

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 2026–27 **\$1,310.8m**

Establishment ceiling 2026–27 (notional annual mid-point salary value) representing an estimated 186 non-directorate posts as at 31 March 2026 rising by 31 posts to 217 posts as at 31 March 2027..... **\$159.4m**

In addition, there will be an estimated eight directorate posts as at 31 March 2026 and 31 March 2027.

Commitment balance..... **\$1,647.8m**

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

	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Original)	2025–26 (Revised)	2026–27 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	15.9	16.1	16.1 (—)	16.1 (—)

(or same as
2025–26 Original)

Aim

- 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

	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Original)	2025–26 (Revised)	2026–27 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	951.8	1,128.6	1,023.4 (-9.3%)	1,121.9 (+9.6%)

(or -0.6% on
2025–26 Original)

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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

	2024 (Actual)	2025 (Actual)	2026 (Estimate)
civic education projects sponsored under the Community Participation Scheme	62	62	62
participants under the international youth exchange programmes	2 100	2 400 [^]	2 400 [^]
participants under the HYAB Funding Scheme for Youth Exchange in the Mainland#	28 000	30 000	30 000
participants under the HYAB Funding Scheme for Youth Internship in the Mainland#	4 400	4 600	4 600
youth members of uniformed groups subvented by the Bureau.....	106 216	107 151	109 300
no. of SEs in Hong Kong¶	551	554	557

[^] The increase in the number of participants in 2025 was mainly due to an increase in the approved number of exchange places under the HYAB Funding Scheme for International Youth Exchange to provide more overseas exchange and exposure opportunities for young people. The number in 2026 is expected to be similar to that in 2025.

[#] Revised descriptions of the previous indicators “participants under the Funding Scheme for Youth Exchange in the Mainland” and “participants under the Funding Scheme for Youth Internship in the Mainland” for 2025 onwards to reflect the new funding scheme names.

[¶] This is based on the number of SEs listed in the SE Directory maintained by the Hong Kong Council of Social Service.

Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2026–27

7 During 2026–27, the Bureau will:

- continue to work closely with 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 YDC to implement international and Mainland youth internship and exchange programmes;

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- 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 third Youth Development Summit in the second half of 2026 to promote the development of Hong Kong youth;
- continue to monitor the operation of the “Youth Post” hostel and the organisation of youth activities to promote cultural, arts and sports exchanges in the Kai Tak Community Isolation Facility;
- continue to take forward the development of the remaining phase of the new interactive space for young people at the Youth Square;
- launch a Young Talent Training Programme to better equip young people, broaden their international horizons and cultivate a holistic outlook; specifically, the Bureau will provide more opportunities for young people to participate in the internships of international organisations and attend international conferences, introduce a new media thematic internship programme in the Mainland, strengthen the Youth Financial Education Programme, and launch new mediation workshops to enhance young people’s understanding of the mediation industry;
- continue to cultivate positive thinking amongst young people and promote youth life planning through relevant funding schemes;
- continue to implement the Youth Hostel Scheme and the 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 HYAB - United Nations Volunteer Internship Programme and Guangdong-Hong Kong Youth Volunteer Service Programme;
- continue to encourage youth’s participation in government advisory committees through various channels including implementing MSSY;
- continue to take forward the development of the remaining phase of Youth Link · Nam Cheong, a physical interactive platform in the Nam Cheong District Community Centre and the adjacent Tung Chau Street Temporary Market for Youth Link members;
- 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 promote the development of SEs by facilitating cross-sector partnership;
- continue to provide secretariat support to the Family Council in promoting family core values;
- continue to implement the five-year Funding Scheme on the Promotion of Family Education to subsidise non-profit-making community projects in promoting family education;
- 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 realise 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;
- continue to implement the “She Inspires” Mentorship Programme to promote women’s workplace development;
- continue to organise the Family and Women Development Summit; and
- continue to enrich the content of the one-stop family and women information portal.

Programme (3): District, Community and Public Relations

	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Original)	2025–26 (Revised)	2026–27 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)	165.2	135.4	137.9 (+1.8%)	172.8 (+25.3%)
				(or +27.6% on 2025–26 Original)

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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.

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 the Community Investment and Inclusion Fund; 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

	2024 (Actual)	2025 (Actual)	2026 (Estimate)
data subjects and curriculum vitae in the Central Personality Index	45 941	47 211	48 533
statutory and charitable funds income (\$m)η.....	83.7	100.8Ω	109.0@
welfare and education grants from trust funds (\$m).....	26.0	45.5α	42.0Δ
no. of clients who received counselling and treatment services provided by the treatment centres supported by the Ping Wo Fund.....	2 687	2 692	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 better overall investment performance in 2025.

@ 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 in 2026.

α The increase was mainly due to a one-off grant to the Home Affairs Department for providing emergency relief to residents of Wang Fuk Court in Tai Po.

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.

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Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2026–27

11 During 2026–27, the Bureau will continue to:

- work with the Betting and Lotteries Commission to ensure proper regulation of betting and lottery activities;
- conduct public education on gambling-related issues and provide counselling and treatment services for gamblers with gambling disorder and those affected by them; and
- work in conjunction with other bureaux and departments to facilitate the implementation of the post-fire support for the affected residents of Wang Fuk Court in Tai Po and provide secretariat support to the Support Fund for Wang Fuk Court in Tai Po.

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ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL PROVISION

	2024-25 (Actual) (\$m)	2025-26 (Original) (\$m)	2025-26 (Revised) (\$m)	2026-27 (Estimate) (\$m)
Programme				
(1) Director of Bureau's Office	15.9	16.1	16.1	16.1
(2) Youth Development, Social Harmony and Civic Education	951.8	1,128.6	1,023.4	1,121.9
(3) District, Community and Public Relations.....	165.2	135.4	137.9	172.8
	1,132.9	1,280.1	1,177.4 (-8.0%)	1,310.8 (+11.3%)
				(or +2.4% on 2025-26 Original)

Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision

Programme (1)

Provision for 2026-27 is the same as the revised estimate for 2025-26.

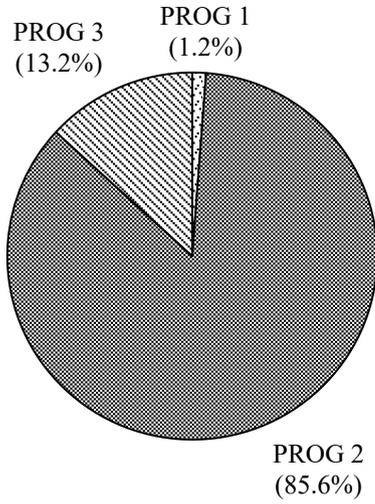
Programme (2)

Provision for 2026-27 is \$98.5 million (9.6%) higher than the revised estimate for 2025-26. This is mainly due to the increased provisions for youth development, women and family related initiatives and operating expenses. There will be a net decrease of three posts in 2026-27.

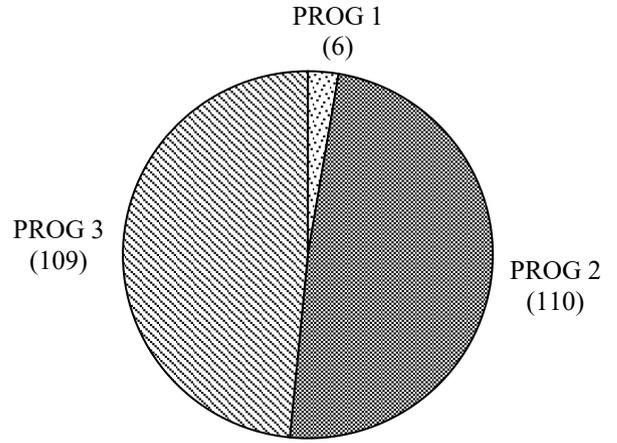
Programme (3)

Provision for 2026-27 is \$34.9 million (25.3%) higher than the revised estimate for 2025-26. This is mainly due to the increased provisions for a net increase of 34 posts in 2026-27 for preparation and coordination of the celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and operating expenses.

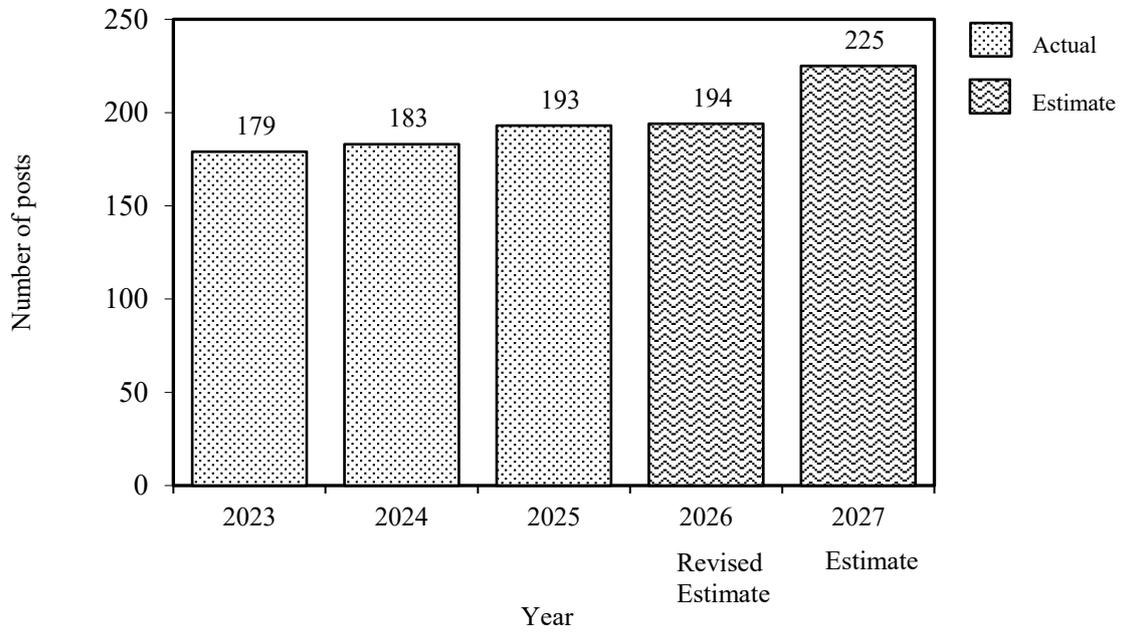
Allocation of provision to programmes (2026-27)



Staff by programme (as at 31 March 2027)



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



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Sub-head (Code)		Actual expenditure 2024–25	Approved estimate 2025–26	Revised estimate 2025–26	Estimate 2026–27
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Operating Account					
Recurrent					
000	Operational expenses	898,053	924,808	866,126	1,005,219
003	Recoverable salaries and allowances (General)..... 10,705				
	<i>Deduct</i> reimbursements <i>Cr. 10,705</i>	—	—	—	—
	Total, Recurrent.....	<u>898,053</u>	<u>924,808</u>	<u>866,126</u>	<u>1,005,219</u>
Non-Recurrent					
700	General non-recurrent	225,693	343,967	300,137	295,698
	Total, Non-Recurrent.....	<u>225,693</u>	<u>343,967</u>	<u>300,137</u>	<u>295,698</u>
	Total, Operating Account	<u>1,123,746</u>	<u>1,268,775</u>	<u>1,166,263</u>	<u>1,300,917</u>
Capital Account					
Plant, Equipment and Works					
661	Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote).....	1,879	2,587	2,310	1,609
	Total, Plant, Equipment and Works.....	<u>1,879</u>	<u>2,587</u>	<u>2,310</u>	<u>1,609</u>
Subventions					
88J	Youth Hostel Scheme (block vote).....	7,228	8,785	8,785	8,293
	Total, Subventions	<u>7,228</u>	<u>8,785</u>	<u>8,785</u>	<u>8,293</u>
	Total, Capital Account.....	<u>9,107</u>	<u>11,372</u>	<u>11,095</u>	<u>9,902</u>
	Total Expenditure	<u><u>1,132,853</u></u>	<u><u>1,280,147</u></u>	<u><u>1,177,358</u></u>	<u><u>1,310,819</u></u>

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Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2026–27 for the salaries and expenses of the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau is \$1,310,819,000. This represents an increase of \$133,461,000 over the revised estimate for 2025–26 and \$177,966,000 over the actual expenditure in 2024–25.

Operating Account

Recurrent

2 Provision of \$1,005,219,000 under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is for the salaries, allowances and other operating expenses of the Home and Youth Affairs Bureau. The increase of \$139,093,000 (16.1%) over the revised estimate for 2025–26 is mainly due to the increased provisions for new and enhanced youth development, women and family related initiatives, and operating expenses.

3 The establishment as at 31 March 2026 will be 194 posts. It is expected that there will be a net increase of 31 posts in 2026–27. Subject to certain conditions, the controlling officer may under delegated power create or delete non-directorate posts during 2026–27, but the notional annual mid-point salary value of all such posts must not exceed \$159,417,000.

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

	2024–25 (Actual) (\$'000)	2025–26 (Original) (\$'000)	2025–26 (Revised) (\$'000)	2026–27 (Estimate) (\$'000)
Personal Emoluments				
- Salaries.....	125,825	137,071	130,696	150,006
- Allowances.....	4,980	4,606	4,783	4,840
- Job-related allowances.....	16	26	26	32
Personnel Related Expenses				
- Mandatory Provident Fund contribution.....	292	301	294	301
- Civil Service Provident Fund contribution.....	11,142	14,742	12,431	16,514
Departmental Expenses				
- General departmental expenses	180,898	184,445	163,905	235,494
Other Charges				
- Women's Commission related programmes	31,233	35,531	30,393	38,740
- Family Council related programmes.....	17,474	26,827	24,820	26,290
- Promotion of civic education outside schools	23,660	23,282	23,282	22,816
- Youth Square	109,703	112,910	112,020	109,076
- Youth development activities	282,942	272,496	252,905	290,750
Subventions				
- Uniformed groups and other youth organisations.....	109,888	112,571	110,571	110,360
	898,053	924,808	866,126	1,005,219

5 Gross provision of \$10,705,000 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.

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Capital Account

Plant, Equipment and Works

6 Provision of \$1,609,000 under *Subhead 661 Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)* represents a decrease of \$701,000 (30.3%) against the revised estimate for 2025–26. This is mainly due to the decreased cash flow requirement for procurement/replacement of plant and equipment.

Subventions

7 Provision of \$8,293,000 under *Subhead 88J Youth Hostel Scheme (block vote)* is for procurement of equipment each costing above \$200,000 but not exceeding \$10 million.

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Commitments

Sub-head (Code)	Item (Code)	Ambit	Approved commitment \$'000	Accumulated expenditure to 31.3.2025 \$'000	Revised estimated expenditure for 2025–26 \$'000	Balance \$'000
<i>Operating Account</i>						
700		<i>General non-recurrent</i>				
	016	Community Investment and Inclusion Fund	800,000	678,002	61,607	60,391
	808	International Youth Exchange ProgrammeΨ	160,000Ψ	60,896	29,000	70,104
	824	Multi-faceted Excellence Scholarship.....	400,000	304,734	37,000	58,266
	832	Youth Hostel Scheme - Subsidy Scheme for Using Hotels and Guesthouses as Youth Hostels	1,000,000	61,121	60,388	878,491
	894	Youth Development Fund	900,000	207,263	112,142	580,595
		Total	<u>3,260,000</u>	<u>1,312,016</u>	<u>300,137</u>	<u>1,647,847</u>

Ψ The approved commitment for the item was \$100 million. An increase in commitment of \$60 million is sought in the context of the Appropriation Bill 2026.