voluntary EELS;
- continue to implement the BEEO including the statutory codes of practice, and to promote building energy efficiency among stakeholders in the built environment, and to take forward the proposed legislative amendments to the BEEO;
- administer and promote the voluntary EERSB to encourage building energy efficiency that is above the statutory levels;

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- continue the development of the existing and additional district cooling systems at the Kai Tak Development, continue the design and development of the district cooling systems in the Tung Chung New Town Extension (East) and Kwu Tung North New Development Area (NDA), continue the planning and design of the proposed district cooling system in the Hung Shui Kiu/Ha Tsuen NDA, and conduct feasibility studies on the provision of district cooling systems in other NDAs;
- continue research and development works on the application of new energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies;
- continue to promote public awareness of best practices in energy efficiency and conservation as well as renewable energy through publicity and public education programmes;
- continue to provide technical advice and support to government bureaux and departments on energy saving through organising seminars, experience sharing workshops and other channels;
- continue to promote retro-commissioning to the relevant trades and professions;
- continue to promote and provide technical advice relating to the implementation of energy-saving measures in government and public venues;
- oversee energy saving projects and retro-commissioning projects in government buildings and facilities; and
- implement energy saving projects as appropriate in schools and welfare non-government organisations.

Programme (4): Centralised Services and Special Support

	2022–23 (Actual)	2023–24 (Original)	2023–24 (Revised)	2024–25 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	121.9	127.4	129.5 (+1.6%)	133.3 (+2.9%)
				(or +4.6% on 2023–24 Original)

Aim

- 14 The aim is to provide efficient and cost-effective centralised services and specialist support to other departments.

Brief Description

15 The Department is responsible for providing common administrative support to EMSTF. The common administrative expenses shared by EMSTF will be reimbursed to the Government.

16 The Department is also responsible for the regulatory control of fresh water cooling towers under the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132).

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ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL PROVISION

Programme	2022–23 (Actual) (\$m)	2023–24 (Original) (\$m)	2023–24 (Revised) (\$m)	2024–25 (Estimate) (\$m)
(1) Energy Supply; Electrical, Gas and Nuclear Safety	184.0	181.8	187.7	203.9
(2) Mechanical Installations Safety	895.8	915.2	920.1	1,031.6
(3) Energy Efficiency and Conservation, and Alternative Energy	476.3	643.3	514.4	563.8
(4) Centralised Services and Special Support.....	121.9	127.4	129.5	133.3
	1,678.0	1,867.7	1,751.7 (-6.2%)	1,932.6 (+10.3%)
				(or +3.5% on 2023–24 Original)

Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision

Programme (1)

Provision for 2024–25 is \$16.2 million (8.6%) higher than the revised estimate for 2023–24. This is mainly due to the increased provisions for providing technical support to take forward the initiative of the use of hydrogen as fuel and other operating expenses. There will be a net decrease of two posts in 2024–25.

Programme (2)

Provision for 2024–25 is \$111.5 million (12.1%) higher than the revised estimate for 2023–24. This is mainly due to the increased cash flow requirement for the non-recurrent item for the Lift Modernisation Subsidy Scheme, partly offset by the reduced provision for operating expenses. There will be a net decrease of two posts in 2024–25.

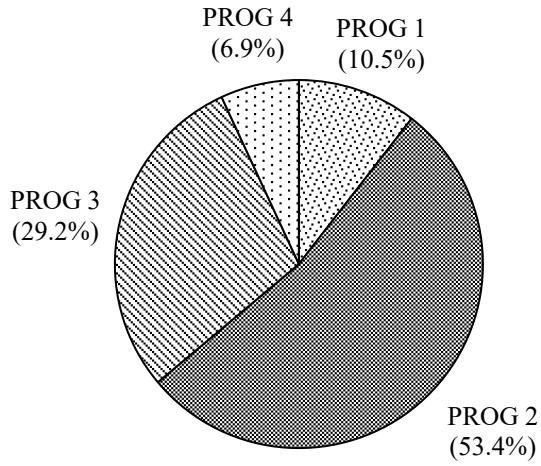
Programme (3)

Provision for 2024–25 is \$49.4 million (9.6%) higher than the revised estimate for 2023–24. This is mainly due to the increased provisions for capital non-works projects and recurrent consequence of the development of the district cooling systems at the Kai Tak Development, partly offset by the reduced provision for operating expenses. There will be a net decrease of six posts in 2024–25.

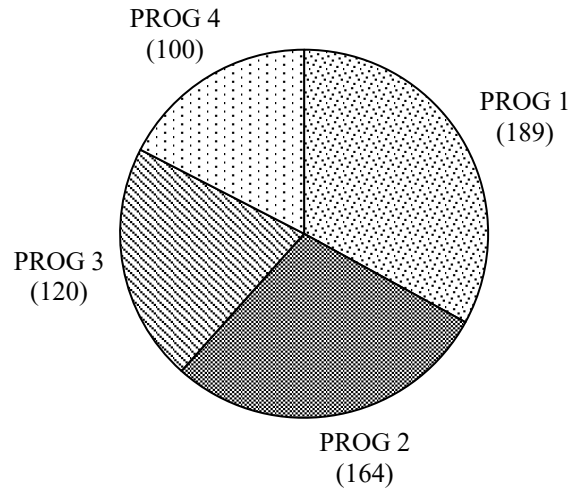
Programme (4)

Provision for 2024–25 is \$3.8 million (2.9%) higher than the revised estimate for 2023–24. This is mainly due to the increased provision for operating expenses.

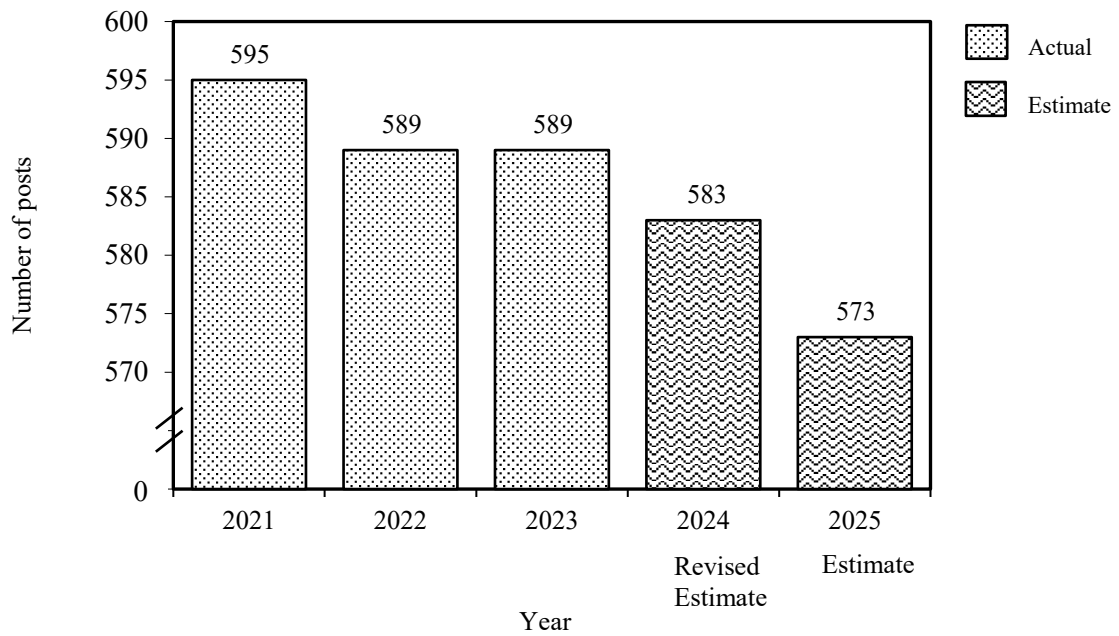
Allocation of provision to programmes (2024-25)



Staff by programme (as at 31 March 2025)



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



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Sub-head (Code)	Actual expenditure 2022–23	Approved estimate 2023–24	Revised estimate 2023–24	Estimate 2024–25	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Operating Account					
Recurrent					
000	Operational expenses	684,126	764,312	711,977	756,746
	Total, Recurrent	684,126	764,312	711,977	756,746
Non-Recurrent					
700	General non-recurrent	732,743	747,700	747,700	862,842
	Total, Non-Recurrent	732,743	747,700	747,700	862,842
	Total, Operating Account	1,416,869	1,512,012	1,459,677	1,619,588
Capital Account					
Plant, Equipment and Works					
661	Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)	175,749	235,700	182,000	193,000
696	Energy saving projects in government buildings (block vote)	85,366	120,000	110,000	120,000
	Total, Plant, Equipment and Works	261,115	355,700	292,000	313,000
	Total, Capital Account	261,115	355,700	292,000	313,000
	Total Expenditure	1,677,984	1,867,712	1,751,677	1,932,588

Head 42 — ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2024–25 for the salaries and expenses of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department is \$1,932,588,000. This represents an increase of \$180,911,000 over the revised estimate for 2023–24 and \$254,604,000 over the actual expenditure in 2022–23.

Operating Account

Recurrent

2 Provision of \$756,746,000 under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is for the salaries, allowances and other operating expenses of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department.

3 The establishment as at 31 March 2024 will be 583 posts including three supernumerary posts. It is expected that there will be a net decrease of ten posts in 2024–25. Subject to certain conditions, the controlling officer may under delegated power create or delete non-directorate posts during 2024–25, but the notional annual mid-point salary value of all such posts must not exceed \$438,736,000.

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

	2022–23 (Actual) (\$'000)	2023–24 (Original) (\$'000)	2023–24 (Revised) (\$'000)	2024–25 (Estimate) (\$'000)
Personal Emoluments				
- Salaries	482,986	503,256	498,793	506,241
- Allowances	7,183	6,533	6,902	7,143
- Job-related allowances.....	1	—	22	—
Personnel Related Expenses				
- Mandatory Provident Fund contribution	1,177	694	898	591
- Civil Service Provident Fund contribution	37,708	43,609	44,071	50,707
Departmental Expenses				
- General departmental expenses	155,071	210,220	161,291	192,064
	684,126	764,312	711,977	756,746

Capital Account

Plant, Equipment and Works

5 Provision of \$120 million under *Subhead 696 Energy saving projects in government buildings (block vote)* is for acquisition and replacement of plant and equipment for government buildings for the purpose of energy saving, up to a limit of \$10 million for each project.

Head 42 — ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Commitments

Sub-head (Code)	Item (Code)	Ambit	Approved commitment	Accumulated expenditure to 31.3.2023	Revised estimated expenditure for 2023–24	Balance
			\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<i>Operating Account</i>						
700		<i>General non-recurrent</i>				
	807	Lift Modernisation Subsidy Scheme	4,508,400	2,012,525	747,700	1,748,175
		Total	4,508,400	2,012,525	747,700	1,748,175