

Head 53 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: HOME AND YOUTH AFFAIRS BUREAU

Controlling officer: the Permanent Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs will account for expenditure under this Head.

Estimate 2024–25 **\$1,254.6m**

Establishment ceiling 2024–25 (notional annual mid-point salary value) representing an estimated 176 non-directorate posts as at 31 March 2024 rising by nine posts to 185 posts as at 31 March 2025..... **\$129.5m**

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

Commitment balance..... **\$2,110.5m**

Controlling Officer's Report

Programmes

Programme (1) Director of Bureau's Office	This programme contributes to Policy Area 27: Intra-Governmental Services (Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs).
Programme (2) Youth Development, Social Harmony and Civic Education	This programme contributes to Policy Area 19: District and Community Relations (Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs).
Programme (3) District, Community and Public Relations	This programme contributes to Policy Area 18: Recreation, Culture, Amenities and Entertainment Licensing (Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs) and Policy Area 19: District and Community Relations (Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs).

Detail

Programme (1): Director of Bureau's Office

	2022–23 (Actual)	2023–24 (Original)	2023–24 (Revised)	2024–25 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	14.4	15.7	15.0 (–4.5%)	15.2 (+1.3%)
				(or –3.2% on 2023–24 Original)

Aim

- 2 The aim is to ensure the smooth operation of the Office of the Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs.

Brief Description

3 The Office of the Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs is responsible for providing support to the Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs in undertaking political work. This includes the support provided by the Under Secretary and the Political Assistant. The Office is also responsible for providing administrative support to the Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs in carrying out her duties. The work includes the planning, co-ordination and implementation of all arrangements for the Secretary's public, media and community functions.

Programme (2): Youth Development, Social Harmony and Civic Education

	2022–23 (Actual)	2023–24 (Original)	2023–24 (Revised)	2024–25 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	604.3#	1,005.3	810.8 (–19.3%)	1,088.0 (+34.2%)
				(or +8.2% on 2023–24 Original)

For comparison purpose, the figure includes relevant provisions for the women portfolio which have been transferred from Head 141 — Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau due to re-organisation of the Government Secretariat with effect from 1 July 2022.

Head 53 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: HOME AND YOUTH AFFAIRS BUREAU

Aim

4 The aims are to promote youth development, social harmony, civic education including national education outside schools, participation of young people in policy discussion, the development of social enterprises (SEs), and the empowerment of women in Hong Kong.

Brief Description

5 The responsibilities of the Bureau under this programme are to:

- review and monitor the implementation progress of the Youth Development Blueprint;
- co-ordinate various youth development measures through collaboration with relevant bureaux/departments, youth uniformed groups and other non-governmental organisations;
- support the work of the Youth Development Commission (YDC);
- provide support for implementation of the Member Self-recommendation Scheme for Youth (MSSY) under the Youth Participation Initiative;
- promote civic education including national education outside schools by working closely with the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education;
- promote the development of SEs, including fostering partnership among the community, the business sector and the Government in support of SEs;
- provide secretariat support to the Family Council;
- develop policies relating to the enforcement of maintenance orders;
- provide secretariat support to the Women's Commission which has the mission to enable women to fully realise their due status, rights and opportunities in all aspects of life; and
- facilitate the incorporation of women's needs and perspectives into the process of policy making where appropriate.

6 The key performance measures in respect of youth development, social harmony and civic education are:

Indicators

	2022 (Actual)	2023 (Actual)	2024 (Estimate)
civic education projects sponsored under the Community Participation Scheme	63	64	63
participants under the international youth exchange programmes	— [^]	800 [^]	2 100
participants under the Funding Scheme for Youth Exchange in the Mainland	— [^]	20 000 [^]	25 000
participants under the Funding Scheme for Youth Internship in the Mainland	— [^]	2 600 [^]	4 300
youth members of uniformed groups subvented by the Bureau	104 022	105 598	108 000
no. of SEs in Hong Kong	711	713	730

[^] The international youth exchange programmes, the Funding Scheme for Youth Exchange in the Mainland and the Funding Scheme for Youth Internship in the Mainland were suspended from the first quarter of 2020 to the fourth quarter of 2022 due to the COVID-19 epidemic. The lower numbers of participants in 2023 were due to the progressive resumption of programmes/schemes from early 2023.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2024–25

7 During 2024–25, the Bureau will:

- continue to work closely with the YDC to facilitate cross-bureau and cross-sector collaboration in youth development work and monitor the implementation of initiatives set out in the Youth Development Blueprint;
- continue to work together with the YDC to implement international and Mainland youth internship and exchange programmes;
- continue to support Hong Kong young people to start their businesses in Hong Kong and other cities of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (Greater Bay Area) through the Alliance of Hong Kong Youth Innovation and Entrepreneurial Bases in the Greater Bay Area and the relevant funding schemes under the Youth Development Fund;
- organise the Youth Development Summit in mid-2024 as the opening and highlight of the 2024 Youth Festival;

Head 53 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: HOME AND YOUTH AFFAIRS BUREAU

- launch a pilot scheme to provide young people with financial planning and counselling services as well as information on financial management, saving and investment that suits their individual needs, so as to assist young people in developing an effective financial management plan;
- continue to cultivate positive thinking amongst young people and promote youth life planning through relevant funding schemes;
- continue to implement the Youth Hostel Scheme – Subsidy Scheme for Using Hotels and Guesthouses as Youth Hostels;
- continue to promote the multi-faceted talents of youth and further strengthen communication with young people;
- continue to engage young people through the Youth Link and offer them opportunities to develop diverse talents and take part in public affairs;
- continue to promote youth volunteerism through various channels, including Service Corps, the United Nations Volunteers-Hong Kong Universities Volunteer Internship Programme and Guangdong-Hong Kong Youth Volunteer Service Programme;
- continue to encourage youth's participation in government advisory and statutory bodies through various channels including implementing the MSSY;
- continue to work closely with the Committee on the Promotion of Civic Education in promoting civic education including national education outside schools and in the community;
- continue to provide secretariat support to the Family Council in promoting family core values;
- continue to promote the development of SEs by facilitating cross-sector partnership;
- continue to provide secretariat support to the Women's Commission in promoting the empowerment of women, and conduct public education to enhance public awareness of gender-related issues;
- continue to run the Women Empowerment Fund under the Women's Commission to subsidise community projects that support women in balancing job and family commitments, and unleashing their potential;
- continue to facilitate the incorporation of women's needs and perspectives into the process of policy making where appropriate and enhance women's participation in advisory and statutory bodies;
- set up a dedicated Women Affairs Team and designate the post of Commissioner for Women Affairs to steer work related to women's affairs;
- launch a one-stop family and women information portal and organise the first Family and Women Development Summit; and
- launch a five-year Funding Scheme on the Promotion of Family Education to subsidise non-profit-making community projects in promoting family education.

Programme (3): District, Community and Public Relations

	2022–23 (Actual)	2023–24 (Original)	2023–24 (Revised)	2024–25 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	246.6#	165.5	149.8 (–9.5%)	151.4 (+1.1%)
				(or –8.5% on 2023–24 Original)

For comparison purpose, the figure includes relevant provisions for the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund (CIIF) which have been transferred from Head 141 — Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau due to re-organisation of the Government Secretariat with effect from 1 July 2022 and relevant provisions for the entertainment licensing under the former Programme (4) Recreation, Sport and Entertainment Licensing.

Aim

8 The aims are to formulate and oversee the implementation of policies in respect of district governance and community building in Hong Kong, and to provide a business-friendly and effective regulatory regime in respect of various types of public entertainment venues.

Head 53 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: HOME AND YOUTH AFFAIRS BUREAU

Brief Description

- 9 The responsibilities of the Bureau under this programme are to:
- formulate and develop policy in respect of district governance; community building; building management; wills; appointment to advisory and statutory bodies; licensing of hotels, guesthouses, clubs and bedspace apartments; and design of postage stamps;
 - oversee policy matters relating to the Chinese Temples Committee, the Board of Management of the Chinese Permanent Cemeteries and administration of trust funds for which the trustee is The Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs Incorporated (SHYAI) and managed by the Bureau; and management of the properties of SHYAI;
 - oversee policy matters relating to gambling and implement measures to prevent and alleviate gambling-related problems;
 - co-ordinate major celebration activities;
 - undertake housekeeping functions for the Home Affairs Department;
 - oversee the policy and resources allocation on community development work;
 - oversee the policy on dissemination of government information and undertake housekeeping functions for the Information Services Department;
 - provide secretariat support to the Community Care Fund;
 - promote the development of social capital in Hong Kong by encouraging community involvement and cross-sectoral partnership through CIIF; and
 - formulate and oversee policy on regulation of various types of public entertainment venues such as cinemas, amusement game centres and places with amusement rides.
- 10 The key performance measures in respect of district, community and public relations are:

Indicators

	2022 (Actual)	2023 (Actual)	2024 (Estimate)
data subjects and curriculum vitae in the Central Personality Index	43 427	44 745	46 100
statutory and charitable funds income (\$m)η.....	68.6	107.3Ω	104.2@
welfare and education grants from trust funds (\$m)	23.5	29.6	37.2Δ
no. of clients who received counselling and treatment services provided by the treatment centres supported by the Ping Wo Fund	2 200	2 504	2 500

η The actual and estimated income reflects the receipts from dividend, interest income, and the equity disposals made or planned to be made during the respective years.

Ω The increase was mainly due to the increase in donation income and interest income in 2023.

@ The estimated income has not taken into account any investment gain/loss on disposal of equities as there is currently no plan of equity disposal for 2024.

Δ The estimated figure is the maximum amount that could be disbursed in the year. The actual amount of payment would depend on the number of eligible applications received and the progress of individual approved projects.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2024–25

- 11 During 2024–25, the Bureau will continue to:
- work with the Betting and Lotteries Commission to ensure proper regulation of horse race betting, football betting and lotteries;
 - conduct public education on gambling-related issues and provide counselling and treatment services for gamblers with gambling disorder and those affected by them; and
 - oversee the implementation of community support programme for residents of new public rental housing estates through CIIF.

Head 53 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: HOME AND YOUTH AFFAIRS BUREAU

ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL PROVISION

Programme	2022–23 (Actual) (\$m)	2023–24 (Original) (\$m)	2023–24 (Revised) (\$m)	2024–25 (Estimate) (\$m)
(1) Director of Bureau's Office	14.4	15.7	15.0	15.2
(2) Youth Development, Social Harmony and Civic Education.....	604.3	1,005.3	810.8	1,088.0
(3) District, Community and Public Relations	246.6	165.5	149.8	151.4
	865.3#	1,186.5	975.6 (-17.8%)	1,254.6 (+28.6%)
				(or +5.7% on 2023–24 Original)

In addition to changes to Programmes (2) and (3) mentioned under individual programmes, the figure excludes relevant provisions for the recreation, sports and culture portfolios under the former Programme (4) Recreation, Sport and Entertainment Licensing, Programme (5) Culture and Programme (6) Subvention: Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, Hong Kong Arts Development Council and Major Performing Arts Groups which have been transferred to Head 132 — Government Secretariat: Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau due to re-organisation of the Government Secretariat with effect from 1 July 2022.

Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision

Programme (1)

Provision for 2024–25 is \$0.2 million (1.3%) higher than the revised estimate for 2023–24. This is mainly due to the increased provision for operating expenses.

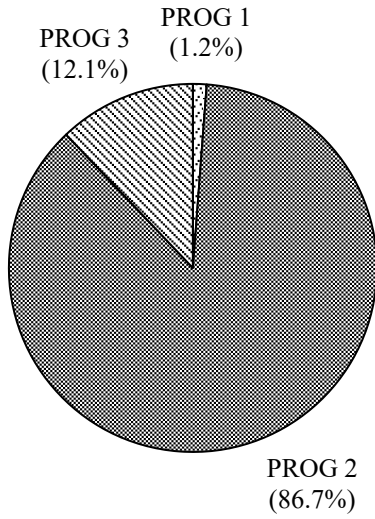
Programme (2)

Provision for 2024–25 is \$277.2 million (34.2%) higher than the revised estimate for 2023–24. This is mainly due to the increased provision for new and enhanced youth development, women and family related initiatives and the increased cash flow requirements for non-recurrent and capital account items. There will be a net increase of three posts in 2024–25.

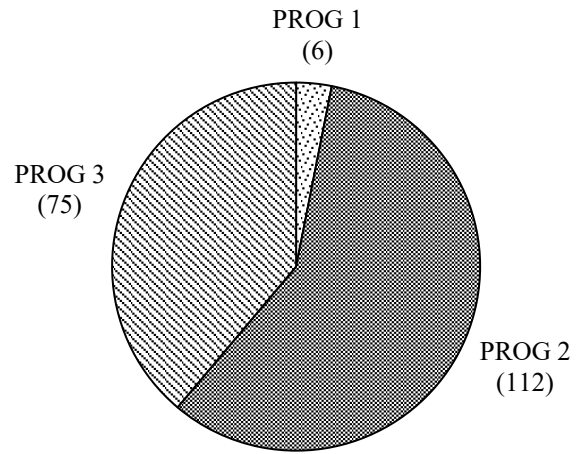
Programme (3)

Provision for 2024–25 is \$1.6 million (1.1%) higher than the revised estimate for 2023–24. This is mainly due to the increased cash flow requirement for the non-recurrent item of CIIF, partly offset by the decreased provision for operating expenses. There will be a net increase of six posts in 2024–25.

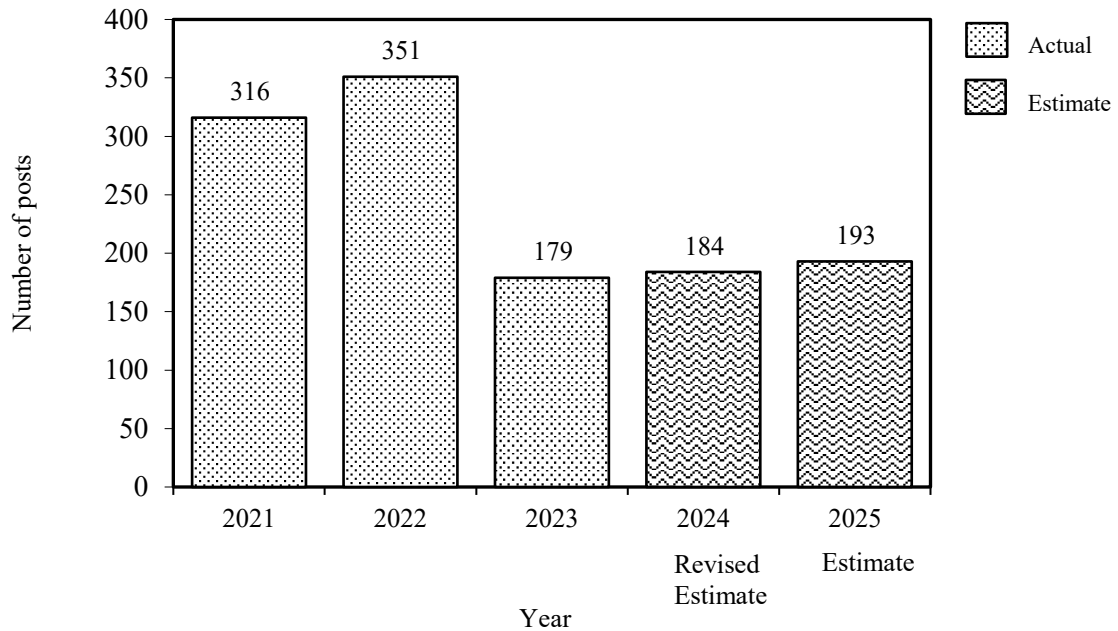
Allocation of provision to programmes (2024-25)



Staff by programme (as at 31 March 2025)



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



Head 53 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: HOME AND YOUTH AFFAIRS BUREAU

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	996,164@	777,597	755,132	922,587
003	Recoverable salaries and allowances (General)..... 10,945				
	Deduct reimbursements <i>Cr. 10,945</i>	—	—	—	—
	Total, Recurrent.....	996,164	777,597	755,132	922,587
Non-Recurrent					
700	General non-recurrent	288,950@	405,078	216,621	322,506
	Total, Non-Recurrent.....	288,950	405,078	216,621	322,506
	Total, Operating Account	1,285,114	1,182,675	971,753	1,245,093
Capital Account					
Plant, Equipment and Works					
661	Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote).....	658	—	—	1,968
	Total, Plant, Equipment and Works.....	658	—	—	1,968
Subventions					
88J	Youth Hostel Scheme (block vote).....	3,391	3,829	3,829	7,503
	Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts.....	1,026@	—	—	—
	Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (block vote).....	9,534@	—	—	—
	Total, Subventions	13,951	3,829	3,829	7,503
	Total, Capital Account.....	14,609	3,829	3,829	9,471
	Total Expenditure	1,299,723	1,186,504	975,582	1,254,564

@ The actual expenditure in 2022–23 includes three months' provisions up to 30 June 2022 for the recreation, sports and culture portfolios and nine months' provisions from 1 July 2022 for the women portfolio and the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund (CIIF). Remaining nine months' provisions for the recreation, sports and culture portfolios and three months' provisions for the women portfolio and CIIF are included under Head 132 — Government Secretariat: Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau and Head 141 — Government Secretariat: Labour and Welfare Bureau respectively due to re-organisation of the Government Secretariat with effect from 1 July 2022.

Head 53 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: HOME AND YOUTH AFFAIRS BUREAU

Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2024–25 for the salaries and expenses of the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau is \$1,254,564,000. This represents an increase of \$278,982,000 over the revised estimate for 2023–24 and a decrease of \$45,159,000 against the actual expenditure in 2022–23.

Operating Account

Recurrent

2 Provision of \$922,587,000 under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is for the salaries, allowances and other operating expenses of the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau. This represents an increase of \$167,455,000 (22.2%) over the revised estimate for 2023–24. This is mainly due to the increased provision for new and enhanced youth development, women and family related initiatives.

3 The establishment as at 31 March 2024 will be 184 posts including one supernumerary post. It is expected that there will be a net increase of nine 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 \$129,471,000.

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.....	152,607	118,396	114,962	131,522
- Allowances.....	4,842	4,172	4,874	4,930
- Job-related allowances.....	4	18	15	18
Personnel Related Expenses				
- Mandatory Provident Fund contribution.....	431	330	381	392
- Civil Service Provident Fund contribution.....	10,882	10,414	9,167	12,203
Departmental Expenses				
- General departmental expenses	244,628	169,827	135,107	176,126
Other Charges				
- Women's Commission related programmes	—	28,700	28,600	36,338
- International Youth Exchange Programme.....	214	1,500	1,000	— ^φ
- Family Council related programmes.....	18,205	23,611	16,690	23,375
- Programmes to support student athletes, retired athletes, district football development and disability sports	4,728	—	—	—
- Promotion of civic education outside schools	19,203	23,998	23,141	23,758
- Youth Square	93,899	108,589	107,589	109,657
- Youth development activities	102,390	171,005	197,562	291,441 ^φ
Subventions				
- Creative arts centre in Shek Kip Mei.....	3,210	—	—	—
- Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts	16,950	—	—	—
- Outward Bound Trust of Hong Kong	548	—	—	—
- Hong Kong Arts Development Council.....	100,948	—	—	—
- Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China.....	11,288	—	—	—
- Uniformed groups and other youth organisations	114,391	117,037	116,044	112,827 [§]
- Major Performing Arts Groups.....	94,470	—	—	—
- China Hong Kong Paralympic Committee	2,326	—	—	—
	996,164	777,597	755,132	922,587

^φ Provision for “International Youth Exchange Programme” is subsumed under “Youth development activities” with effect from 2024–25.

Head 53 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: HOME AND YOUTH AFFAIRS BUREAU

Ω Including provision to the Management Company of Olympic House Limited.

§ The Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps will become a youth uniformed group subvented by the Government Flying Service starting from 1 April 2024. Relevant provision is transferred to Head 166 — Government Flying Service.

5 Gross provision of \$10,945,000 under *Subhead 003 Recoverable salaries and allowances (General)* is for the salaries and allowances of the civil servants seconded to the Trust Funds and Temples Joint Secretariat (which serves as the secretarial and executive arms of the Chinese Temples Committee and eight Trust Fund Committees), and civil servants providing secretariat support to the Community Care Fund. The gross provision must not be exceeded without the prior approval of the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury. Expenditure under this subhead is to be reimbursed by the relevant organisations and the Trust Funds.

Capital Account

Plant, Equipment and Works

6 Provision of \$1,968,000 under *Subhead 661 Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)* is for procurement and replacement of plant and equipment.

Subventions

7 Provision of \$7,503,000 under *Subhead 88J Youth Hostel Scheme (block vote)* is for procurement of equipment each costing above \$200,000 but not exceeding \$10 million. The increase of \$3,674,000 (96.0%) over the revised estimate for 2023–24 is mainly due to increased cash flow requirement for procurement of equipment.

Head 53 — GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT: HOME AND YOUTH AFFAIRS BUREAU

Commitments

Sub-head (Code)	Item (Code)	Ambit	Approved commitment \$'000	Accumulated expenditure to 31.3.2023 \$'000	Revised estimated expenditure for 2023–24 \$'000	Balance \$'000
<i>Operating Account</i>						
700		<i>General non-recurrent</i>				
	016	Community Investment and Inclusion Fund	800,000	532,413	75,652	191,935
	808	International Youth Exchange Programme.....	100,000	24,600	16,000	59,400
	824	Multi-faceted Excellence Scholarship.....	400,000	206,429	46,000	147,571
	832	Youth Hostel Scheme – Subsidy Scheme for Using Hotels and Guesthouses as Youth Hostels	1,000,000	3,816	19,704	976,480
	894	Youth Development Fund ψ	900,000 ψ	105,596	59,265	735,139
		Total	<u>3,200,000</u>	<u>872,854</u>	<u>216,621</u>	<u>2,110,525</u>

ψ The approved commitment for the item was \$600 million. An increase in commitment of \$300 million is sought in the context of the Appropriation Bill 2024.