

## Head 170 — SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

**Controlling officer:** the Director of Social Welfare will account for expenditure under this Head.

Estimate 2026–27 .....	<b>\$132,936.0m</b>
Establishment ceiling 2026–27 (notional annual mid-point salary value) representing an estimated 6 493 non-directorate posts as at 31 March 2026 reducing by 140 posts to 6 353 posts as at 31 March 2027.....	<b>\$3,764.4m</b>
In addition, there will be an estimated 27 directorate posts as at 31 March 2026 and 31 March 2027.	
Commitment balance.....	<b>\$8,587.3m</b>

### Controlling Officer's Report

#### Programmes

<b>Programme (1) Family and Child Welfare</b>	These programmes contribute to Policy Area 14: Social Welfare (Secretary for Labour and Welfare).
<b>Programme (2) Social Security</b>	
<b>Programme (3) Services for The Elderly</b>	
<b>Programme (4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services</b>	This programme contributes to Policy Area 9: Internal Security (Secretary for Security) and Policy Area 14: Social Welfare (Secretary for Labour and Welfare).
<b>Programme (5) Services for Offenders</b>	This programme contributes to Policy Area 14: Social Welfare (Secretary for Labour and Welfare).
<b>Programme (6) Community Development</b>	This programme contributes to Policy Area 19: District and Community Relations (Secretary for Home and Youth Affairs).
<b>Programme (7) Young People</b>	This programme contributes to Policy Area 14: Social Welfare (Secretary for Labour and Welfare).

#### Detail

2 Subsidised social welfare services are provided by the Government through subventions to non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and subsidies to subvented/private operators in the form of contract service. The cost figures in this report for the government sector reflect the full cost of services rendered by the Social Welfare Department and include expenditure charged to other expenditure heads and non-cash expenditure. On the other hand, the cost figures for the subvented and private sectors are the net provision required after taking fee income into account. No direct comparison of costs should therefore be drawn.

3 In 2025–26, 179 NGOs are receiving government subventions for operating social welfare services in accordance with the Funding and Service Agreements (FSAs) that are specific to various service programmes.

#### Programme (1): Family and Child Welfare

	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Original)	2025–26 (Revised)	2026–27 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)				
Government sector	1,433.6	1,464.9	1,436.6 (–1.9%)	<b>1,482.2</b> (+3.2%)  (or +1.2% on 2025–26 Original)
Subvented/private sectors	3,967.2	4,433.4	4,158.3 (–6.2%)	<b>4,491.2</b> (+8.0%)  (or +1.3% on 2025–26 Original)
Total	5,400.8	5,898.3	5,594.9 (–5.1%)	<b>5,973.4</b> (+6.8%)  (or +1.3% on 2025–26 Original)

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### *Aim*

4 The aim is to provide support services for families, including those in disadvantaged circumstances and lacking means to meet their needs.

### *Brief Description*

5 The Department provides family and child welfare services and programmes including:

- integrated family service;
- family and child protection service (including services for child protection, spouse/cohabitant battering and child custody dispute cases);
- family support networking teams;
- clinical psychological service;
- residential care service for children (including foster care, small group homes (SGHs) and other residential homes for children (RHCs));
- day child care service (including aided Child Care Centre (CCC), After School Care Programme for Pre-primary Children (ASCP(PC)) and Neighbourhood Support Child Care Project);
- social work service for pre-primary institutions;
- short-term food assistance service;
- adoption service;
- service for street sleepers; and
- outreaching service for ethnic minorities.

6 In 2025, the Department:

- continued to implement the environment improvement programme for SGHs;
- strengthened the support and training for foster families, and provided additional foster care places;
- extended the ASCP(PC) to cover all 18 districts;
- continued to provide additional places of aided CCC for children aged below three;
- continued to implement the initiative on purchase of premises for the provision of welfare facilities; and
- continued to implement the Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses.

7 The key performance measures in respect of family and child welfare services are:

### *Target*

	Target	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Revised Estimate)	<b>2026–27 (Plan)</b>
making first contact with the service user/related person within ten working days upon receiving request for family casework service (%).....	95.0	97.7	98.2	<b>95.0</b>

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<i>Indicators</i>	2024–25 (Actual)		2025–26 (Revised Estimate)		2026–27 (Estimate)	
	Government sector	Subvented sector	Government sector	Subvented sector	Government sector	Subvented sector
<i>Foster care</i>						
no. of places .....	—	1 230	—	1 255	—	1 255
enrolment rate (%) .....	—	72	—	75	—	75
cost per place per month (\$) .....	—	32,871	—	35,391	—	40,614
<i>SGHs</i>						
no. of places .....	—	978	—	978	—	1 008
enrolment rate (%) .....	—	92	—	93	—	93
cost per place per month (\$) .....	—	31,329	—	31,983	—	31,179
<i>RHCs</i>						
no. of places .....	—	1 898	—	1 967	—	1 967
enrolment rate (%) .....	—	81	—	80	—	80
cost per place per month (\$) .....	—	26,966	—	28,120	—	27,916
<i>Standalone CCCs</i>						
no. of places .....	—	1 376	—	1 536	—	1 636
enrolment rate (%) .....	—	88	—	89	—	89
cost per place per month (\$) .....	—	5,612	—	5,409	—	5,428
<i>Occasional child care (OCC)</i>						
no. of units.....	—	221	—	222	—	223
<i>Family and child protection</i>						
supervision cases served.....	6 280	—	6 292	—	6 292	—
cost per case per month (\$) .....	3,810	—	3,931	—	3,883	—
<i>Adoption</i>						
children available for adoption placed into local homes within three months .....	31	—	26	—	26	—
<i>Clinical psychological service</i>						
assessment cases served.....	2 531	—	2 566	—	2 566	—
new treatment cases served.....	1 236	—	1 252	—	1 252	—
<i>Integrated family service centres</i>						
no. of centres .....	41	24	41	24	41	24
cases served.....	50 473	29 266	49 926	29 867	49 926	29 867
groups and programmes .....	6 388	3 856	6 292	3 794	6 292	3 794

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	2024–25 (Actual)		2025–26 (Revised Estimate)		2026–27 (Estimate)	
	Government sector	Subvented sector	Government sector	Subvented sector	Government sector	Subvented sector
<i>Family support networking teams</i>						
vulnerable households newly and successfully contacted through outreaching attempts.....	—	4 174	—	4 174	—	<b>4 200</b>
vulnerable households newly and successfully referred to welfare or mainstream services .....	—	3 498	—	3 498	—	<b>3 500</b>

Ω The demand for the service under this programme hinges on the number of referrals received, and must always be met in full.

### *Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2026–27*

8 During 2026–27, the Department will:

- continue to provide training for specified professionals with a view to enhancing their knowledge and ability for early identification and handling of child abuse cases to complement the commencement of the Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse Ordinance;
- set up four Community Parents and Children Centres (CPCCs) on a pilot basis;
- continue to increase the service places of residential child care services; and
- continue to increase the service places of aided CCC to strengthen day child care services.

### **Programme (2): Social Security**

	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Original)	2025–26 (Revised)	2026–27 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)				
Government sector	76,085.1	85,633.8	80,944.9 (–5.5%)	<b>93,079.2</b> (+15.0%)  (or +8.7% on 2025–26 Original)
Subvented/private sectors	173.2	141.7	140.5 (–0.8%)	<b>70.7</b> (–49.7%)  (or –50.1% on 2025–26 Original)
Total	<u>76,258.3</u>	<u>85,775.5</u>	<u>81,085.4</u> (–5.5%)	<u><b>93,149.9</b></u> (+14.9%)  (or +8.6% on 2025–26 Original)

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### *Aim*

9 The aim is to provide a non-contributory social security system to meet the basic and essential needs of the financially vulnerable and the special needs of severely disabled and elderly persons.

### *Brief Description*

10 The Department:

- administers the Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) Scheme and the Social Security Allowance (SSA) Scheme;
- provides support for unemployed able-bodied CSSA recipients to become self-reliant;
- administers the Guangdong (GD) Scheme and Fujian (FJ) Scheme to provide Old Age Allowance and Old Age Living Allowance to eligible Hong Kong elderly persons who choose to reside in GD and FJ;
- combats fraud relating to the CSSA and SSA Schemes;
- operates the Criminal and Law Enforcement Injuries Compensation Scheme and the Traffic Accident Victims Assistance Scheme;
- provides material assistance in the form of food and other essential articles for victims of natural and other disasters; and
- provides financial assistance through the Emergency Relief Fund for victims of natural disasters or their dependants as appropriate.

11 In 2025, the Department:

- provided a one-off extra payment to eligible recipients of CSSA and SSA as announced in the 2025–26 Budget;
- launched the two-year pilot Support Programme for the Unemployed under the CSSA Scheme; and
- launched a three-year Pilot Scheme under the Community Care Fund to subsidise elderly recipients of CSSA opting to reside in designated residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs) in GD.

12 The key performance measures in respect of social security are:

### *Target*

	Target	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Revised Estimate)	2026–27 (Plan)
effecting payment for successful new CSSA applications within seven working days after completion of investigation and authorisation (%).....	95	99	99	95

### *Indicators*

	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Revised Estimate)	2026–27 (Estimate)
<i>CSSA Scheme</i>			
cases served.....	237 170	234 000	233 000
average time for processing a new case by field			
units (working days).....	27	30	30
waiting time before a client is attended to in field			
units (minutes).....	10	10	10
average time for completing the screening and prioritising of reported fraud cases (working days) ...	7	7	7
<i>SSA Scheme</i>			
cases served.....	1 410 782	1 478 000	1 572 000
average time for processing a new case by field			
units (working days).....	30	30	30
waiting time before a client is attended to in field			
units (minutes).....	10	10	10
average time for completing the screening and prioritising of reported fraud cases (working days) ...	7	7	7

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### *Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2026–27*

**13** During 2026–27, the Department will:

- continue to implement the Schemes and provide the services mentioned in paragraph 10 above;
- launch the service for cross-border disbursement of portable cash assistance to the designated Mainland bank accounts of elderly recipients; and
- provide a one-off extra payment to eligible recipients of CSSA and SSA.

### **Programme (3): Services for The Elderly**

	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Original)	2025–26 (Revised)	<b>2026–27 (Estimate)</b>
Financial provision (\$m)				
Government sector	838.0	915.9	803.9 (–12.2%)	<b>812.3</b> (+1.0%)  (or –11.3% on 2025–26 Original)
Subvented/private sectors	14,713.4	16,211.8	15,683.3 (–3.3%)	<b>16,469.1</b> (+5.0%)  (or +1.6% on 2025–26 Original)
Total	15,551.4	17,127.7	16,487.2 (–3.7%)	<b>17,281.4</b> (+4.8%)  (or +0.9% on 2025–26 Original)

### *Aim*

**14** The aim is to promote the well-being of the elderly through the provision of services that will enable them to remain active members of the community for as long as possible and, where necessary, provide community or residential care to suit the varying long-term care (LTC) needs of frail elderly persons.

### *Brief Description*

**15** The Department:

- provides subsidised community care and support services for the elderly, which include day care centres for the elderly (DEs), day care units for the elderly (DCUs), home care services for frail elderly persons (HCS), services under the Community Care Service Voucher Scheme for the Elderly (CCSV Scheme), home support services (HSS), district elderly community centres (DECCs), neighbourhood elderly centres (NECs), a holiday centre and the Senior Citizen Card Scheme;
- provides subsidised residential care services for elderly persons, which include subsidised residential care places in care-and-attention (C&A) homes, nursing homes (NHs), contract homes, self-financing homes participating in the Nursing Home Place Purchase Scheme (NHPPS), private RCHEs participating in the Enhanced Bought Place Scheme (EBPS) as well as the Residential Care Services Scheme in GD (GDRCS Scheme), and services under the Residential Care Service Voucher Scheme for the Elderly (RCSV Scheme);
- adopts a computerised central allocation system for subsidised LTC services which provides a single-entry point for elderly persons who have gone through standardised care need assessments for admission to subsidised community and residential care services;
- licenses RCHEs;
- provides visiting medical practitioner services as well as social and rehabilitation support for residents of RCHEs; and
- implements active ageing initiatives.

**16** In 2025, the Department:

- provided additional 1 000 vouchers under the RCSV Scheme;
- provided additional 1 000 vouchers under the CCSV Scheme;

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- continued to implement the Scheme on Living Allowance for Carers of Elderly Persons from Low-income Families;
- enhanced the GDRCS Scheme by increasing the number of participating RCHEs to provide more choices for elderly persons, offering social and care support services for the participating elderly persons and implementing the two-year pilot arrangement to share part of their medical expenses under the National Basic Medical Insurance Policy;
- continued to enhance support for carers of elderly persons and carers of persons with disabilities such as implementing the Information Gateway for Carers, a territory-wide Care the Carers Campaign and a Designated Hotline for Carer Support;
- continued to provide elderly persons in need with suitable community care and support services to promote ageing in place;
- continued to increase subsidised day and residential care service places for the elderly;
- continued to implement the Innovation and Technology Fund for Application in Elderly and Rehabilitation Care to subsidise eligible elderly and rehabilitation service units to procure, rent or trial gerontechnology products suitable for use by elderly persons, persons with disabilities and their carers;
- continued to provide full subsidies for home managers, health workers and care workers of RCHEs to enrol in Qualifications Framework-based training courses;
- continued to implement the Special Scheme to Import Care Workers for Residential Care Homes;
- continued to subsidise additional enrolled nurse training places;
- continued to implement the initiative on purchase of premises for the provision of welfare facilities; and
- continued to implement the Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses.

17 The key performance measures in respect of services for elderly persons are:

### *Targets*

	Target	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Revised Estimate)	<b>2026–27 (Plan)</b>
issuing Senior Citizen Card within seven working days upon receiving the application and necessary documents (%).....	95.0	98.3	95.0	<b>95.0</b>
acknowledging receipt of application and requesting for missing document for licence/renewal of licence for RCHE within three working days (%) .....	95	100	95	<b>95</b>

### *Indicators*

	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Revised Estimate)	<b>2026–27 (Estimate)</b>
	Subvented/ private sectors	Subvented/ private sectors	<b>Subvented/ private sectors</b>
<i>Community care and support services</i>			
<i>DECCs</i>			
no. of centres.....	41	41	<b>41</b>
membership per centreφ.....	1 000	1 000	<b>1 000</b>
<i>NECs</i>			
no. of centres.....	173	174	<b>178</b>
membership per centreφ.....	400	400	<b>400</b>
<i>Social Centre for the Elderly</i>			
no. of centres.....	1	1	<b>1</b>
membership per centreφ.....	350	350	<b>350</b>
<i>HSS</i>			
cases served.....	24 220	27 438	<b>27 438</b>
no. of places .....	15 562	15 562	<b>15 562</b>
cost per place per month (\$).....	4,659	4,645	<b>4,511</b>

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	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Revised Estimate)	2026–27 (Estimate)
	Subvented/ private sectors	Subvented/ private sectors	Subvented/ private sectors
DEs/DCUs.....			
no. of places .....	4 183	4 278	4 532
enrolment rate (%) .....	105	105	105
cost per place per month (\$).....	13,189	13,112	12,712
HCS			
cases served.....	17 638	17 170	17 170
no. of places .....	13 365	13 365	13 365
cost per place per month (\$).....	10,433	10,192	9,941
<i>Residential care services</i>			
Home for the Aged (H/A)..... places	2	2	2
C&A homes..... places	68	68	68
C&A homes providing a continuum of care			
no. of places .....	15 584	16 142	16 558
enrolment rate (%) .....	95	95	95
cost per place per month (\$).....	19,500	19,164	18,809
NHs $\Psi$			
no. of places .....	1 901	1 964	2 073
enrolment rate (%) .....	95	95	95
cost per place per month (\$).....	27,541	26,615	25,316
Private Homes participating in EBPS			
no. of places .....	11 484	11 700	11 753
enrolment rate (%) .....	97	98	98
cost per place per month (\$).....	15,872	16,496	16,025
Contract Homes			
no. of places .....	4 527	4 527	5 007
enrolment rate (%) .....	96	98	97
cost per place per month (\$).....	23,279	24,470	25,027
Multi-disciplinary Outreaching Support Teams for the Elderly			
no. of beneficiaries.....	52 482	52 482	52 482
cost per beneficiary per month (\$).....	443	423	407

$\phi$  This new indicator replaces the indicator “attendance per session per centre” for October 2025 onwards and the figures for 2024–25 and 2025–26 are revised accordingly.

$\Psi$  Including subsidised NH places purchased under NHPPS.

### ***Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2026–27***

**18** During 2026–27, the Department will:

- increase the number of RCSVs from 6 000 to 7 000;
- increase the number of CCSVs from 12 000 to 16 000;
- continue to increase subsidised day and residential care service places for the elderly, and set up four new NECs;
- continue to expand the GDRCS Scheme and monitor the implementation of the two-year pilot arrangement to share part of the medical expenses of the participating elderly persons under the National Basic Medical Insurance Policy;
- subsidise eligible serving health workers of RCHEs to enrol in the new professional diploma programme for Health and Care Practitioners (HCPs);
- continue to provide full subsidies for home managers, health workers and care workers of RCHEs to enrol in Qualifications Framework-based training courses;
- continue to implement the District Services and Community Care Teams (Care Teams) – Scheme on Supporting Elderly and Carers across the territory for three years by inviting the Care Teams to identify singleton and doubleton elderly, carers of elderly persons and carers of persons with disabilities with welfare needs, provide them with support and make referrals to welfare units as appropriate, and assist needy households referred by the Care Teams in installing and using emergency alarm systems; and
- continue to enhance support for carers, such as promoting the Information Gateway for Carers and the Designated Hotline for Carer Support, and implementing the Support for Carers Project.

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### Programme (4): Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services

	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Original)	2025–26 (Revised)	2026–27 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)				
Government sector	1,185.4	1,434.5	1,261.3 (–12.1%)	<b>1,354.5</b> (+7.4%)  (or –5.6% on 2025–26 Original)
Subvented/private sectors	10,665.8	11,199.4	11,116.1 (–0.7%)	<b>11,527.9</b> (+3.7%)  (or +2.9% on 2025–26 Original)
Total	11,851.2	12,633.9	12,377.4 (–2.0%)	<b>12,882.4</b> (+4.1%)  (or +2.0% on 2025–26 Original)

#### *Aim*

**19** The aim is to acknowledge the equal rights of persons with disabilities to be full members of the community by supporting them to develop their physical, mental and social capabilities to the fullest possible extent and by promoting their integration into the community; to provide medical social services; and to provide preventive and rehabilitative services for drug abusers.

#### *Brief Description*

**20** The Department provides a network of rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities, medical social services in clinics and hospitals, assistance for Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) patients and their families, as well as preventive and rehabilitative services for drug abusers, including:

- pre-school services for children with disabilities through early education and training centres (EETCs), special child care centres (SCCCs), integrated programmes in ordinary kindergarten-cum-child care centres (IP), on-site pre-school rehabilitation services (OPRS) and OCC services;
- training subsidy for eligible children on the waiting list of subvented pre-school rehabilitation services;
- services for children with mild intellectual disability through SGHs for mildly mentally handicapped children and integrated SGHs;
- training and vocational rehabilitation services for adults with disabilities through day activity centres (DACs), sheltered workshops (SWs), supported employment training for persons with disabilities (SET), integrated vocational rehabilitation services centres (IVRSCs), integrated vocational training centres (IVTCs), and Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities through Small Enterprise Project;
- residential services for adults with disabilities through hostels for severely mentally handicapped persons (HSMHs), hostels for moderately mentally handicapped persons (HMMHs), C&A homes for severely disabled persons (C&A/SDs), C&A homes for the aged blind (C&A/ABs), hostels for severely physically handicapped persons (HSPH), long stay care homes (LSCHs), halfway houses (HWHs) and supported hostels (SHOSs);
- community support services such as integrated community centres for mental wellness (ICCMWs), integrated community rehabilitation centres (ICRCs), home care service for persons with severe disabilities, integrated support service for persons with severe physical disabilities, parents/relatives resource centres (PRCs), district support centres for persons with disabilities (DSCs), support centres for persons with autism (SPAs), community rehabilitation day centres (CRDCs), transitional care and support centre for tetraplegic patients, social and recreational centres for persons with disabilities, community rehabilitation network, community-based support projects, transitional support service for persons in mental recovery (TSS for PMR), respite services, place of refuge for children with disabilities and emergency placement service for adults with disabilities;
- direct financial assistance for athletes with disabilities in their pursuit of sporting excellence through the Hong Kong Paralympians Fund;
- compassionate financial assistance from the Trust Fund for SARS for families of deceased SARS patients, and recovered and suspected SARS patients;
- the Arts Development Fund for Persons with Disabilities to foster arts development for persons with disabilities;

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- the Special Subsidy Scheme for Persons with Permanent Stoma;
- special needs trust services for parents of children with special needs;
- regional guardianship offices to handle guardianship cases;
- licensing schemes for residential care homes for persons with disabilities (RCHDs) and drug treatment and rehabilitation centres (DTRCs);
- visiting medical practitioner services as well as social and rehabilitation support for residents of RCHDs;
- preventive and rehabilitative services for drug abusers through non-medical voluntary DTRCs, counselling centres for psychotropic substance abusers (CCPSAs), centres for drug counselling (CDCs) and HWHs for discharges from DTRCs; and
- professional outreaching teams for supporting residents of private RCHDs.

**21** In 2025, the Department:

- provided additional places of SCCC and OCC services;
- continued to support special school leavers and their carers by 21 designated teams;
- increased nursing staff in RCHDs for enhancing care for ageing residents;
- scaled up training for social workers in community mental health service units;
- set up an additional ICCMW to provide community support services to persons in mental recovery;
- provided additional places of HMMH and SHOS services;
- provided additional places under the Extended Care Programme in DACs and Work Extension Programme in SWs/IVRSCs;
- integrated supported employment (SE), On the Job Training Programme for People with Disabilities, Sunnyway – On the Job Training Programme for Young People with Disabilities into SET;
- continued to provide full subsidies for home managers, health workers and care workers of RCHDs to enrol in Qualifications Framework-based training courses;
- continued to implement a three-year pilot project to provide one-stop day training and residential care services for ageing service users in HSMHs and HMMHs;
- regularised a two-year pilot project on enhancing vocational rehabilitation service at SWs/IVRSCs and upgraded all SWs to IVRSCs with an enhanced service model;
- regularised the operation of two ICRCs after the pilot project;
- extended the peer support service to PRCs and DSCs;
- set up four additional PRCs to support persons in mental recovery and their families/carers;
- continued to implement the Pilot Project on TSS for PMR;
- regularised the Pilot Project on TSS for PMR and set up three service teams for supporting discharged patients waitlisted for halfway house service;
- continued to implement the Scheme on Living Allowance for Low-Income Carers of Persons with Disabilities and the Special Care Subsidy Scheme for Persons with Severe Disabilities;
- continued to implement the training sponsorship scheme for students of designated programmes in occupational therapy or physiotherapy to respond to the manpower need for allied health professionals in the welfare sector;
- continued to implement the initiative on purchase of premises for the provision of welfare facilities;
- continued to implement the Special Scheme on Privately Owned Sites for Welfare Uses;
- continued to implement the Incentive Scheme to Encourage Provision of RCHDs in New Private Developments; and
- launched the first phase of the Carer Support Data Platform, and implemented pilot programmes with the Hospital Authority and the Hong Kong Housing Authority to strengthen support for high-risk carers and high-risk elderly persons.

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22 The key performance measures in respect of rehabilitation and medical social services are:

### *Targets*

	Target	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Revised Estimate)	2026–27 (Plan)
making first contact with the service user/related person within ten working days upon receiving request for medical social services (%) ...	95	99	95	95
acknowledging receipt of application and requesting for missing document for licence/renewal of licence for RCHD within three working days (%) .....	95	100	95	95

### *Indicators*

	2024–25 (Actual)		2025–26 (Revised Estimate)		2026–27 (Estimate)	
	Government sector	Subvented/ private sectors	Government sector	Subvented/ private sectors	Government sector	Subvented/ private sectors
<i>Residential services</i>						
persons in mental recovery						
HWHs.....places	—	1 594	—	1 594	—	1 594
LSCHs.....places	—	1 987	—	1 987	—	1 987
mentally handicapped						
IVTCs.....places	—	170	—	170	—	170
HMMHs .....places	—	2 926	—	2 937	—	2 937
HSMHs.....places	—	4 573	—	4 573	—	4 673
HSPHs.....places	—	790	—	790	—	790
C&A/SDs .....places	—	1 372	—	1 372	—	1 372
C&A/ABs.....places	—	828	—	828	—	828
SGHs .....places	—	128	—	128	—	128
SHOSs.....places	—	866	—	927	—	1 082
enrolment rate for residential services (%) .....	—	95	—	95	—	95
cost per residential place per month (\$) .....	—	20,738	—	21,136	—	20,756
private RCHDs participating in Bought Place Scheme						
no. of places .....	—	1 505	—	1 739	—	1 920
enrolment rate (%) .....	—	95	—	95	—	95
cost per place per month (\$) .....	—	14,824	—	15,248	—	15,570
<i>Day services</i>						
DACs						
no. of places .....	—	6 351	—	6 351	—	6 466
enrolment rate (%) .....	—	92	—	94	—	94
cost per place per month (\$) .....	—	12,892	—	12,415	—	11,920
community rehabilitation network services ..centres	—	6	—	6	—	6

## Head 170 — SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

	2024–25 (Actual)		2025–26 (Revised Estimate)		2026–27 (Estimate)	
	Government sector	Subvented/ private sectors	Government sector	Subvented/ private sectors	Government sector	Subvented/ private sectors
PRCs.....centres	—	19	—	23	—	23
CRDCs.....centres	—	4	—	4	—	4
DSCs.....centres	—	21	—	21	—	22
ICRCsδ.....centres	—	—	—	2	—	2
ICCMWs.....centres	—	24	—	25	—	25
SPAs.....centres	—	5	—	5	—	5
<i>Pre-school services</i>						
EETCs.....places	—	4 677	—	4 677	—	4 767
IP.....places	—	1 974	—	1 974	—	1 974
OCC.....places	—	120	—	125	—	129
SCCCs.....places	—	2 516	—	2 670	—	2 890
OPRS.....places	—	10 124	—	10 124	—	10 124
enrolment rate for pre-school services (%).....	—	98	—	98	—	98
cost per pre-school place per month (\$).....	—	10,594	—	10,376	—	10,135
<i>Vocational rehabilitation services</i>						
SWs§						
no. of places.....	—	5 429	—	—	—	—
enrolment rate (%).....	—	97	—	—	—	—
cost per place per month (\$).....	—	6,493	—	—	—	—
SET.....places	—	2 376	—	2 376	—	2 376
IVTCs.....places	—	453	—	453	—	453
IVRSCs§.....places	—	5 858	—	11 287	—	11 490
<i>Medical social services</i>						
cases served.....cases	232 017	—	239 923	—	247 792	—
<i>Special Needs Trust</i>						
cases served.....cases	70	—	81	—	92	—
<i>Regional Guardianship Offices</i>						
cases served.....cases	761	—	795	—	830	—
<i>Central Psychological Support Service (Adult Service)</i>						
no. of clinical assessment/ clinical consultation/ clinical treatment.....	1 847	—	1 847	—	1 847	—
no. of Life Transition Support Service (LTSS) assessment.....	63	—	63	—	63	—
no. of LTSS intervention.....	1 247	—	1 247	—	1 247	—

## Head 170 — SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

	2024–25 (Actual)		2025–26 (Revised Estimate)		2026–27 (Estimate)	
	Government sector	Subvented/ private sectors	Government sector	Subvented/ private sectors	Government sector	Subvented/ private sectors
<i>Central Psychological Support Service (Pre-school Service)</i>						
no. of individual case assessment/consultation.....	1 378	—	1 378	—	<b>1 378</b>	—
no. of assessment (for in-depth psychological treatment).....	162	—	162	—	<b>162</b>	—
no. of new cases receiving in-depth psychological treatment.....	171	—	171	—	<b>171</b>	—

λ Revised description of the previous indicator “ex-mentally ill persons” for 2026–27 onwards.

δ New indicator for August 2025 onwards. The operation of two ICRCs under pilot project has been regularised in 2025–26, and new ICRCs are under planning.

§ All SWs involving 5 429 places have been upgraded to IVRSCs with effect from 1 October 2025. The number of places of IVRSCs in 2026–27 includes 203 additional places from two planned projects.

### *Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2026–27*

23 During 2026–27, the Department will:

- provide bridging and support services for children with special needs receiving OPRS during their first term in primary school;
- continue to provide full subsidies for home managers, health workers and care workers of RCHDs to enrol in Qualifications Framework-based training courses;
- subsidise eligible serving health workers of RCHDs to enrol in the new professional diploma programme for HCPs;
- provide additional places for day training, vocational rehabilitation, residential and pre-school rehabilitation services;
- provide additional places under the Work Extension Programme in IVRSCs;
- progressively introduce one-stop support and care services at HSMHs and HMMHs, and increase the number of extended care places at hostels co-located with DACs/IVRSC;
- launch the Pilot Programme on Training for Mental Health Promotion Ambassador under ICCMWs by mobilising and training mental health promotion ambassadors to promote healthy lifestyles, foster resilience and establish care support networks;
- conduct preparatory work for establishing 14 ICRCs across the territory in phases, with provision of additional service places, to support persons with disabilities based on their individual needs and rehabilitation progress through an integrated case-management approach;
- set up an additional DSC in New Territories East to support persons with disabilities and their families/carers; and
- continue to enhance support for carers by progressively connecting the data of more government departments and public organisations to expand the Carer Support Data Platform, and installing intelligent accident detection system for high-risk households.

## Head 170 — SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

### Programme (5): Services for Offenders

	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Original)	2025–26 (Revised)	2026–27 (Estimate)
Financial provision (\$m)				
Government sector	356.1	380.8	355.5 (–6.6%)	<b>355.9</b> (+0.1%)  (or –6.5% on 2025–26 Original)
Subvented sector	85.2	83.4	83.2 (–0.2%)	<b>81.8</b> (–1.7%)  (or –1.9% on 2025–26 Original)
Total	441.3	464.2	438.7 (–5.5%)	<b>437.7</b> (–0.2%)  (or –5.7% on 2025–26 Original)

#### *Aim*

24 The aim is to provide treatment for offenders through a social work approach, including supervision, counselling, academic, prevocational and social skill training and to help them re-integrate into the community and lead a law-abiding life.

#### *Brief Description*

25 The Department:

- provides integrated probation and community service order (CSO) service;
- operates remand home and residential training institution;
- supports the Post-Release Supervision of Prisoners Scheme and the Young Offender Assessment Panel; and
- provides counselling, group activities, residential services, aftercare services and employment assistance for ex-offenders.

26 In 2025, the Department continued to provide community support for the rehabilitation of offenders mentioned in paragraph 25 above.

27 The key performance measures in respect of services for offenders are:

#### *Target*

	Target	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Revised Estimate)	2026–27 (Plan)
making first contact with the service user within five working days upon receiving court referral for probation and CSO service (%) .....	95	99	95	95

#### *Indicators#*

	2024–25 (Actual)		2025–26 (Revised Estimate)		2026–27 (Estimate)	
	Government sector	Subvented sector	Government sector	Subvented sector	Government sector	Subvented sector
<i>Probation and CSO service</i>						
probation service						
supervision cases served.....	2 036	—	2 000	—	2 000	—

## Head 170 — SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

	2024-25 (Actual)		2025-26 (Revised Estimate)		2026-27 (Estimate)	
	Government sector	Subvented sector	Government sector	Subvented sector	Government sector	Subvented sector
cases with order satisfactorily completed (%) ..	92	—	92	—	92	—
cost per case served per month (\$) .....	6,288	—	6,778	—	6,715	—
<i>CSOs</i>						
supervision cases served.....	2 403	—	2 400	—	2 400	—
cases with order satisfactorily completed (%) ..	98	—	98	—	98	—
cost per case served per month (\$) .....	3,304	—	3,484	—	3,493	—
<i>Integrated service centres for ex-offenders</i>						
cases supervised per month .....	—	4 363	—	4 400	—	4 400
new cases served in a year .....	—	1 413	—	1 500	—	1 500
cost per case per month (\$) .....	—	901	—	869	—	843
<i>Hostels for ex-offenders</i>						
no. of places						
male.....	—	120	—	120	—	120
female.....	—	10	—	10	—	10
occupancy rate (%)						
male.....	—	98	—	98	—	98
female.....	—	67	—	70	—	70
cost per place per month (\$) .....	—	7,939	—	7,843	—	7,644
<i>Residential training</i>						
no. of places .....	388	—	388	—	388	—
probation home						
admissions.....	24	—	24	—	24	—
discharges.....	23	—	23	—	23	—
cases satisfactorily completed (%) ..	91	—	91	—	91	—
rate of successful re-integration of discharged cases (%).....	100	—	100	—	100	—
reformatory school						
admissions.....	9	—	9	—	9	—
discharges.....	6	—	7	—	7	—
cases satisfactorily completed (%) ..	50	—	80	—	80	—
rate of successful re-integration of discharged cases (%).....	100	—	100	—	100	—
remand home/place of refuge						
admissions.....	600	—	600	—	600	—
discharges.....	453	—	500	—	500	—
cost per resident per month (\$) .....	142,798	—	131,388	—	130,481	—

# Demand for statutory services under this programme hinges on the number of prosecutions and the type of court sentence, and must always be met in full.

## Head 170 — SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

### *Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2026–27*

28 During 2026–27, the Department will continue to provide community support for the rehabilitation of offenders mentioned in paragraph 25 above.

### **Programme (6): Community Development**

	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Original)	2025–26 (Revised)	<b>2026–27 (Estimate)</b>
Financial provision (\$m)				
Government sector	5.8	5.7	5.7 (—)	<b>5.5</b> (–3.5%) <small>(or –3.5% on 2025–26 Original)</small>
Subvented sector	223.9	219.7	219.7 (—)	<b>215.3</b> (–2.0%) <small>(or –2.0% on 2025–26 Original)</small>
<b>Total</b>	<b>229.7</b>	<b>225.4</b>	<b>225.4</b> (—)	<b>220.8</b> (–2.0%) <small>(or –2.0% on 2025–26 Original)</small>

### *Aim*

29 The aim is to promote a sense of belonging in the community through social work services which encourage people to identify their social needs and mobilise community resources to solve their problems.

### *Brief Description*

30 The Department:

- provides community work and group services for the general public with particular focus on the needs of vulnerable groups;
- implements Neighbourhood Level Community Development Projects (NLCDPs) in areas qualified under the existing criteria; and
- provides, through the Care and Support Networking Team, outreaching support, casework and group work services aiming to assist mainly street sleepers and persons in mental recovery to integrate into the community.

31 In 2025, the Department continued to provide the services mentioned in paragraph 30 above.

32 The key performance measures in respect of community development services are:

### *Indicators*

	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Revised Estimate)	<b>2026–27 (Estimate)</b>
	Subvented sector	Subvented sector	<b>Subvented sector</b>
<i>Group and community work units in district community centres</i>			
new and renewed members per month.....	60 489	60 489	<b>60 500</b>
attendance per month .....	228 064	228 064	<b>228 100</b>
groups per month .....	2 454	2 454	<b>2 500</b>
<i>NLCDPs</i>			
community programmes and community groups attendance and residents' contacts.....	229 014	229 014	<b>229 000</b>

## Head 170 — SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

### *Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2026–27*

33 During 2026–27, the Department will continue to keep in view the provision of community development services in the light of changing community needs.

#### **Programme (7): Young People**

	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Original)	2025–26 (Revised)	<b>2026–27 (Estimate)</b>
Financial provision (\$m)				
Government sector	125.2	136.3	123.4 (–9.5%)	<b>122.6</b> (–0.6%)  (or –10.1% on 2025–26 Original)
Subvented sector	2,822.4	2,907.3	2,905.7 (–0.1%)	<b>2,867.8</b> (–1.3%)  (or –1.4% on 2025–26 Original)
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,947.6</b>	<b>3,043.6</b>	<b>3,029.1</b> (–0.5%)	<b>2,990.4</b> (–1.3%)  (or –1.7% on 2025–26 Original)

#### *Aim*

34 The aim is to provide support services for disadvantaged young people and those at risk.

#### *Brief Description*

35 The Department provides integrated children and youth services centres (ICYSCs), children and youth centres (CYCs), outreaching social work service (YOTs), community support service scheme, cyber youth support teams (CYSTs) and school social work (SSW) service in secondary schools.

36 In 2025, the Department:

- continued to implement the enhancement measures for the After School Care Programme (ASCP) for Primary School Student;
- assisted in the implementation of Child Development Fund (CDF) projects;
- supported the implementation of Partnership Fund for the Disadvantaged (PFD) projects;
- enhanced the services of CYSTs by setting up an online support platform for emotional wellness of the young people;
- continued to implement the initiative on purchase of premises for the provision of welfare facilities; and
- implemented the Strive and Rise Programme to lift underprivileged students out of intergenerational poverty.

37 The key performance measures in respect of services for young people are:

#### *Indicators*

	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Revised Estimate)	<b>2026–27 (Estimate)</b>
	Subvented sector	Subvented sector	<b>Subvented sector</b>
<i>CYCs</i>			
no. of centres $\Delta$ .....	22	22	<b>17</b>
attendees in core programme sessions .....	420 233	420 233	<b>304 300</b>
core programmes with goals achieved (%) .....	99	99	<b>99</b>
new and renewed members .....	37 413	37 413	<b>25 500</b>

## Head 170 — SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

	2024–25 (Actual)	2025–26 (Revised Estimate)	2026–27 (Estimate)
	Subvented sector	Subvented sector	Subvented sector
<i>ICYSCs</i>			
no. of centres.....	139	139	<b>139</b>
attendees in programme sessions $\mu$ .....	5 366 020	2 683 010	—
clients served $\mu$ .....	382 440	191 200	—
programmes with goals achieved (%) $\mu$ .....	99	99	—
no. of programme sessions $\beta$ .....	—	87 800	<b>175 600</b>
no. of service users with individual development plan completed $\beta$ .....	—	21 900	<b>43 800</b>
programmes and individual development plans with goals achieved (%) $\beta$ .....	—	85	<b>85</b>
<i>SSW</i>			
cases served.....	30 132	30 132	<b>30 100</b>
cases closed having achieved the agreed goal.....	8 995	8 995	<b>9 000</b>
<i>YOTs</i>			
cases served.....	14 272	14 272	<b>14 300</b>
cases closed having achieved the case goal plan.....	1 189	1 189	<b>1 200</b>
clients identified.....	5 324	5 324	<b>5 300</b>
cost per case per month (\$).....	1,075	1,053	<b>1,020</b>
<i>CYSTs</i>			
cases served.....	1 307	1 307	<b>1 400</b>
cases closed having achieved the case goal.....	316	316	<b>320</b>

$\Delta$  Four CYCs will be converted into CPCCs and the resources of one CYC will be deployed for enhancement of CYSTs. The number of CYCs will be reduced to 17 in 2026–27.

$\mu$  The FSA and performance indicators of ICYSC were revised from October 2025. The revised estimate for 2025–26 is based on the performance of ICYSCs from April 2025 to September 2025. These indicators are replaced by new ones marked with “ $\beta$ ” for October 2025 onwards.

$\beta$  New indicators for October 2025 onwards. The revised estimate for 2025–26 is based on the performance of ICYSCs from October 2025 to March 2026.

### ***Matters Requiring Special Attention in 2026–27***

**38** During 2026–27, the Department will:

- continue to implement the enhancement measures for the ASCP for Primary School Student;
- support the implementation of PFD and CDF projects;
- continue to enhance the online counselling services of CYSTs; and
- continue to implement the Strive and Rise Programme to lift underprivileged students out of intergenerational poverty.

## Head 170 — SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

### ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL PROVISION

Programme	2024–25 (Actual) (\$m)	2025–26 (Original) (\$m)	2025–26 (Revised) (\$m)	2026–27 (Estimate) (\$m)
(1) Family and Child Welfare.....	5,400.8	5,898.3	5,594.9	5,973.4
(2) Social Security .....	76,258.3	85,775.5	81,085.4	93,149.9
(3) Services for The Elderly.....	15,551.4	17,127.7	16,487.2	17,281.4
(4) Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services .....	11,851.2	12,633.9	12,377.4	12,882.4
(5) Services for Offenders.....	441.3	464.2	438.7	437.7
(6) Community Development.....	229.7	225.4	225.4	220.8
(7) Young People.....	2,947.6	3,043.6	3,029.1	2,990.4
	112,680.3	125,168.6	119,238.1 (–4.7%)	132,936.0 (+11.5%)
				<b>(or +6.2% on 2025–26 Original)</b>

#### Analysis of Financial and Staffing Provision

##### Programme (1)

Provision for 2026–27 is \$378.5 million (6.8%) higher than the revised estimate for 2025–26. This is mainly due to the additional provision and enhancement measures for family and child care services. There will be a net decrease of 36 posts in 2026–27.

##### Programme (2)

Provision for 2026–27 is \$12,064.5 million (14.9%) higher than the revised estimate for 2025–26. This is mainly due to the anticipated increase in expenditure under the SSA Scheme. There will be a decrease of 29 posts in 2026–27.

##### Programme (3)

Provision for 2026–27 is \$794.2 million (4.8%) higher than the revised estimate for 2025–26. This is mainly due to the additional provision for community care, as well as residential care services including the expansion of the CCSV Scheme, RCSV Scheme and GDRCS Scheme. There will be a net decrease of 32 posts in 2026–27.

##### Programme (4)

Provision for 2026–27 is \$505.0 million (4.1%) higher than the revised estimate for 2025–26. This is mainly due to the additional provision of day and residential services for persons with disabilities, and enhancement of pre-school rehabilitation service. There will be a net decrease of 28 posts in 2026–27.

##### Programme (5)

Provision for 2026–27 is \$1.0 million (0.2%) lower than the revised estimate for 2025–26. This is mainly due to the decrease in operational expenses. There will be a decrease of 14 posts in 2026–27.

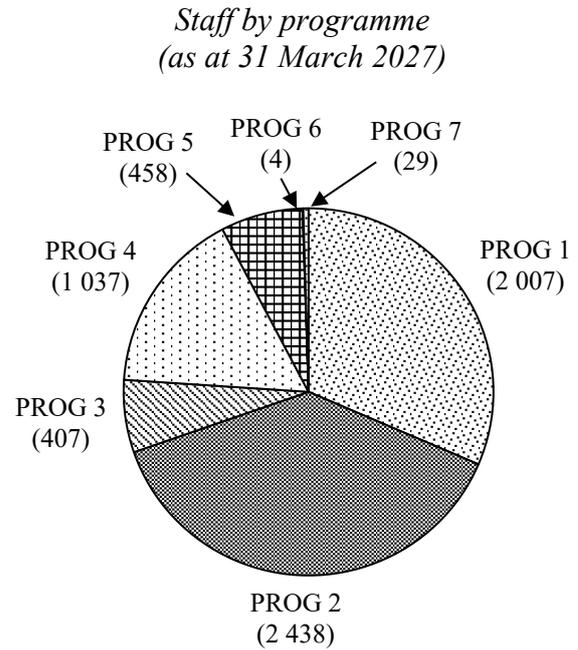
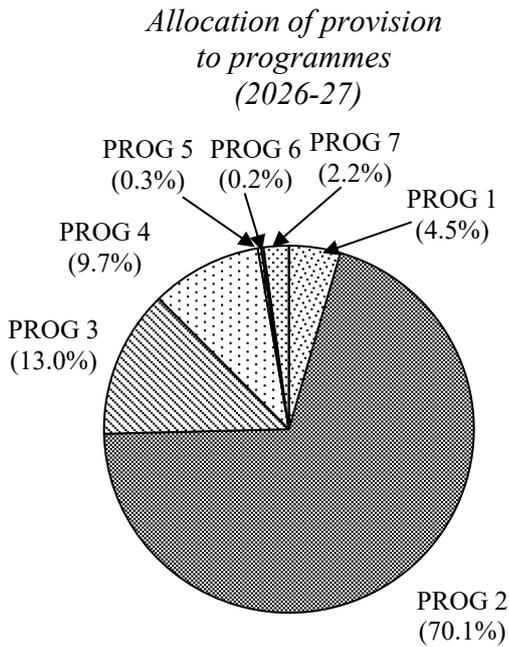
##### Programme (6)

Provision for 2026–27 is \$4.6 million (2.0%) lower than the revised estimate for 2025–26. This is mainly due to the decrease in operational expenses.

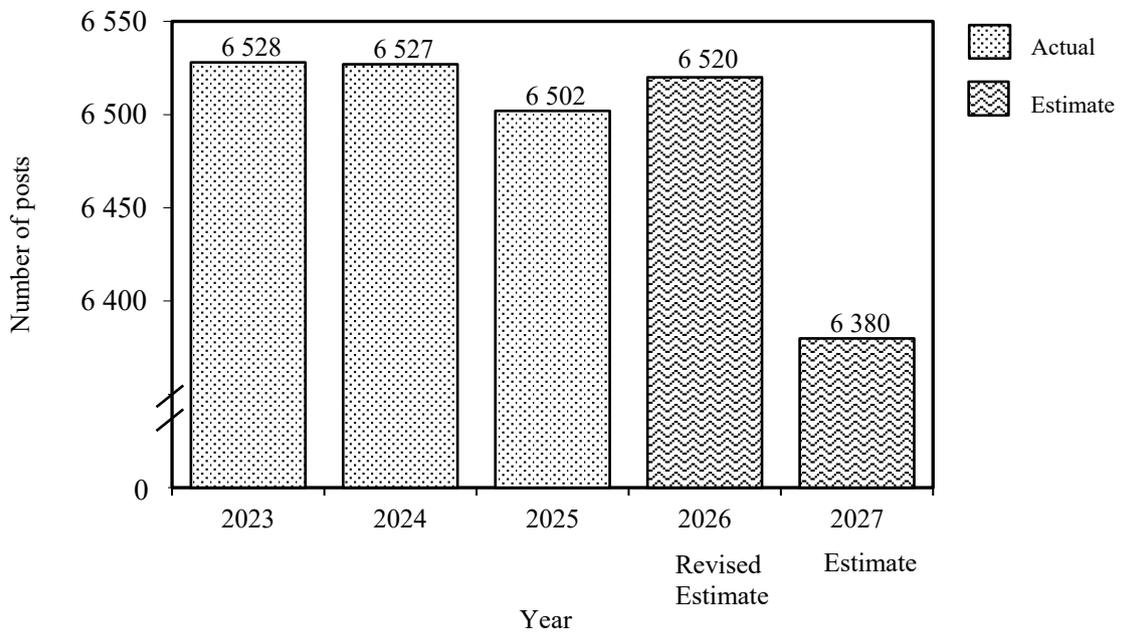
##### Programme (7)

Provision for 2026–27 is \$38.7 million (1.3%) lower than the revised estimate for 2025–26. This is mainly due to the decrease in operational expenses. There will be a decrease of one post in 2026–27.

**Head 170 — SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT**



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



**Head 170 — SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT**

Sub-head (Code)		Actual expenditure 2024–25	Approved estimate 2025–26	Revised estimate 2025–26	Estimate 2026–27
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Operating Account</b>					
Recurrent					
000	Operational expenses .....	37,770,231	40,525,757	39,496,163	<b>41,005,411</b>
003	Recoverable salaries and allowances (General)..... 8,630				
	<i>Deduct</i> reimbursements ..... <i>Cr. 8,630</i>	—	—	—	—
157	Assistance for patients and their families .....	43	136	136	<b>136</b>
176	Criminal and law enforcement injuries compensation.....	5,442	6,502	5,168	<b>5,168</b>
177	Emergency relief.....	93	1,000	1,000	<b>1,000</b>
179	Comprehensive social security assistance scheme .....	21,782,758	23,096,000	22,456,000	<b>23,367,000</b>
180	Social security allowance scheme.....	50,175,056	57,948,000	54,187,000	<b>61,872,000</b>
184	Traffic accident victims assistance scheme .....	48,548	58,267	58,267	<b>47,511</b>
187	Agents' commission and expenses .....	7,377	8,500	8,500	<b>8,500</b>
	<b>Total, Recurrent.....</b>	<b>109,789,548</b>	<b>121,644,162</b>	<b>116,212,234</b>	<b>126,306,726</b>
Non-Recurrent					
700	General non-recurrent .....	2,879,299	3,516,782	3,017,541	<b>6,622,136</b>
	<b>Total, Non-Recurrent.....</b>	<b>2,879,299</b>	<b>3,516,782</b>	<b>3,017,541</b>	<b>6,622,136</b>
	<b>Total, Operating Account .....</b>	<b>112,668,847</b>	<b>125,160,944</b>	<b>119,229,775</b>	<b>132,928,862</b>
<b>Capital Account</b>					
Plant, Equipment and Works					
661	Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote).....	11,424	7,632	8,288	<b>7,146</b>
	<b>Total, Plant, Equipment and Works.....</b>	<b>11,424</b>	<b>7,632</b>	<b>8,288</b>	<b>7,146</b>
	<b>Total, Capital Account.....</b>	<b>11,424</b>	<b>7,632</b>	<b>8,288</b>	<b>7,146</b>
	<b>Total Expenditure .....</b>	<b>112,680,271</b>	<b>125,168,576</b>	<b>119,238,063</b>	<b>132,936,008</b>

## Head 170 — SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

### Details of Expenditure by Subhead

The estimate of the amount required in 2026–27 for the salaries and expenses of the Social Welfare Department is \$132,936,008,000. This represents an increase of \$13,697,945,000 over the revised estimate for 2025–26 and \$20,255,737,000 over the actual expenditure in 2024–25.

#### *Operating Account*

#### Recurrent

**2** Provision of \$41,005,411,000 under *Subhead 000 Operational expenses* is for the salaries, allowances and other operating expenses of the Social Welfare Department, as well as subventions and contract payments for the operation of subsidised welfare services.

**3** The establishment as at 31 March 2026 will be 6 520 posts. It is expected that there will be a net decrease of 140 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 \$3,764,394,000.

**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.....	3,664,059	3,802,139	3,689,591	3,788,361
- Allowances.....	41,197	41,811	46,735	47,094
- Job-related allowances.....	1,765	2,500	2,185	2,418
Personnel Related Expenses				
- Mandatory Provident Fund contribution.....	12,233	17,321	12,552	16,965
- Civil Service Provident Fund contribution.....	295,291	331,175	322,226	350,040
Departmental Expenses				
- General departmental expenses .....	650,420	617,625	622,919	605,054
Other Charges				
- Grant to the Emergency Relief Fund.....	5,000	5,000	30,000	5,000
- Programme expenses .....	456,458	626,176	547,995	601,505
- Other payment for welfare services.....	6,329,282	8,003,294	7,373,536	8,240,448
- United Nations Children's Fund.....	128	128	128	128
Subventions				
- Social welfare services (grants).....	26,224,880	26,991,588	26,741,296	27,241,398
- Refunds of rates .....	89,518	87,000	107,000	107,000
	37,770,231	40,525,757	39,496,163	41,005,411

**5** Gross provision of \$8,630,000 under *Subhead 003 Recoverable salaries and allowances (General)* is for the salaries and allowances of civil servants involved in taking forward initiatives and programmes of 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 Fund.

**6** Provision of \$136,000 under *Subhead 157 Assistance for patients and their families* is for payment to patients requiring medical care and assistance to their families pending provision of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA), or where CSSA is not applicable.

**7** Provision of \$5,168,000 under *Subhead 176 Criminal and law enforcement injuries compensation* is to cover compensation payable to persons who are injured as a result of violent crimes or acts of law enforcement or to their dependants as appropriate. The level of compensation for criminal injuries is based on the payment schedule of the Emergency Relief Fund whereas the level of compensation for law enforcement injuries is assessed on the basis of common law damages.

**8** Provision of \$1 million under *Subhead 177 Emergency relief* is to cover expenditure arising from the provision of food and necessities to victims of natural and other disasters.

**9** Provision of \$23,367 million under *Subhead 179 Comprehensive social security assistance scheme* is for payment to persons who meet the criteria for CSSA. The financial provision sought has taken into account an upward adjustment of 2.2 per cent in the standard payment rates and 1.3 per cent increase in maximum rent allowance under the CSSA Scheme with effect from 1 February 2026.

## Head 170 — SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

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**10** Provision of \$61,872 million under *Subhead 180 Social security allowance scheme* is for payment of Disability Allowance, Old Age Allowance (OAA) and Old Age Living Allowance (OALA), as well as OAA and OALA to be paid under the Guangdong Scheme and Fujian Scheme to eligible persons. The increase of \$7,685 million (14.2%) over the revised estimate for 2025–26 is mainly due to the expected increase in OALA cases as well as an upward adjustment of 2.2 per cent in the rates of allowances under the Social Security Allowance Scheme with effect from 1 February 2026.

**11** Provision of \$47,511,000 under *Subhead 184 Traffic accident victims assistance scheme* is for the Government's contribution towards the Traffic Accident Victims Assistance Fund. It does not represent the actual payment for cases during the year. The annual provision is calculated at 25 per cent of the estimated amount of levies to be collected in the current financial year and takes into account necessary adjustments to the Government's contribution in respect of the collection of levies in previous years. The decrease of \$10,756,000 (18.5%) against the revised estimate for 2025–26 is mainly due to an estimated decrease in the amount of levies to be collected in 2026–27.

**12** Provision of \$8,500,000 under *Subhead 187 Agents' commission and expenses* is for payment of bank charges on autopay transactions.

### *Capital Account*

#### Plant, Equipment and Works

**13** Provision of \$7,146,000 under *Subhead 661 Minor plant, vehicles and equipment (block vote)* represents a decrease of \$1,142,000 (13.8%) against the revised estimate for 2025–26. This reflects the decreased requirement for scheduled replacement of minor plant and equipment.

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### Commitments

Sub-head (Code)	Item (Code)	Ambit	Approved commitment	Accumulated expenditure to 31.3.2025	Revised estimated expenditure for 2025–26	Balance
			\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b><i>Operating Account</i></b>						
700		<i>General non-recurrent</i>				
	470	Partnership Fund for the Disadvantaged.....	1,200,000	831,445	50,000	318,555
	521	Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities through Small Enterprise Project.....	254,000	156,434	10,200	87,366
	813	Innovation and Technology Fund for Application in Elderly and Rehabilitation Care .....	2,000,000	632,233	126,000	1,241,767
	819	Dedicated Fund for NGOs operating subvented welfare services .....	500,000	7,429	85,000	407,571
	823	Additional provision for social security recipients 2025.....	2,988,000	—	2,746,000	242,000
	824	Additional provision for social security recipients 2026 <sup>γ</sup> .....	6,290,000 <sup>γ</sup>	—	—	6,290,000
		Total .....	<u>13,232,000</u>	<u>1,627,541</u>	<u>3,017,200</u>	<u>8,587,259</u>

<sup>γ</sup> This is a new item involving one-month extra payment to eligible recipients of Comprehensive Social Security Assistance and Social Security Allowance, funding for which is sought in the context of the Appropriation Bill 2026.